**Czech Republic equips the Neonatal Department in National Pediatric Hospital in Phnom Penh**

**17th May 2022, Phnom Penh**

**Today, the Neonatal Department of the National Pediatric Hospital planned to be officially opened in a newly contructed building later this month has received modern equipment financed by Czech Development Agency. It will increase the capacity to provide high quality care for both mothers and their new born children, and lead to further decrease in perinatal mortality. The supply was realized by Caritas Czech Republic which has long history of supporting the health care sector in Cambodia.**

“*Infant and maternal mortality in Cambodia has decreased significantly over the past decade, however, it is still much higher than in Western countries. We are glad that by supplying modern medical devices and equipment we are able to help save more lives,”* explained Jiri Skvor, Head of Humanitarian Aid and Development Cooperation, Caritas Czech Republic.

Vital signs monitors, ventilators, ultrasounds, a neonatal resuscitation machine, transport incubators, delivery tables and other equipment is part of the donation that have been supplied in cooperation with a reputable local company DKSH Cambodia Ltd. It will help in diagnostic procedures and will be used in operation theatres and intensive care unit. Training the healthcare and technical staff in using and maintaining the equipment as well as regular service are also provided.

*“Partnership with Czech Development Agency is very much appreciated. It supports us in our efforts to increase quality of services our hospital provides to our patients,”* said Dr. Nhip Angkeabos, Director of the National Pediatric Hospital in Phnom Penh.

National Paediatric Hospital is one of key referral hospitals in Phnom Penh and its Neonatal Department is well established as one of the most reputable neonatal unit in the country. It is specialized mainly for complicated cases. As such, it also provides training and support to other health facilities and hospitals throughout the country.

Caritas Czech Republic succeeded among a wide range of competitors including those from commercial sector and has won this public contract.

Both Morm Bunheng, the Minister of Health, and Martin Vávra, the Ambassador of the Czech Republic in Cambodia, were present at the ceremony during which the equipment was handed over to the hospital.

**Contact for media:**

Soklim Pay, Nursing Director, National Pediatric Hospital

tel.: 99332007