

Cambodia positively replied to Indonesia, current Chair of ASEAN, on May 4 regarding the 7th terms of reference (TOR) for the deployment of Indonesian observers to the Cambodian-Thai disputed border areas near the Preah Vihear Temple.

Cambodia has kept the three proposed locations including Ta Sem, Chak Chreng and Pram Makara for the deployment of Indonesian observers on its side, while Thailand has removed a disputed location, i.e. Svay Chhrum, which is located well inside Cambodian territory, affirmed Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister H.E. Hor Namhong at a press conference held here today at Phnom Penh International Airport before his departure for the ASEAN foreign ministers' meeting scheduled to take place on May 6 in Jakarta, Indonesia.

According to an unofficial information, Thai cabinet agreed on Wednesday to accept Indonesian observers to Cambodian-Thai border, said the Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister, adding that if Thailand agree to sign the TOR for observers at the meeting in Indonesia, Cambodia will urge Indonesia to send observers as soon as possible and let both countries' border commission working groups to continue their works.

Cambodian and Thai foreign ministers agreed in February to accept Indonesian observers to monitor and ensure a permanent ceasefire between the two countries. But later on, Thai military rejected the presence of Indonesian observers and insisted the issue be resolved bilaterally.
–AKP

By SOKMOM Nimul