



16 November 2013 — Samdech Techo Hun Sen with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe during the latter's visit to Cambodia (Kampuchea Thmey)

Cambodia-Japan Joint Statement

(16 November 2013 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

In his two days visit to the Kingdom of Cambodia, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan and Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen had a fruitful Summit to envision the future development and growth of the two countries' relations. CNV made an unofficial selection and translation of the statement.

On his official visit to the Kingdom of Cambodia between 16 and 17 November 2013, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan and Prime Minister Hun Sen held a Summit to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Cambodia and to further broadening bilateral relations between the two countries.

To note their robust cooperative relations to date since the day of the Cambodian peace process as well as the well established "New Partnership," the bilateral Cambodian-Japanese issued a statement outlining a number of issues.

In area of **politics and security** issues, Prime Minister Abe elaborated Japanese security policy to contribute proactively even further to the peace and stability of the region and the international community from the perspective of "Proactive Contribution to Peace" based on the long-standing principle of international cooperation. Prime Minister Hun Sen highly praised Japan's achievement as a peaceful nation and supported Japan's further contribution.

The two leaders decided to further dialogue on political and security issues, using existing fora such as the politico-military dialogue. They also decided to advance cooperation between the defense authorities of both countries including through capacity building assistance.

In area of **democracy and rule of law**, Prime Minister Hun Sen reiterated his resolve to continue making every effort to strengthen good govern-

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Statements on Case Concerning Preah Vihear

(8 and 11 November 2013 — Unofficial Translation)

Statement Prior to Delivery of ICJ's Verdict on Cambodia's Request for Interpretation of 1962 Judgment in the Case Concerning Preah Vihear Temple

On this forthcoming 11 November 2013, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) will issue its decision at the request of the Kingdom of Cambodia for interpretation of the judgment of 15 June 1962 in the case concerning the Temple of Preah Vihear. On this occasion, I would like to inform our Buddhist monks and compatriots of

the case's background. After failing to achieve success for many years, after the Thai army invaded and occupied the Preah Vihear Temple in 1954 and by peaceful efforts, Cambodia had brought the case before the International Court of Justice. Based on cause in fact and legal cause, especially the scale 1/200000 Annex I Map drawn by the Franco-Siamese Mixed Commission on 15 June 1962, the International Court of Justice rendered judgment on three points (1) *the Temple of Preah Vihear is situated in the territory under the sovereignty of Cambodia*; (2) *Thailand is under an obligation to withdraw any military or police forces, or other guards or keepers, stationed by her at the Temple, or in its vicinity on Cambodian territory*; and (3) *Thailand is under an obligation to restore to Cambodia any objects that have been removed from the Temple or the Temple area by the Thai authorities*. Since the issuance of the verdict in 1962 by the International Court of Justice, the conflict between Cambodia and Thailand concerning the Temple of Preah Vihear area decreased, and never appeared in remarkably large scale.

However, the conflict over the sovereignty of the Preah Vihear Temple area regained tension

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Appeal to Microfinance Institutions on Post-Flood Situation

(08 November 2013 — Unofficial Translation, Selected Briefing)

Opening the Cabinet's meeting at the Peace Palace, Council of Ministers, Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen made a brief announcement of his appeal to banks, microfinance institutions and informal moneylenders in Cambodia to show leniency to flood-affected debtors by not foreclosing on their houses or lands and to provide them with more loans.

Today we are meeting here for a Cabinet's meeting with a number of pre-defined agendas. However, before we actually start the meeting, taking the opportunity that we already have the press people here and the fact that I will later sign a written appeal on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia on the flood-affected money

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Vaccination & Immunizations Indispensable for Poverty Reduction

(21 November 2013 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

In his remark to the *Opening of the Board Meeting of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI)*, Samdech Techo Hun Sen conveyed his enthusiasm and pride that the GAVI Alliance selected the Kingdom of Cambodia to host its board meeting.

He noted that this clearly reflected a close cooperation between the Kingdom of Cambodia and GAVI Alliance.

It should be noted that GAVI Alliance has been providing financial and spiritual cooperation and full support to the Kingdom of Cambodia, making great contribution to enable Cambodia to achieve significant boost in the introduction of new vaccines, further strengthening the health system for equitable provision of vaccines to Cambodian children.

In his own words, Samdech Techo Hun Sen considers the Board Meeting of the GAVI Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization meeting another strong impetus to speed up the process of introducing new vaccines and extend immunization coverage for children. He also noted that the national immunization program of Cambodia's Ministry of Health restarted in 1986 after Cambodia totally ended Pol Pot's genocidal regime.

The country had its immunization services for children gradually extended to a number of provinces until its full coverage throughout the country in 1988, and by 1999, Cambodia provided the tetanus toxoid vaccine to Cambodian pregnant women too.

With highly moral responsibilities, Samdech Techo recalled his commitment with the World Health Organization to eradicating the polio disease.

Through this joint concerted effort, the last confirmed case of Polio in Cambodia was only in 1997.

Cambodia has been recognized and certified as "Polio-Free Status in the year 2000." Samdech Techo noted with satisfaction that the cooperation between GAVI Alliance and Cambodia has been in good progress since 2001 through the introduction of the combined Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (DTP) and hepatitis B vaccine into the routine vaccination programs for children.

He stressed it was then that the Royal Government of Cambodia decided to introduce new hepatitis B vaccine to newborn baby in 2003.

Moreover, we also introduced new vaccines such as the combined (DPT-HepB-Hib) and measles second dose and another new vaccine in 2010 to prevent both measles-rubella that we have recently launched the campaign from October to December 2013 by vaccinating about 4.5 million children nationwide.

Samdech Techo also informed the GAVI Alliance's Board of Directors that, as the outcome in 2012, Cambodia made the greatest success in the reduction of the transmission of the hepatitis B virus to children aged 5 to two percent; and there is no case of measles detected since December 2011 in Cambodia. In parallel, he reaffirmed Cambodia's commitment to adopting new vaccines and finding new methods to provide widely and equitably immunizations to all children.

With initiated commitment and effort, Cambodia has made further progresses in this front.

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Cambodia-Japan ... from P I ance by forging ahead with various reforms such as strengthening democratic institutions through electoral reforms announced on 25 September 2013, and enhancing the rule of law through taking anti-corruption and other measures.

Prime Minister Abe expressed expectation that the post-election situation will be normalized expeditiously through dialogue and cooperation among the parties concerned and nation building will be advancing on the basis of national reconciliation. Prime Minister Abe also asserted Japan's readiness to assist these reform efforts.

The statement also reaffirmed that two leaders will continue to work together for smooth progress of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, while looking towards its successful completion in the future. In this connection, Prime Minister Hun Sen appreciated Japan's significant contribution to the trials to date in terms of resource mobilization as well as capacity development.

As far as **economic relations and development cooperation** is concerned, Prime Minister Hun Sen appreciated Japan's long-standing development cooperation to Cambodia including through official development assistance in areas such as socio-economic infrastructure, agriculture, education, human resource development, health, women and governance. Prime Minister Abe expressed his intention to continue Japan's assistance in those areas, which is full of future economic development potential.

The two leaders also concurred on the importance of steadfast development of the South Economic Corridor (SEC), from the perspective of strengthening connectivity in the Mekong

region. While sharing the view that landmines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) from the Cambodian Civil War period still scattered throughout Cambodia constitute an obstacle to Cambodia's economic and social development, the two leaders reaffirmed the importance of assistance for the removal of landmines and UXO, while deciding to strengthen cooperation toward enhancement of health and medical care in Cambodia. That will also include utilizing Japan's advanced medical technologies and systems.

The statement also indicated that the two leaders welcomed an increase in investment by Japanese companies in Cambodia and shared the view that further improvement of investment environment in Cambodia, using platforms like the Japan-Cambodia Public and Private Sector Joint Meeting, is essential for facilitating more investments.

Prime Minister Hun Sen stated that Cambodia would continue to carry out efforts in order to achieve an environment more conducive to investment, and that he would hope to see the participation of Japanese companies in the development of advanced urban infrastructure in the medium to long term. Many remarkable points have been reached in the Cambodian-Japanese Summit with regard to **people-to-people and cultural exchange** between the two countries.

It is important to note that Prime Minister Abe expressed his intention to conduct exchange projects with approximately 3,000 participants in the next five years, taking advantage of various exchange programs such as JENESYS 2.0 (the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths program).

Prime Minister Hun Sen welcomed Japan's initiative. In

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Recaps of Meeting & Newsbreaks

(for the Months of October and November 2013)

First Ever Survey Reports on Cambodia Labor Forces (November 29, 2013)

The National Institute of Statistics (NIS), Ministry of Planning and the International Labor Organization (ILO) released two reports — Cambodia Labor Force 2012 Report and Cambodia Child Labor 2012 — which present the first-ever combined Cambodia Labor Force and Child Labor Survey presenting a comprehensively collected information for 2012 on various aspects of work pattern and related activities engaged by adults and children.

The two publications also put together a good compilation of national and provincial statistics relating to employment and other labor force characteristics. The reports identified and listed a number of critical challenges and achievements in the Cambodian labor market faces, though.

For example, three quarters of the working population aged from 15 years and above or 10.7 million of them according to the statistics compiled in 2012, are residing in the rural areas. The Cambodia Child Labor 2012 report for its part found that 0.75 million children constitute 19 percent of the child population estimated at 3.95 million.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen Received Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System (November 27, 2013)

In a meeting with H.E. Ms. Claire Van der Vaeren, Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System, the UNDP Representative and Head of the UN Agencies team to Cambodia, Samdech Techo Hun Sen reiterates Cambodia's national development goal to achieve average economic growth at 7% with competitive economic diversification, more jobs for the Cambodian people. He also ascertained the effort to reduce poverty at the rate of 1% per annum, while strengthening governance and institutional capacity.

H.E. Ms. Claire Van der Vaeren, Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System, thanked the Royal Government of Cambodia for sending peacekeepers to Mali and reassured that the UN system will work more closely with the Royal Government of Cambodia as its partner.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen Received NA President of Côte d'Ivoire (November 26, 2013)

Samdech Techo Hun Sen suggested three important points to boost the bilateral relations and cooperation between Cambodia and Côte d'Ivoire – visit exchange; economic, investment and trade cooperation; and international cooperation in the frameworks of UN, Non-aligned Movement, and Francophony Organization - to visiting President of the National Assembly (NA) of Côte d'Ivoire, H.E. Guillaume Kigbafori Soro.

During the talks, H.E. Guillaume Kigbafori Soro expressed his appreciation to Cambodia's fast development and democratization under the wise leadership of Samdech Techo Hun Sen.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen Met Outgoing UK Ambassador (November 26, 2013)

Samdech Techo Hun Sen highly appreciated the increasing trade, tourism and investment cooperation between Cambodia and the

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In the year 2000, the coverage rate of three vaccines combined into a DPT form was only 43% and nowadays it is 85% as shown in the 2010 Health and Demography Report. Truly, the increase in the rate of vaccination coverage is the outcome of Royal Government's investment in vaccine provision services for the public. Recently we have devoted more attention to the vulnerable in local communities - villages in remote areas, ethnic minorities' villages, and migratory people and people living in urban areas.

On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, Samdech Techo expressed his satisfaction to the fact that the GAVI Alliance continues to accelerate the inclusion of new vaccines and would like to request for the inclusion of Pneumococcal Vaccine by 2015 and vaccine for HPV, Rotavirus, and JE in the near future. He noted that this should be of great significance for Cambodia in its effort to narrow the country's gap and differences with other countries in the region, and enabling Cambodian children to get vaccines equitably like other nations in the globe.

Samdech Techo also remarked that the *progress of health sector on vaccinations and immunization is indispensable for greater poverty reduction of Cambodian people*. This has not only promoted trust in Cambodia's health sector but also enhanced the image of the Kingdom of Cambodia on the international stage. On this basis, though Cambodia has potential to achieve its 2015 Millennium Development Goals on the health of children beyond expectation, and nowadays parents have confidence that their children live well, grow healthily and are free of diseases compared with their parents, Samdech Techo reaffirmed that Cambodia contin-

ues to foster unwavering commitment with new vaccines and immunization.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen stressed that the Royal Government, for the time being, will continue its stringent effort to implement in-depth reform of national programs providing immunization and focus on the implementation of health sector reform program as it is a life-and-death matter but also capturing of ownership by Cambodia in ensuring the welfare of its people and infants.

Samdech Techo in that spirit reaffirmed that the Royal Government of the 5th Legislature will continue its effort in implementing and updating "Strategic Plan for Health Sector 2008-2015" in order to ensure the sustained progress of development of health sector, aimed to promote sanitation, health, welfare, and nutrition of Cambodian people, particularly of the poor, vulnerable, women and children.

Samdech Techo re-emphasized that provision of vaccines to every Cambodian child regardless of their political ideology, color, nation and race is the country's priority. For this cause, therefore, he stressed, Cambodia will continue to expand the scope of public health services closer to the people by continued expansion of infrastructure for this sector more vigorously.

Having said that Samdech Techo clarified that the construction of referring hospitals, health center, healthcare posts based on geographic situation and demography as well as providing instruments, equipment, medical accessories and medicines and appropriately skilled medical personnel and increase the coverage of preventive vaccinations for children and the provision of micronutrients and nutrition to infants and so on. Samdech Techo also told the Board

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United Kingdom and thanked UK for its assistance to Cambodia.

During the farewell meeting, H.E. Mark Gooding, the UK Ambassador expressed profound thanks to the Royal Government of Cambodia for its support to his diplomatic mission and lauded the good cooperation between Cambodia and UK.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen Met Outgoing ICRC Senior Official
(November 26, 2013)

Senior official of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Mr. Jacques Stroun bid farewell to Samdech Techo Hun Sen with his congratulation on Cambodia's achievements, especially the country's rapid development noted during his mission in the Kingdom. Samdech Techo Hun Sen highly valued Mr. Stroun's mission and thanked ICRC for its support to Cambodia in terms of humanitarian activities.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen Received Cambodian National Athletes for 27th SEA Games
(November 23, 2013)

Meeting with the Cambodian athlete delegation prior to their departures for the 27th SEA Games in Naypyidaw, Myanmar, from Dec. 11 to 22, 2013, Samdech Techo Hun Sen advised that "winning-losing is normal, but winning-losing with honor is the most important." He reaffirms "all athletes represent our nation. You have to do your bests to win with honor. Should you lose, you lose with honor."

According to H.E. Thong Khon, Minister of Tourism and Chairman of the National Olympic Committee of Cambodia (NOCC), the country will send 209 athletes, 48 coaches, and 28 NOCC's officials to the event. In the 26th SEA Games in Indonesia, Cambodia won 39 medals including 4 gold, 11 silver and 24 bronze medals in nine types of games.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen Received Ambassador of Sweden
(November 14, 2013)

In the meeting with the new Swedish diplomat, Samdech Techo Hun Sen expressed his satisfaction with the good cooperation between Cambodia and Sweden and the smoothly operating Swedish-funded projects in the country.

He also thanked the Government of Sweden for its assistance to Cambodia in mines and UXO clearance and asked the Swedish side to consider assisting the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre in Cambodia, especially in human resource training for the humanitarian operations under the UN umbrella.

H.E. Ms. Anna Maj Hultgard pledged to do her best to strengthen the existing relations between Cambodia and Sweden and vowed to boost the bilateral cooperation in the fields of trade and investment and to contribute to developing the legal sector in Cambodia as Sweden has paid high attention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC).

Samdech Techo Hun Sen Received Ambassador of Russia
(November 14, 2013)

In the talk with outgoing Russian diplomat, Samdech Techo Hun Sen highly valued the ambassador's diplomatic mission in Cambodia, through which, he noted, the number of Russian tourists and investors to Cambodia have increased.

The Cambodian Prime Minister thanked profoundly the Govern-

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Meeting of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization of his firm belief that Cambodia will become more active and vigorous with national programs in providing preventive medicines and that Cambodia's health sector will improve steadily.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen thanked the GAVI Alliance and all development partners for supporting Cambodia to include new vaccines steadily and thank the World Health Organization and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) for the coordination of the successful implementation of supporting activities of GAVI Alliance.

Samdech Techo Huh Sen highly valued efforts made by development partners, development agencies, national and international organizations, and relevant institutions in making collaboration with and providing all kinds of support, including the preparation of action plans and implementation of activities in health sector, to Cambodian relevant agency with the objective to increase the efficiency of healthcare service provision for the people in the past in the cause of poverty reduction, socio-economic development in Cambodia in line with the spirit of *Rectangular Strategy-Phase III: Growth, Employment, Equity, and Efficiency* in Cambodia.

Samdech Techo reassured the Board Meeting of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization of Cambodia's belief to ensure the welfare of the people, particularly the children who will vigorously continue to contribute to the take-off of national economy and the ease of the livelihoods of Cambodian people to live in dignity, prosperity and happiness. Cambodia can own its destiny and play a full role as genuine partner on an equal

footing and equal right with other countries in the region on vaccinations and provision of preventive medicines to children.

All these have made me believe that cooperation between Cambodia-GAVI Alliance will continue making the livelihood of Cambodian children better and more pleasant in their lives with prosperous future.

Taking that opportunity, Samdech Techo also highly appreciated the management and civil servants of the Ministry of Health and all concerned ministries-institutions, who have actively fulfilled their tasks to realize this valuable assignment, which is the improvement of child welfare, elimination of a number of diseases infecting the children, which eventually contributes to Cambodia's socio-economic development.

He thanked and highly commended the development partners, national and international organizations, especially the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF and Bill Melinda Gates Foundation, who have provided active cooperation as well as providing technical and financial support to the national immunization program of the Ministry of Health, enabling Cambodia to realize the great achievement in this sector.

While wishing the Meeting of the Board of Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization success and fruitful discussions, contributing to the development of vaccines and provision of immunization to children as a common goal for the whole humanity, Samdech Techo also reinvigorated the belief that these tasks will strengthen Cambodian consistent position and will be able to overcome challenges and obstacles, especially to prevent Cambodian children from fatal illnesses ...■

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ment and people of Russia for their support to the development of Cambodia. Both sides also spoke highly of the good relationship between the two countries, particularly in the field of politics.

Cambodia's Exports to Canada on the Rise

(November 14, 2013)

Canadian Ambassador to Cambodia H.E. Philip Calvert made known to Cambodian Minister of Economy and Finance H.E. Aun Porn Moniroth in a meeting that Cambodia's exports to Canada in the past ten years have seen a remarkable increase from some US\$21 million in 2002 to US\$598 million in 2012.

The figure ranks Canada the third biggest market for Cambodian products. H.E. Philip Calvert also lauded the development in Cambodia and affirmed that Canada would continue to boost its cooperation both in technical and financial fields with Cambodia. Since 1992, Canada has provided some US\$126 million in grant aid to Cambodia.

Cambodians Travel Abroad up 10% in First Nine Months

(November 14, 2013)

In the first nine months of this year, the number of Cambodian outbound tourists has reached 644,393, up 10 percent from 585,805 in the same period last year, according to Cambodia's Ministry of Tourism. The number of Cambodian outbound visitors expects to grow fast thanks to better economic growth that leads to better living standard.

The Ministry of Economy and Finance projects the GDP per capita would reach US\$1,036 for this year and US\$1,139 for 2014. Most Cambodian tourists visit Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, China, Indonesia, etc.

Draft National Policy on Culture Discussed

(November 13, 2013)

To draft the national policy on culture to protect and preserve cultural heritage, the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts and the National Commission for UNESCO co-organized a consultative workshop with the participation of cultural experts from relevant ministries and institutions a consultative workshop.

The national policy on culture is the key foundation to link the cultural sector to national economic development aimed at setting culture as an effective driving force for socio-economic development in line with the Rectangular Strategy Phase III.

NA Approved National Budget for 2014 and Establishment of Three Ministries

(November 12, 2013)

The National Assembly (NA)'s 66 lawmakers present unanimously passed the five-chapter with 14-article draft budget law for 2014 worth up to 14,167,449 million Riel (approximately US\$3.4 billion), up 13.1 percent if compared to that of 2013. According to the 2014 national budget law, some 1,872,699 million Riel will be allocated for security and national defense; 2,884,958.70 million Riel for social affairs; 1,121,255.5 million Riel for general administration; and 195,631 million Riel for the economic sector.

A sum of 1,122,320.3 million Riel is earmarked for National Defense; 750,379 million Riel for Interior; 977,651.3 million Riel for Health, 1,342,049 million Riel for Education, Youth and Sports; 565,258.4 million Riel for Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth

Rehabilitation; 134,219 million Riel for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; and 61,412.4 million Riel for Water Resources and Meteorology.

In the same session, the National Assembly approved the Royal Government of Cambodia's request to upgrade the State Secretariat of Civil Service into a Ministry; and the separation of the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy into the Ministry of Industry and Handicraft and the Ministry of Mines and Energy.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen Met with President of DENSO Corp (November 11, 2013)

Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen told visiting President and CEO of Japan-based DENSO Corporation Mr. Nobuaki Katoh in the courtesy meeting that the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC)'s policy, by maintaining good investment environment in the country, not only aims to attract foreign investments but also helps the foreign investments to achieve growth and benefit.

Mr. Nobuaki Katoh profoundly thanked Samdech Techo Hun Sen and the RGC for their supports to DENSO's investment in Cambodia since its commencement in July this year and assured that DENSO Corporation will train Cambodian workers to become qualified workers.

Cambodia Marked 60th Anniversary of Independence Day (November 09, 2013)

To mark the 60th anniversary of national independence from France (09 November 1953 — 2013), His Majesty Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia, called for national unity, solidarity for national development and prosperity.

"I would like to appeal to all Cambodian people to be united under the roof of the constitution and state laws in order to contribute to defending and building our nation in all domains, especially economy as the country is in full peace and political stability," said the Cambodian monarch.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen said the Cambodian people never forget the late King-Father Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk who sacrificed physically and mentally for the national independence, territorial integrity, happiness and development, while assuring that the fifth mandate of the Royal Government of Cambodia is committed to continuing radical reforms to score further achievements.

RGC Provided Additional Fund to ECCC

(October 30, 2013)

The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) provided US\$1.8 million as an emergency funding to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) to enable the court's national side to work without interruption until the end of this year. The new funding was made after the bilateral meeting between Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen and UN Secretary-General H.E. Ban Ki-moon on the sidelines of the ASEAN Summit in Brunei Darussalam in early October.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen Received China's Shandong Province Delegation (October 28, 2013)

During a meeting with the visiting Deputy Secretary of Shandong Provincial Communist Party Committee H.E. Wang Junmin, Samdech Techo Hun Sen urged Chinese companies to invest in

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processing plants for agricultural products for export to international markets and to China.

While the purpose of his visit was to enhance both countries' relations and cooperation, especially in the fields of economy and trade, H.E. Wang Junmin informed Samdech Techo Hun Sen of the signing of MoU of cooperation between Shandong and Kam-pot, and sought further support for the Chinese companies' investments from Shandong.

Cambodia To Maintain Peace along Cambodian-Thai Border (October 26, 2013)

At the weekly cabinet meeting and via a video conference, Samdech Techo Hun Sen urged the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) to maintain peace along the border with Thailand regardless of the verdict of the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

Waiting for the ICJ's decision on Cambodia's request for the interpretation of the Court's Judgment of 15 June 1962 in the case concerning the Temple of Preah Vihear, Samdech Techo emphasized two royal governments' stance to maintain friendship and cooperation no matter what the ICJ's verdict on Nov. 11, 2013 would be.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen Held Talk with KOICA President (October 23, 2013)

At the Peace Palace, Samdech Techo Hun Sen asked the visiting President of Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), Mr. Kim Young-mok to examine the possibility to assist Cambodia in human resource training, health care, civil services, New Village Movement, infrastructural development and encouragement of more Korean investors and tourists to Cambodia.

RGC To Host a National Workshop on Election Reform (October 22, 2013)

Based on the October-14 statement of the ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP) on future election reform and the September-16 joint communiqué between CPP and the main opposition CNRP, the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) affirmed in a press statement that a national workshop on election reform would be held before end of this year.

Representatives from the legislative and executive bodies, registered political parties, National Election Committee, civil society organizations, international organizations, development partners, and other relevant institutions will be welcome. The RGC called on all compatriots and international community to support this significant reform process for the cause of peace, stability, democracy, and further development in Cambodia.

Cambodia's Milled Rice Export Increased by 106% in First 9 Months (October 16, 2013)

In the first nine months of this year, Cambodia exported some 266,120 tons of milled rice, up 106 percent from 129,230 tons during the same period last year, according to the Federation of Cambodian Rice Exporters (FCRE), who also projects that Cambodia will bring its export figure to at least 400,000 tons of milled rice this year. Currently, Cambodia has 72 milled rice exporters to 57 countries and regions around the world, particularly to Poland, France, Malaysia, Thailand, the Netherlands and China. Cambodia is committed to exporting at least one million tons of milled rice by 2015, while the yearly paddy rice production has reached

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In light of this development, the two leaders praised the measures taken respectively to ease mutual visa requirements for their nationals, in order to widen opportunities for exchange between people and people. The two leaders also decided, according to the statement, to make further efforts in generating more demand and improving relevant conditions, including examining possibility to conclude an air services agreement, in order to facilitate direct flight services between the two countries in the future.

Welcoming the successful outcome of cooperation for the conversation and restoration of the Angkor monuments, the two leaders decided to advance exchange and cooperation in the field of arts, culture and sports as well as Japanese language education to further mutual understanding of both countries.

Addressing regional and global issues, the two leaders decided to promote further cooperation toward regional and global peace and prosperity. Prime Minister Hun Sen confirmed his participation in the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative and the Mekong-Japan Meeting to be held in December 2013. They decided to work closely with each other for a successful outcome of these issues.

In this regard, Prime Minister Abe extended an invitation for official bilateral visit to Japan,

which Prime Minister Hun Sen accepted. It is important to note that the two leaders underscored the importance of settling maritime disputes by peaceful means in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law defined in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), in order to establish principle of rule of law in the Asia-Pacific region.

Moreover, they expressed their expectation on an early conclusion on an effective Code of Conduct (COC) which contributes to the effective settlement of conflicts in the South China Sea. Both sides urged North Korea to comply fully with its obligations under the relevant United Nation Security Council Resolutions and commitments under the 19 September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six Party Talks, while taking concrete actions for its denuclearization. They also make a decision to cooperate with each other towards the resolution of the abductions issue.

Prime Minister Abe expressed gratitude for Cambodia's continued support for Japan's permanent membership in the United Nations Security Council. With regard to the reform of the UNSC, the two leaders shared the view that they should work actively together to achieve an early reform of the Council, in view of 70th anniversary of the United Nations in 2015...■

some 9.31 million tons.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen Received Cambodian Youth for 40th SSEAYP (October 15, 2013)

Receiving a Cambodian youth delegation for the 40th Ship for South East Asian Youth Program (SSEAYP), Samdech Techo Hun Sen explained to the youth delegation the reasons why Cambodia joins ASEAN and recommended them to build good ties of friendship and solidarity with their counterparts from other ASEAN countries and Japan. The SSEAYP started in 1974 based on a joint statement issued in the same year by Japan and South-east Asian countries. In addition, Brunei Darussalam joined in 1985, Vietnam in 1996, Laos and Myanmar in 1998 and Cambodia in 2000...■

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on 15 July 2008 when the Thai army entered the Cambodian territory at the geographical location of Keo Sekha Kirisvarak Buddhist pagoda after the Temple of Preah Vihear was placed at the Cambodian proposal in the list of the World Heritage on 8 July 2008. The dispute expanded to various armed clashes causing impacts on human lives, property and especially the Temple itself.

Viewing the fact that the use of bilateral and multilateral mechanism to resolve the issue was ineffective, whereas armed clashes along the Cambodian-Thai border continued to happen, aiming to cease the conflict by peaceful means in accordance with international practice and to safeguard good neighborly relations and close cooperation between the two countries and people - Cambodia and Thailand, on 28 April 2011, the Royal Government of Cambodia brought the case before the International Court of Justice requesting for immediate measures to cease the armed clashes and for interpretation of the 15 June 1962 judgment at the understanding that the conflict arises because of different interpretation by Cambodia and by Thailand on the content and extension of the 1962 judgment. As a result, on 18 July 2011, the International Court of Justice agreed to the request of Cambodia to issue immediate measures requiring both Parties to withdraw their troops from the provisional demilitarized zone of 17.3 square Kilometers and to examine the Cambodian request for the interpretation of the 1962 judgment.

It is in this note that I would like to reaffirm for our Buddhist monks and compatriots of the fact that that the Royal Government of Cambodia proposes to the International Court of Justice to provide interpretation of its 1962 judgment is not for fuelling the flame of conflict or for ambition to gain territory

over the neighboring country. On the contrary, the Royal Government understands that this shall be an effective and necessary means for the two Parties to reach the end of the problem peacefully and in respect of the international law, mutual respect of national sovereignty and territorial integrity and good neighborly relations. The Royal Government of Cambodia always adheres firmly to the effort of building a clearly defined borderline and transforming the Cambodian border areas with neighboring countries into ones of peace, friendship, cooperation and development.

It is in this spirit, HE Yingluck Shinawatra, Prime Minister and Minister of National Defense of the Kingdom of Thailand, and I have taken a common stand that, whatever the interpretation of the ICJ would be on 11 November 2013, the two countries would abide by its decision and make further efforts to maintain peace and stability along the border. In this meaning, I would appeal to the armed forces fulfilling their duties in the border area to maintain calmness, patience and avoid actions that would cause tension or eventual clashes. I would appeal to all Buddhist monks and compatriots to remain calm, to continue to maintain security and public order in the country as well as continue to raise high the spirit of good neighborly relations, solidarity, friendship, harmonious and close cooperation between the two countries' and peoples' - Cambodia and Thailand - immediate-term and long-term common interest.

Statement on Delivery of ICJ's Verdict on Cambodia's Request for Interpretation of 1962 Judgment in the Case Concerning Preah Vihear Temple

This afternoon, 11 November 2013, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague, the Netherlands, announced its

judgment on the Request by Cambodia for interpretation of the Judgment of 15 June 1962 in the case concerning the Temple of Preah Vihear, as follows:

“The Court (1) Finds, unanimously, that it has jurisdiction under Article 60 of the Statute to entertain the Request for Interpretation of the 1962 Judgment presented by Cambodia, and that this Request is admissible; (2) Declares, unanimously, by way of interpretation, that the Judgment of 15 June 1962 decided that Cambodia has sovereignty over the whole territory of the promontory of Preah Vihear, as defined in paragraph 98 of the present judgment, and that, in consequence, Thailand was under an obligation to withdraw from that territory the Thai military or police forces, or other guards or keepers, that were stationed there.”

I would like to emphasize that paragraph 98 of the Judgment clearly defines the location of the promontory. This is an important step forward with historical significance in the efforts made by the Royal Government of Cambodia to find peaceful resolution based on international law for the dispute between Cambodia and Thailand concerning the Temple of Preah Vihear and its vicinity. Particularly, the fact that the International Court of Justice used the 1/200.000 scale Annex 1 Map, which was submitted by Cambodia to the Court in 1962, as evidence for interpretation of its Judgment giving a clear direction to the parties for their subsequent implementation.

On this basis, on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, I would like to reiterate and re-emphasize my statement to all compatriots on 7 November 2013 concerning the commitment of Cambodia to comply with the common position reached between myself, the Prime Minister of Cambodia, and Her Excellency Yingluck

Shinawatra, the Prime Minister of Thailand, to the effect that “Regardless of the outcome of the Judgment of the International Court of Justice on 11 November 2013, the two countries must abide by the decision and maintain friendship between the two nations and people, as well as to preserve peace and stability along the border at any cost.”

Moreover, I would like to reaffirm that the Royal Government of Cambodia will respect and implement this commitment in accordance with the spirit of the meeting between the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the two nations, Cambodia and Thailand on 28 October 2013, in Poipet, Banteay Meanchey Province, in which both parties agreed to further discuss within the existing competent mechanisms the implementation of the Judgment of the International Court of Justice. In this regard, the Governments of the two countries commit not to do anything to cause any tension between them and to prevent anyone from undertaking any act that may cause tension between the two countries. In the same vein, the two Governments will pay special attention to maintain and strengthen the friendly relationship and good cooperation between the two countries, as well as to avoid any act that may affect the movement of people on both sides of the border, commercial exchange, investment, transport and other areas of cooperation.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my most profound gratitude to the Late King Father Preah Borom Ratanak Koad Norodom Sihanouk who left behind a priceless historic legacy to the next generations as the basis for reference on which to settle further issues relating to the Temple of Preah Vihear, which was used by the International Court of Justice as grounds to reach its ruling. I would also

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lending business I may as well take the chance to brief us all about this development.

Banks and Microfinance Institutions to Relax Terms

It is everyone's knowledge that the flood of 2013 has been a serious disaster after the one in 2011. As we are talking about it here, a majority of the flood-affected people has been provided with assistance, while help continues to reach the rest. Rescue assistance will also continue. It should be noted that some households, despite the provision of assistance, would not be able to resume cultivation. They will have to face the fact of going without any crops at all and waiting one full year for next cultivation. What I want to stress here is in fact the situation of those households who have been in debts to the microfinance institutions and informal money lending business. The Royal Government hereby issues its appeal for three considerations:

Those people who have been severely affected (by flood) and are unable to repay the debt in time, the microfinance institutions should not foreclose on their houses or lands for failing to repay debts on schedule. This refers to the case of people who owed certain amount of loan to banks and microfinance institutions, while the terms of payment are due. According to the contracts, banks and microfinance institutions may enforce foreclosure on their properties. I would in this case appeal to the banks and microfinance institutions to relax their term of payment so that these people would not have to sell or mortgage their property to pay back the debts. This should apply only to those who loan for honest business but have been affected by flood. This should not apply with those who borrowed money for gambling.

Loan of due payment should be reviewed with leniency by not imposing fines and by lowering

interest rates as much as possible. This point is therefore important that I would specifically bring the attention to the lenders. In every due payment, for this category of flood-affected people, I wish that the lenders would either reschedule their payback time free of fines or allow payback without charging interest or with reduced rate. For every loan, there is always obligation for the case of failing to pay back. We propose rescheduling the term of payback for certain period – three or six months or one year, not without specified timeframe. As for interest rate adjustment, they could bring it down like from 5% to 1% or lower. These people have had double difficulties already – destroyed cultivation by flood and their loans are due, while they had to face up with fines for missing the payment date.

I would urge the study to find out if it is possible to provide further loan/credit with low interest for them to restore their living condition through cultivation of dry season, flood recession rice or growing other crops. There is no other means than providing them with further help. In Khmer, it is said that “once a horse ran off, you need another horse to chase and get it back.” This metaphor mainly addresses loss in gambling but I use it here to illustrate the situation of those whose livelihoods were made difficult by natural disasters. It is better that we should not kill the hen but raise her to get more eggs later. It is the win-win situation.

As far as this credit situation is concerned, the Royal Government of Cambodia is placing it under the charge of Permanent Deputy Prime Minister Keat Chhon, who is also Head of the Economic and Financial Policy Committee. The work will need to be coordinated under his leadership with the Ministry of Economy and Finance to uphold the implementation of this appeal. I am of the opinion that

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like to express my most profound gratitude to His Majesty Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia, who always lends his full support to the Royal Government in its endeavors to protect the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

At the same time, I would like to express my high appreciation to the Government's task force led by His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister Hor Namhong, whose members have sacrificed all their physical, intellectual and spiritual strength to actively carry out their job for more than two years for the sake of this noble and historic task. My highest appreciation and most sincere gratitude also go to all armed forces who have recently

Deputy Prime Minister HE Keat Chhon and all heads of banks and microfinance institutions, would have a good meeting to discuss this matter in an understanding way. We also had some positive experiences from what we did in 2011.

Informal Money Lending Among People

For loans that are occurring in the informal lending business, people to people, I also ask those informal moneylenders to exercise understanding for their debtors. In the past, it is said in Khmer that “(borrowing) a bucket of rice in the rainy season would result in payback of two in the next dry season.” I would in this case also appeal to those informal moneylenders and those in debts to work out a good deal together as we all are Cambodians. That is all I wanted to say today to banks and microfinance institutions, and the informal moneylenders as they are not mentioned specifically in the written appeal. I would like to thank all concerned parties for listening to the appeal verbally. As I said earlier the written appeal will be issued later...☐

sacrificed their lives and limbs for the good cause of protecting national sovereignty and territorial integrity along the border of Cambodia, both land and sea borders, and especially in the region of Preah Vihear.

I would also like to express my deep gratitude to the Cambodian people from all walks of life who have provided their material, financial and spiritual supports to the Royal Government in the implementation of its policy to protect the national sovereignty and territorial integrity. Along with this, I also express my special gratitude to all family's members of the armed forces who have sacrificed their beloved spouses, children, grandchildren and other relatives for this noble cause. Besides, I would like to express my sincere thanks and high appreciation to the Cambodian News Channel (CNC) for sending its team to The Hague in the Netherlands to cover the reading of the Judgment of the International Court of Justice and to broadcast live for the attention of our compatriots and the public.

On this important occasion, I would like to once again appeal to all armed forces who are on duty to protect the border, to continue to exercise their utmost restraint, to keep stationing in their respective places and to avoid any provocative act that could lead to tension or any eventual clashes so that the two governments' mechanisms would conduct their negotiation on the implementation of this International Court of Justice verdict. I would also like to appeal to venerable monks and compatriots to remain calm and to contribute to maintaining security and public order in the country as well as to further safeguarding and enhancing the spirit of friendly neighborliness, solidarity, friendship, harmony, and closer cooperation between the nations and people of Cambodia and Thailand for the immediate and long term interests of our two countries...☐