



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE TONLE SAP AUTHORITY
AND
THE LANCANG-MEKONG WATER
RESOURCES COOPERATION CENTER

March/2025

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as “MOU”) is made between the Tonle Sap Authority (TSA) and the Lancang-Mekong Water Resources Cooperation Center (LMC Water Center), hereinafter referred to individually as “Party” and collectively as “Parties”.

The Tonle Sap Authority (TSA) was established under Royal Decree NS/RKT/0609/705 dated 29 June 2009 and Royal Decree NS/RKT/0310/258 dated 24 March 2010 stated on the amendment of Article 3, Article 5, Article 9 Article 10, and Article 12. TSA is the national institution with its mandate to manage and coordinate the overall activities in the Tonle Sap Great Lake and related region. It is an inter-ministerial organization, led by one chairman, assisted by vice-chairmen, which is under direct supervision of prime minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia. TSA is responsible for studying, analyzing, monitoring, and assessing the potential of natural resources and socio-economic aspects in the Tonle Sap and its related region. Its mission is to establish a vision, policies, strategies, tactics, and a master plan/roadmap aimed at ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources, balancing development with conservation.

The Lancang-Mekong Cooperation (LMC), initiated by the Governments of the Kingdom of Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, is a new type of sub-regional cooperation mechanism that aims to promote sustainable socio-economic development of the six member countries, advance the Belt and Road Initiative

through consultation and collaboration, and narrow the development gap among the member countries. Water resources is one of the key priority areas of the LMC. The LMC Water Center, established in June 2017, in accordance with the Sanya Declaration of the 1st LMC Leader's Meeting on 23 March 2016, serves as a platform for the LMC countries to strengthen comprehensive cooperation in technical exchanges, capacity building, drought and flood management, data and information sharing, joint research and analysis related to water resources. The LMC Water Center works under the guidance of the Ministerial Meeting and the Joint Working Group (JWG) on Lancang-Mekong Water Resources Cooperation.

The Parties recognize that water constitutes a critical natural resource and valuable asset essential for the livelihood of communities around the Tonle Sap Lake and related regions, especially in the context of rapid social and economic development, global warming, and climate change. The Parties are dedicated to contributing to the improvement of people's well-being, sustainable socio-economic development and ecological environment protected through the sustainable management and utilization of water resources in the Tonle Sap Lake and surrounding areas.

The Parties note with satisfaction that cooperation and integration at the regional level are progressing, with LMC Water Center and TSA having conducted productive exchanges, joint research, and collaborations on sustainable utilization and management of water resource. Eleven hydrological and meteorological stations, along with a Master Station, have been completed and are in stable

operation under a joint project focused on hydrological data observation and transmission technology for the Tonle Sap Basin in Cambodia. In future, the LMC Water Center will keep supporting the operation and maintenance of hydrological and meteorological stations established under cooperation with TSA.

Seizing opportunities for further cooperation, the Parties agree to collaborate in experience sharing, data and information exchange, monitoring, joint assessment and research, knowledge management, study visits, and capacity building related to water resources development and management, with the goal of promoting sustainable social and economic development of the Tonle Sap Great Lake support by water resources.

The Parties will further discuss and develop specific work plans and joint activities based on the Tonle Sap Authority Strategic Plan (2024-2028) and the Five-Year Action Plan on Lancang-Mekong Water Resources Cooperation (2023-2027) and related plans of both parties.

The Parties designate the following responsible contacts for activities under this MOU:

- TSA:** TSA Secretariat, Tonle Sap Authority, Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia
- LMC Water Center:** Director for Training and Information, Beijing, the People's Republic of China

This MOU does not create any rights or legally binding obligations for either Party and does not constitute a treaty under international law.

This MOU will become effective upon signature by both Parties for a period of five (5) years from the date of signing. It will be automatically extended for another five (5) years unless either Party provides written notice 60 days prior to the expiration date.

Done in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on March 15th, 2025, in 2 (two) original copies in English.



**For the Lancang-Mekong Water
Resources Cooperation Center**

Mr. Zhou Zhiwei
Secretary General



For the Tonle Sap Authority

H.E. Sar Kimsan
Secretary General