



Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia

Phnom Penh, September 18, 2015

The Honourable Don Benton
Senator
Washington State Senate
Vancouver, Washington

Senator Benton,

May I express my sincere thanks for your sympathy and strong support extended to me in your letter dated September 11, 2015 for what I have done to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cambodia.

I am delighted that you are well aware of what has happened in Cambodia concerning the map and border issues. Your view of the attack against me and my Government on these issues as "baseless" and "politically-motivated", has rendered justice to the efforts undertaken by myself and my Government.

I fully share your view that one of the most important duties for any national leader and Government is protecting and preserving the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

In the delimitation and demarcation of border with Vietnam, the Royal Government of Cambodia has been using and will continue to use the Bonne map, scale 1/100,000 published by the Indochina Geographical Service in accordance with Article 2 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Besides, the approval by National Assembly and the ratification by His Majesty the King of the 2005 Complementary Treaty proved the accuracy of the agreements signed in the years 80s on the delimitation and demarcation of border with Vietnam.

However, the opposition party has used the border issue in its campaign against the Government with the objective to achieve their political gain. It has gone as far as accusing the Government of using "fake map" and even "thief map". All these reckless deeds of the opposition party aimed to confuse the national and international public opinions.

In face of broad campaign of manipulation and in order to provide clarification to all Cambodian people about maps used by the Royal Government of Cambodia in the delimitation and demarcation of the border with Vietnam, I have written to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, French President François Hollande, United Kingdom Prime Minister David Cameron and United States President Barak Obama requesting to borrow the original or copied maps in their possession in order to verify with the official and legal map used and being used by my Government.

Responding to my request, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has lent 18 pieces of map while French President François Hollande has provided 26 pieces of copied Bonne map 1/100,000. The United Kingdom and the United States could not find the requested map.

The two verification processes of the UN and France's maps, carried out under the witness of representatives from the Cambodian People's Party (my party), the opposition party, FUNCINPEC Party, the National Assembly, the Senate, etc. , have proved clearly that these maps were identically match with the Government's maps.

After the two verification processes of the said maps, the Royal Government of Cambodia considered the map and border issues with Vietnam have ended.

I strongly believed that all I and my Government have done in the delimitation and demarcation of border with Vietnam has proved clearly our utmost attention to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cambodia.

Again, thank you for your kind support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized initial 'H' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

HUN SEN