

# Press Release on Cambodia's latest developments at 35th Session of World Heritage Committee in Paris.



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English Translation

## PRESS RELEASE

Based on information from the Permanent Mission of the Royal Government of Cambodia to UNESCO in Paris, the Press and Public Relations Unit of the Office of the Council of Ministers wishes to inform the public of the latest developments regarding the Cambodia delegation to the 35th Session of the World Heritage Committee in Paris.

- 1. The Cambodia delegation has discussed with the other 19 member states of the World Heritage Committee (there are 21 members including Cambodia and Thailand) and other important representatives of UNESCO, including the World Heritage Centre, the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) and International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS).
- 2. Mr. Kolsan Ran, Director of the World Heritage Centre and Mr. Moeur Brachonck, Director General of ICCROM, accompanied the Director General of UNESCO, and separately met with the Cambodia delegation and the 19 delegations to provide an opportunity for the two sides to express their points of view on the content of the Draft Decision of the 35th World Heritage Committee concerning the Temple of Preah Vihear.
- 3. The two delegations have been aggressively and amicably sitting, both during the meeting and discussion in a friendly atmosphere to fulfil the assignment from the Temple of Preah Vihear. In particular, Thailand sent up to 20 people accompanied by each party with arms to enter into the negotiation room. They have continued requesting the Cambodia delegation that there was no damage caused by the Temple of Preah Vihear in distance by Cambodia, which had also requested Thailand, France, Group countries, United States, Thailand and other 19 states of the Temple of Preah Vihear and other 19 member states, and its subsidiaries to compare their own in order to tell the fact that there was no damage to Temple of Preah Vihear.
- 4. As a result of the preliminary talks, most countries have expressed their support for the request and ongoing implementation of the 1st point. Decision adopted by the 35th World Heritage Committee meeting in Brasilia, which was agreed by the representatives of Cambodia and Thailand as well as the Chairperson of the 35th Committee, Brazil, which stated the following as a core of the Chairperson, stated that the World Heritage Committee has an obligation to know the Decision of the 35th session.
- 5. During the last few days, the Cambodia delegation has been presenting the chronology of dispute and demands to the group against the Temple of Preah Vihear since the 1958 Judgment of the International Court of Justice in the Hague, particularly 1961/70, 2001/44, 2009/40 and 2010/40.

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- 2009 and February 2011, which prompted the Royal Government of Cambodia to file a complaint to the United Nations Security Council. This has showed serious evidence in booklets and DVDs in both French and English of the damage to the Temple of Preah Vihear and human rights violations in Thailand.
- 6. The Cambodia delegation has continued to give the international community to understand the acts of aggression by the two sides against Cambodian territorial integrity, including serious impact World Heritage centers against religious and serious violation of human rights including the use of banned cluster munitions.
- 7. The Cambodia delegation has continued to persuade and force Executive for maintaining the status of the 35th session of the World Heritage Committee in Brasilia and has called for immediate support for the request to prevent the Temple of Preah Vihear from the damage and the removal of the Temple of Preah Vihear in an attempt to prevent further loss to the status in accordance with the 1972 World Heritage Convention and 1954 Convention for the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage in the Form of Accord Cordia.

Phnom Penh, 26 June 2011