

Unofficial translation

Kingdom of Cambodia

Nation Religion King

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport

No.3833.MoEYS.SH

Phnom Penh, 15 November 2013

MINISTER OF MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, YOUTH AND SPORT

Attention : Directors of Municipal/Provincial Departments of Education, Youth and Sport

Objective : Health Education and promotion of Global Handwashing Day at Public and Private Educational Institutions

Reference : Letter No. 4198 MoEYS.SH dated 17 November 2008 of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport

As per the aforementioned objective and reference, I would like to inform all Directors that Cambodia has celebrated “Global Hand washing Day” every year since 2008 for the purpose of driving the force of hand washing with soaps before eating and after using the toilet, which is a simple, cost-effective intervention that can be implemented everywhere and every time, and contribute considerably to reducing child mortality rate from diarrhea and acute inspiratory infection.

In order to foster participation in Global Handwashing Day more effectively, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport would like to recommend that Directors of Municipal/Provincial Departments of Education, Youth and Sport further promote the Handwashing to public and private educational institutions as follows:

1. Pay considerable attention to the effective implementation of the attached “**Guideline on Participation in Global Handwashing Day by Educational Institutions**”
2. Determine the time for teachers and students to abide by the above mentioned guideline
3. Check the possibility to make available handwashing facilities with soaps and clean water for students to wash their hands frequently at each educational institution.
4. Educate students to properly and frequently practice handwashing with soaps at each educational institution
5. Further focus on leading and assigning students in taking turn to clean restrooms, toilets and keep the environment within each educational institution clean at all times.

The ministry sincerely hopes that Municipal/Provincial Departments of Education, Youth and Sport will pay attention and take responsibility for the successful implementation of this guideline effectively and efficiently.

Please accept my most sincere respect.

Acting Minister of Education Youth and Sport

Stamp and Signature

H.E Pith Chamnan

CC

- The Ministry of Interior
- The Ministry of Rural Development
- Municipal/Provincial Halls
- Relevant units under the supervision of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport
- UNICEF
- <For information>
- Archives
- Documents SHD

Guidelines

On

Participation in Global Handwashing Day by

Educational Institutions

A. Background:

The first-ever Global Handwashing Day took place on October 15, 2008 across the world. To date, every year, the 15 of October is set as the Global Hand Washing Day.

Handwashing is a simple, easy to implement and low-cost intervention, but extremely useful for the prevention of diarrhea and respiratory illnesses. The habit of regularly washing hand with soap before eating and after defecating can save more lives than vaccination or other medical interventions. Handwashing with soap can reduce almost half of the death from diarrhea and one-fourth of death from acute respiratory infections.

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, in co-operation with the Ministry of Rural Development with support from development partners and private sector have celebrated the Day every year since 2008. In Particular, this year Cambodia celebrated Global Handwashing Day on October 21 and will continue this campaign until November 30, 2013 under the theme *“I’m smart, I wash my hands with soap”* in tandem with the National Sanitation Day and World Toilet Day.

B. Implementation assignment

All educational Institutions shall participate in the **“Global Handwashing Day”** from October 21 to November 30 every year.

All educational Institution can be flexible in joining Global Handwashing Day by spending 45 to 60 minutes implementing the actual campaign with direct leadership of educational institutions’ management boards and teachers. These activities consist of:

1. School principals and teachers lead their students to clean class rooms, toilets and school yards.
2. School principals can use the time during the respect of the national flag to guide students through the importance of handwashing and ask them to cheer *“I’m smart, I wash my hands with soap”* together.
3. School principals can assign student representatives to demonstrate hand washing activity as a role model in front of other students on the school premises.
4. Teachers lead their students to collectively wash their hands with soap inside or outside the classroom.

5. Teachers play educational video or songs about handwashing for students
6. Teachers lead their students to sing songs about handwashing in the classroom.
7. Teachers lead their students to have group discussions on some topics as follows:
 - ❖ For first-grade to third-grade students
 - Q: Who needs to wash hands?
 - A: all of us.

 - Q: what do we need to clean our hands with?
 - A: we need to clean our hands with soap and clean water.

 - Q: why do we need to clean our hands with soap?
 - A: to prevent diarrhea and respiratory infections.

 - Q: when do we need to clean our hands?
 - A: we clean our hands when we handle food, after using toilets and touching poultry.

 - ❖ For fourth-grade to sixth-grade students
 - Q: when do we need to clean our hands?
 - A: we clean our hands when we handle food, after using toilets and touching poultry.

 - Q: If your hands are dirty or not clean what will happen?
 - A: If our hands are dirty or not clean, we would have diarrhea, respiratory infections, feeling unclean, cannot go to school due to illness and lose money on treatment, etc.

 - Q: why do we have these illnesses?
 - A: because germs can cling to our hands when we carry things, dust, pets, etc. and these germs will enter our bodies through our mouths, nostrils, eyes and ears which can make us sick.
8. Teachers tell their students to raise these topics to discuss with their family members, especially the handwashing habit.

C. Continuing work sustainability:

All educational institutions can manage these activities based on existing resources, as well as outside resources such as development partners, various institutions and private sector.

This work needs to be carried out every year between October and November for celebration of the Global Handwashing Day, and in association with the National Sanitation Day and World Toilet Day.

School principals and teachers are required to regularly monitor handwashing at educational institutions and also encourage students to implement handwashing at home.

School principals and teachers shall mobilize resources for preparing equipment and sanitation physical facilities like soap, containers for storing clean water, containers for catching water, water bottles, water purifiers, handwashing facilities, toilets, etc. which are indispensable in enhancing the health of educational personnel and students.

For public primary school, school principals can use the national budget via sub-account number 6011 for supplying sanitation facilities and for purchasing handwashing materials, in accordance with guidelines number 34OrYK SNrN, dated December 31, 2012.

Handwashing song

Title: Where's soap?

When you wash your hands you look for a soap (three claps)

When you wash your hand you look for a soap (three claps)

Use soap to wash hands before handling foods, after using a toilet, and after cleansing your baby's buttocks.

(three claps)

Baby: mama, where's the soap?

Mother: it's next to the water jar.

Father: mama, where's the soap?

Mother: it's inside the toilet.

Grandmother: dear, what's the soap?

Mother: it's near the kitchen.

Have soap where you wash your hands,

A happy family always have soap near their hands.

Baby asking: mama, where's the soap?