

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA



NATION - RELIGION - KING

Prinly Nam Hong  
Deputy Prime Minister  
and International Cooperation

Phnom Penh, 22 April 2011

H.E. Dr. R.M. Mery  
Nahapans  
Minister for Foreign Affairs,  
Republic of Indonesia and  
Chair of ASEAN  
Jakarta

*Excellency, Dear Mr. Namhong*

I would like to draw to your kind attention to the fresh armed attack by Thailand against Cambodia, as follows:

Today, 22 April 2011, at 06:00, Thailand started a large-scale attack with many types of weapons, including 102 mm, 106 mm and 152 mm artillery, against Cambodia in the area of TA MOUAY and TA ARAKHET. Bombs landed deep inside Cambodian territory. The soldiers fell as far as 27 km inside Cambodia, at Krati Moan village in Sihanoukville Province, while Thai soldiers violated deep into Cambodia's territory. Cambodia has suffered many casualties during the attack.

This fresh act of aggression not only violates all legal instruments as stated in my letter dated 2 February 2011 to the former UNSC President, Mr. Karim Ben El-Mechaieq, but also the UNSC Press Statement on 14 February 2011 and the Statement of the Chairman of ASEAN following the Informal Meeting of ASEAN Foreign Ministers on 22 February 2011, calling for a permanent ceasefire.

After I recall that, in accordance to movement over the inscription of Cambodia's TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHAR on the World Heritage List in July 2008, Thailand attacked Cambodia four times earlier, namely on 15 July 2008, 22 October 2008, 9 April 2009 and 6 February 2011 during which cluster munitions were also used by Thailand, as confirmed by the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) on 8 April 2011.

The fresh armed attack takes place in spite of intensive regional efforts by Indonesia, Chair of ASEAN, supported by the UNSC, to expedite a permanent ceasefire and a peaceful solution, after Thailand's large-scale offensive against Cambodia last February.

This deliberate act of aggression explains why Thailand has not now refused to accept the necessary details of the Terms of Reference (TOR), proposed by the ASEAN Chair, for the deployment of the Indonesian Observer to monitor the commitment of both sides to avoid further armed clashes, while Cambodia has already given its immediate positive response for the draft TOR in the draft TOR after its mission in accordance Thailand's position.

This most recent aggression against Cambodia also confirms the cause behind Thailand's insistence on making the conflict "bilateral" as a pretext for the use of its large and massively more sophisticated armed forces against Cambodia.

Cambodia has so far succeeded in maintaining peace and demonstrated its goodwill in order to maintain an atmosphere favorable for a peaceful settlement. However, it reserves the right to self-defence in the face of such deliberate acts of aggression.

Considering the repeated blatant aggression by Thailand, I would like to request that Indonesia, in close cooperation with the Chair of ASEAN, to kindly inform the UN Security Council on the "The armed force" missile aggression against Cambodia, in accordance with the "Security Council Press Statement on Cambodia-Thailand Border Standoff" of 14 February 2011.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration and respect.

HON Namhong

cc: ASEAN PM  
ASEAN Secretary-General