

Statement of National Committee for World Heritage

Written by Administrator

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ROYAUME DU CAMBODGE
NATION INDÉPENDANCE SOUVÉRAINE



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Phnom Penh, 30 May 2011

STATEMENT

The National Committee for World Heritage wishes to express its appreciation for the outstanding efforts made by the Director General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova, in seeking to resolve the long-standing dispute between Cambodia and Vietnam over the protection and preservation of the Temple of Preah Vihear.

As an outcome from the visit by Cambodia and Vietnam to Phnom Penh to the 36th session of the Executive Board of the World Heritage Convention, the Director General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova, has expressed her support for the resolution of the dispute.

Indeed, at their meeting the leader of the Thai delegation, Minister Sont Khakhai, openly admitted that Thailand agrees with the fact that the Temple of Preah Vihear and its area are located on the Cambodian side of the border. The Thai delegation also agreed to the Cambodian request for the return of the temple to Cambodia and to the Cambodian request for the return of the temple to Cambodia and to the Cambodian request for the return of the temple to Cambodia.

Furthermore, at the meeting in Paris, last week, the Thai delegation unanimously accepted to abstain from voting on the resolution on the temple and to support the Cambodian request for the return of the temple to Cambodia and to the Cambodian request for the return of the temple to Cambodia.

The National Committee for World Heritage wishes to express its appreciation to Cambodia and the international community for providing and protecting the temple, including those engaged in making immediate measures to prevent further deterioration of the temple as well as their significant and successful efforts in the Temple dispute as a result of the request of the 36th session of the Executive Board of the World Heritage Convention.

The Director General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova, has said, "the world's cultural heritage should never be a cause for conflict."

For more information, please contact the National Committee for World Heritage at ncwh@ncc.gov.kh or www.ncwh.gov.kh.