

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Department of Information

Statement of the Spokesperson of The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

It is with great surprise that a handful of "European parliamentarians" reportedly announced their intention to escort an escaped convict Sam Rainsy repetitively declaring his return to Cambodia in an undetermined date.

The MFAIC wishes to recall that Sam Rainsy has been charged of and sentenced with jail terms for many counts, namely treason, incitement to commit felonies, insult to His Majesty the King Norodom Sihamoni, demoralization of the armed forces, just to name a few.

In this regard, the MFAIC registers its utmost dismay over such a conduct and categorizes the step, if taken, as undiplomatic and disrespectful to the sovereignty and rule of law of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

While welcoming all law-abiding foreign visitors with sincere and good intention to promote amicable amity, people-to-people linkage and mutually beneficial cooperation, the MFAIC is compelled to remind the European lawmakers of Cambodia's Law on Immigration (1994), which stipulates the obligations prior to an entry into Cambodia, authorization of the entry taking into account the national security, and consequences for the clandestine entry into Cambodia through fraud or by any other illegal means whatsoever contrary to the applicable laws of Cambodia.

In addition, the MFAIC would like to admonish them to refer to Article 41 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (1961), which requires all persons "enjoying such privileges and immunities to respect the laws and regulations of the receiving state. They also have a duty not to interfere in the internal affairs of that State."

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The MFAIC strongly urges the said politicians to reconsider their ill-informed decision and to immediately discontinue this politically motivated and undiplomatic move. Furthermore, the MFAIC would like to reaffirms Cambodia's unwavering commitment to upholding the rule of law and the maintenance of peace, stability and public order, which the Cambodian people have been enjoying.

nom Penh, 06 July 2019