

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

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Samdech Prime Minister's Address to the Inauguration of UNESCO/JSA Project Office

Following is the integral text of Samdech Prime Minister HUN Sen's address delivered on 01 July 2002 at the Inauguration of the UNESCO/JSA (Japanese Government Team for Safeguarding Angkor) Project Office built by the UNESCO/Japan Trust Fund in Siemreap Town, Siemreap Province :

Today I have great honor and great pleasure to be able to participate -- with Samdech Preah Ream, princes/s, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen -- in the inauguration of the UNESCO/JSA project office that is a material foundation for the protection and conservation of Angkor in the province of Siemreap. I think that our meeting today in front the new building with feature of the Sambo Prey Kuh eight-dimension temple is another event of historical importance in the work to conserve and repair Angkor temple aimed at preserving and promoting the cultural heritage and national civilization...

Taking this opportunity I would like express my deep thanks to Professor Dr. Nakagawa Takeshita, General Director of the Japanese Government Team for Safeguarding Angkor (JSA) and other Japanese and Cambodian staff for their active collaboration in offering supports, repair and safeguard of Angkor temple. JSA not only makes available funds, spirit, and care in their works to repair and conserve the temple but also transfers technology and skills to the Cambodian staff making them become experts while printing and disseminating research reports and organizing symposiums on the Bayon temple. I wish to express my appreciation and high evaluation to the continuing efforts made in maintaining the terrace of the Royal Plaza of Angkor Thom, in conserving and restoring the Prasat Suor Proat towers, in repairing the Northern Library inside the outmost enclosure of Angkor Wat, and in formulating a master plan for the conservation and restoration of the entire Bayon complex to be completed by 2005.

The conservation and promotion of advancement of the national cultural heritage and civilization is an absolute will and determination of the Royal Government reflecting the actual need of development aimed at conserving and from conserving to developing the national culture and civilization that was reputed in the world for centuries. The reputation has degraded in the last decades because of internal conflicts and lack of care. In the present world, conserving and developing national cultures have become a prerequisite for all the weak nations in the strong current of globalization, for which they have to face with challenges and to stand influences of foreign cultures that have more economic and technological power than them. In this context the

Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts together with every Cambodian have not only the task to conserve but also to develop and advance their national culture through the collaboration of idea and wisdom of our intellectuals and knowledgeable person.

Political crisis and the stalemate of internal war over the past three decades not only destroyed the foundation of our social and economic infrastructure to naught but also devastated severely Cambodia's culture while degrading the national morale, originating increase of violence, and demolishing various pagodas, temples and feature sculptures. Some bad people have taken advantage by making excavation in search of national archeological objects and export them illegally for sale to foreign merchants.

Successes in the implementation of the triangular strategies of the Royal Government has brought us peace and full territorial unity for the first time on the land of Cambodia in decades. This is a prime condition for opportunities to take place, especially in the creation of a solid base for major changes in all fields – politically, economically and socially – in Cambodia. The realization of peace and territorial unity also constitutes the most important factor in the rehabilitation of the national culture.

To make use of this rare chance, as Prime Minister of the Royal Government, I had issued a comprehensive policy aimed at safeguarding and promoting national cultural heritage and civilization by curbing illegal exports of archeological objects, restoring and reconstructing pagodas, historic sites and old temples of our nation. At the same time we have gathered resources of all kinds inside and outside the country for the sake of safeguarding, maintaining, repairing, registering an inventory list, making projects and plans to conserve and restoring the cultural heritage of our nation. We have for instance implemented various conservation and development of the national cultural patrimonies such as temples, resorts and historical parks as well as all sorts of natural culture property like forest, sea, rivers, lakes, canals and valleys since the 1980s with participation of conservation experts from India and Japan. In the 1990s and the present, experts from France, Japan and other countries have arduously in the conservation of the national cultural heritage of Cambodia. I wish to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all the experts for making their efforts physically and spiritually in contribution to the maintenance of Cambodia's cultural property.

The passing decades of wars had brought about declining morale, culture and knowledge of our people, which culminated in various negative phenomena in Cambodia's society. Education is key for the uprooting of all these problems. Education is the most effective measure in the combat against ignorance. Every Cambodian has to understand clearly that the Khmer culture is the Khmer national identity and soul. Destruction of the national culture and civilization is therefore

destruction of own selves. In this meaning we all have a noble task in training and raising awareness of all Cambodians to understand about historical, artistic, cultural, scientific and architectural values of all the temples that are spreading throughout Cambodia. Each and every Cambodian have to know that the Khmer patrimony possesses invaluable value and the world has included it as one of the world wonders.

To effectively respond to the policy of promotion of the cultural heritage and sustaining the civilization, the Royal Government has made effort in increasing resources from within its limited availability consecutively for the purpose of supporting and developing culture and fine arts. In the last five years, our budget reserved for culture has increased from Riel 3 billion in 1998 to over Riel 11 billion in 2002. So in just five years, the budget for cultural sector has risen three-fold. At the same time the Royal Government has tried and is trying to increase investment in area of culture through the Government-direct-investment budget as gathered from foreign assistance and to encourage contribution from private sectors.

Culture has contributed and is contributing to the country's development through its promotion of cultural tourists. Cambodia possesses a number of comparative advantages and potentials in area of tourism and other services relating to tourism. More importantly, tourism is not only a high potential area in offering jobs and providing income. Tourism is also providing potential for mental progress of our people through the increase of education and mutual understanding, making them aware of and appreciating any differences from own national or country's identity, while promoting inter-relation, encouragement of respect and conserving natural environment. It is also true that tourism contributes in the strengthening of peace and creating favorable condition for different nations and cultures to co-exist.

The Royal Government clearly realizes that the infrastructure and physical adapting mechanism like communication, water supply and electricity as well as telecommunications is foundation for transforming these great potentials and comparative advantages into reality. Looking into the speed of current external assistance and investment we hope that in just four or five years ahead we will realize an appropriate physical infrastructure in response to the basic need of development in tourism. One other important work is the training of human resources to a level of high knowledge and with sufficient capability in both national and international standards so that they can respond to our need in coping with globalization. It is an urgent task that every institution pays due attention and advances the making use of existing human resources by placing them in jobs that are corresponding to their skills, working practice and learning while taking experience and making improvement. They have to refrain from narrow-mindedness so as to fulfil our objectives of conserving and developing for an equitable society. Human resource training for the cultural and fine arts sector has to be conducted in conformity with the construction process of

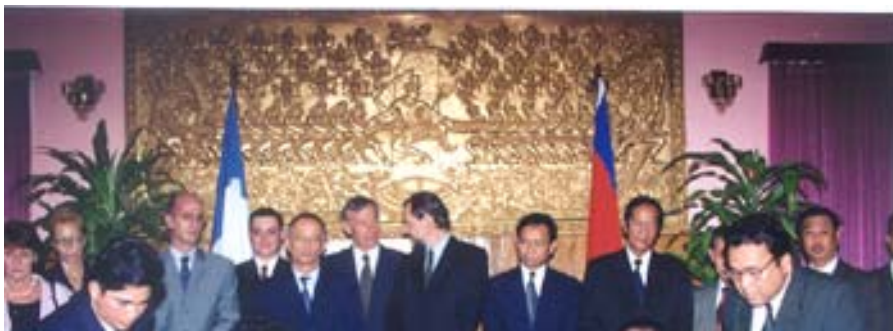
cultural infrastructure, which also includes the conservation site in Angkor area, Koh Ke area, Boeung Mealea, Preah Vihear temple area, Sambo Prey Kuh area, and other cultural tourist resorts.

Achievements in area of culture and fine arts that we have realized so far have illustrated clearly active participation by Samdech Preah Ream, leaders and staff of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, local authorities at all levels, the APSARA authority, UNESCO and other national and international organizations. It is true that there are more works to be done. The Royal Government has specially pushed for the making of laws, sub-decrees, and various norms so that they could efficiently and comprehensively serve in a timely manner to urgent needs of our people, producers and private companies in making decision to invest in areas of culture and cultural tourism.

Le Ministre d' Etat HOR Namhong Signe Quatre Conventions de Financement avec l'Ambassadeur de France

Le jeudi 4 juillet 2002, à 16:00, au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et de la Coopération Internationale, Son Excellence Monsieur Le Ministre d'Etat **HOR Namhong**, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères et de la Coopération Internationale, et Son Excellence Monsieur **André-Jean LIBOUREL**, Ambassadeur Extraordinaire et Plénipotentiaire de France au Royaume du Cambodge, ont signé **quatre Conventions de Financement** entre le Gouvernement Royal du Cambodge et le Gouvernement de la République française.

Ces quatre conventions ont pour la mise en œuvre des quatre projets pour une durée de trente six mois à compter de la date de signature.



*Le Ministre d'Etat HOR Namhong Signe Quatre Conventions
de Financement avec Mr. André-Jean LIBOUREL, l'Ambassadeur de France*

Le projet d'**Appui à l'enseignement du français**, ayant le montant de 1.600.000 Euros, a pour objet d'améliorer la formation des professeurs de français et de renforcer la qualité de l'enseignement du français.

Le projet d'**Appui institutionnel au Ministère de la Santé**, d'un montant de 1.200.000 Euros, a pour prolonger et renforcer la coopération bilatérale Franco-Cambodgienne, entreprise en 1992.

Le projet d'**Appui à la définition de politiques sectorielles agricoles au Cambodge**, d'un montant de 1.372.400 Euros, a pour objet de renforcer la capacité institutionnelle du Ministère de l'Agriculture, Ministère du Développement Rural, et Ministère des Ressources en Eau et de la Météorologie, et pour définir des politiques nationales des lutte contre la pauvreté et pour la sécurité alimentaire.

Le projet de **Formation de formateurs et adaptation au marché du travail des ingénieurs et techniciens de l' Institut de Technologie du Cambodge**, ayant le montant de 2.210.000 Euros, a pour objet d'achever la formation de corps enseignant et d'assurer le financement de bourses de perfectionnement ainsi que l'achat d'équipements modernes.

**L'Echange de l'Instrument d'Approbation
de l'Accord Franco-Cambodgien sur les Investissements**

Le jeudi 4 juillet 2002, à 16:00, au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et de la Coopération Internationale, Son Excellence Monsieur Le Ministre d'Etat **HOR Namhong**, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères et de la Coopération Internationale, et Son Excellence Monsieur **André-Jean LIBOUREL**, Ambassadeur Extraordinaire et Plénipotentiaire de France au Royaume du Cambodge, ont échangé l'Instrument d'Approbation de l'Accord sur l'encouragement et la protection réciproques des investissements.

Cette cérémonie a marqué l'achèvement des procédures internes d'approbation et de ratification de cet important accord conclu à Phnom Penh le 13 juillet 2000 entre le Royal Gouvernement du Cambodge et le Gouvernement de la République française.

Senior Minister Attends 35th AMM in Brunei

His Excellency Senior Minister **HOR Namhong**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, led a Delegation of the Kingdom of Cambodia to participate in the **35th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM) / 9th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the Post-Ministerial Conferences (PMC)** to be held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam from 29 July to 1 August 2002.

While in Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Senior Minister **HOR Namhong** signed with His Excellency **José Ramos- Horta**, Senior Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Democratic Republic of East Timor, a **Joint Communiqué on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Democratic Republic of East Timor**.

His Excellency Senior Minister **HOR Namhong** signed together with other ASEAN Foreign Ministers the **ASEAN-United States of America Joint Declaration for Cooperation to Combat International Terrorism**.

His Excellency the Senior Minister also acceded and signed the **Agreement on Information Exchange and Establishment of Communication Procedures** between the Governments of Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines that was aimed at providing a framework for cooperation in combating and preventing transnational crime.

It should be noted that His Excellency Senior Minister **HOR Namhong** took over the **Chairmanship of the 36th ASEAN Standing Committee (ASC) and of the 10th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) as well as the Post-Ministerial Conferences (PMC)** from Brunei Darussalam starting 1 August 2002, with Indonesia as a Vice Chairman.

Establishment of Cambodia-East Timor Diplomatic Relation

With a view to strengthening the friendship and cooperation between the two countries, His Excellency Senior Minister HOR Namhong, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and His Excellency José Ramos-Horta, Senior Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Democratic Republic of East Timor, while attending the 35th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM) in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, signed on 29 July 2002 a Joint Communiqué on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Democratic Republic of East Timor.

Cambodia Joins Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines in Anti-Terrorism Agreement

With a view to contributing to the prevention and combat against terrorism in the region as well as in the world, His Excellency Senior Minister **HOR Namhong**, Minister of Foreign

Affairs and International Cooperation, on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, signed the **Agreement on Information Exchange and Establishment of Communication Procedures**, on 30 July 2002, while attending the 35th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM) in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.

The Agreement on Information Exchange and Establishment of Communication Procedures was the tripartite counter-terrorism agreement signed by Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines in May 2002 and remained open for the accession by other ASEAN countries.

Cambodia's accession allowed it to participate in several of the "doable" projects meant to fast track the agreement's implementation, such as the establishment of Standard Operating Procedures on Search and Rescue, the setting up of hot lines, the sharing of airline passenger lists, the strengthening of border control, and the conduct of joint training and exercises to combat terrorism and other transnational crimes.

Senior Minister HOR Namhong Takes Over ASEAN Standing Committee Chairmanship

On 30 July 2002, at 12:00, at the closing ceremony of the 35th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM), His Excellency Senior Minister **HOR Namhong**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, took over **the Chairmanship of the ASEAN Standing Committee (ASC)** after Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam had completed this role.

In that occasion His Excellency the Senior Minister delivered the following speech :

**Statement of
His Excellency Mr. HOR Namhong
Senior Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and**

International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia

At the Closing Session of The 35th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, 30 July 2002

*Your Royal Highness,
Excellencies,
Dear Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

1. I wish to take this opportunity to thank His Royal Highness, Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam, for his able and vibrant leadership of the 35th ASEAN Standing Committee (ASC). During his Chairmanship of ASC, ASEAN successfully remained dynamic and active, despite the serious challenges posed by the terrorist attacks in the United States on our region.

2. With great honor and privilege, Cambodia will soon take over the Chairmanship of ASC. In this regard, I am confident that we will do our best to continue deepening and widening ASEAN cooperation and integration. As the new Chair of ASC, Cambodia is fully committed to take on the challenges in order to continue advancing ASEAN's interests regionally and internationally and, at the same time, in realizing ASEAN Vision 2020.

3. I believe that we will have several key challenges ahead confronting ASEAN, which will require our much closer consultation and interaction. First is the challenge of deepening ASEAN integration and cooperation even further, despite its thirty-five years of cooperation and achievements. The most important issue today is for ASEAN to sustain its relevance and dynamism, its outward-looking approach, and its solidarity and unity, especially when it comes to strengthening ASEAN's economic cooperation and competitiveness. The second challenge is for ASEAN to remain fully engaged and further deepen its cooperation with the Plus Three Countries of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea. In other words, ASEAN needs to continue enhancing its constructive partnership with the three Northeast Asian countries. Third, ASEAN also will have to remain deeply engaged with all other Dialogue Partners, where there have been positive and fruitful relationships already.

4. Finally, I wish to extend a warm welcome to all our ASEAN colleagues for the next ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in Phnom Penh, and for other ASEAN meetings this year as well as for next

year. I look forward to cooperating closely with all of you in the ASEAN spirit as we continue with another year of ASEAN's accomplishments.

Thank you very much.

STATEMENT
of Senior Minister HOR Namhong
At the Closing Session of the Ninth ARF

Here is the integral text of a Statement delivered by His Excellency Senior Minister HOR Namhong, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, at the closing session of the 9th ARF, Brunei Darussalam, 31 July 2002 :

*Your Royal Highness, Chairman of the 9th ARF,
Excellencies,
Dear Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

First of all, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to His Royal Highness, Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam, for his active and dynamic Chairmanship of the ARF over the past year.

It is indeed my great honor and privilege to assume the next Chairmanship of the ARF. As the new Chair, Cambodia will do its utmost to further enhance the role of ARF in the region and in the world. I firmly hope that Cambodia would enjoy close cooperation and full support from all the ARF members as they had always provided ARF Chairs.

I am fully confident that with the support and cooperation of the ARF members, we will successfully fulfill the task and responsibility entrusted upon ARF in order to ensure that the ARF remains a relevant and significant regional cooperative security and political forum in the Asia Pacific.

After the tragic September 11th terrorist attacks on the United States of America and consequently the changing concept of security in our world today, the ARF is now facing a new set of unprecedented challenges of international terrorism.

The new security architecture in the Asia Pacific, I believe, will essentially depend on how the ARF will respond to the new threats of terrorism, the need to diffuse the tension in the region, and the need to address transnational issues, such as piracy, small arms and drug trafficking etc.

I believe that the future of our region lies in our common spirit of cooperation and determination to act together within the ARF in order to forge a new political and security agenda for the Asia Pacific region. This is the way forward that must all try to achieve, with your active support and cooperation. As Chair of the ARF, I will, of course, take into consideration the 9 points for the future direction of ARF proposed by our Senior Officials.

*Your Royal Highness,
Your Excellencies,
Dear Colleagues,
Distinguished Delegates,*

I wish to inform you that Cambodia plans to hold the Tenth ARF Ministerial Meeting in Phnom Penh on the 18th of June 2003. In this regard, I wish to take this opportunity to extend to Your Excellencies and dear colleagues our warm invitation to participate in the Tenth ARF in Phnom Penh.

**Remarks by
Senior Minister HOR Namhong
for the PMC Joint Press Conference**

Following is the text of the Remarks made by His Excellency Senior Minister HOR Namhong, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, for the PMC Joint Press Conference, Brunei Darussalam, 1st August 2002 :

*Your Royal Highness,
Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

First, may I congratulate our Chairman His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkihah for leading ASEAN over the past year and for the tremendous success of the 35th AMM/9th ARF/PMC over the last few days, bearing in mind the fruitful and frank discussions that we have had. I wish to note in particular several points:



*Senior Minister HOR Namhong and US Secretary of State Colin Powell
while attending the ASEAN PMC in Brunei Darussalam*

First, the endorsement of the Work Plan, programmes and projects of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration by the Ministers. They would serve to enhance ASEAN as a regional grouping in meeting new challenges of the 21st Century. We are glad that the Work Plan also received support from our Dialogue Partners, in particular the Plus Three Countries. They have expressed interest in participating in the IAI Development Cooperation Forum (IDCF) in Jakarta on 15-16 August 2002. Their participation and close cooperation in the programmes and projects of the Work Plan would further strengthen and enhance ASEAN interactions with the Dialogue Partners.

Second, given the continued threat of terrorism to regional and global security, we have reiterated our strong commitment to fight terrorism, as witnessed by the signing of the Joint Declaration for combating international terrorism with the USA and the ARF Statement on Measures against Terrorist Financing. Cambodia also signed the Protocol to accede to the trilateral anti-terrorism agreement between Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia on 30 July.

Third, I wish to thank ASEAN Colleagues for supporting Cambodia on the Khmer Rouge trial. Cambodia will continue to work closely with the United Nations to move ahead with the Khmer Rouge trial. I also wish to thank members of the PMC for taking active interests and for supporting Cambodia's efforts to cooperate with the UN in reaching the agreement on the Khmer Rouge trial.

Fourth, as Cambodia taking over the Chairmanship of ASEAN, I would like to ask the Dialogue Partners to continue supporting the ARF process as well as to remain constructively

engaged in the PMC consultation so that both the ARF and PMC can continue to move forward in the coming year.

Finally, I wish to invite all colleagues and delegates of the ARF and the PMC, to attend the 10th ARF and 36th PMC meetings in Phnom Penh next year. I also look forward to working closely with each and everyone of you in order to ensure the successes of our cooperation and joint endeavors.

Thank you

Upgrading of O Smach-Chong Chom as **International Point of Entry**

The Meeting between the Cambodian-Thai delegations on the Upgrading of O Smach-Chong Chom (Oddar Meanchey Province of Cambodia and Surin Province of Thailand) as an International Point of Entry was held in Phnom Penh, on 05 July 2002. The Cambodian delegation was led by His Excellency Mr. Long Visalo, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Thai delegation was led by Mr. Norachit Sinhaseni, Director-General of the East Asian Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

During the meeting, His Excellency Mr. Long Visalo and Mr. Norachit Sinhaseni expressed their satisfaction with the excellent state of Cambodia - Thailand bilateral relations. They welcomed the progress of bilateral cooperation in the border areas, particularly at the border points of entry between the two countries. They shared common opinion that, with a view to ensuring the common benefits and closer cooperation between the two countries in response to the rapid developments in the border areas, it was necessary that both countries consolidated their efforts to strengthen the border points of entry management.

Both sides also committed to inform and instruct their authorities to prepare the necessary arrangements for the upgrading of O Smach-Chong Chom as an International Point of Entry.
