



**Kingdom of Cambodia**  
*Nation Religion King*

**SANGKUM JATINIYUM FRONT PARTY**  
**The Delegate General**

N° : 05 DG/DN/SJF

*Phnom Penh, October 23, 2006*

**DIPLOMATIC NOTE**  
**ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY**  
**OF THE PARIS PEACE AGREEMENTS ON CAMBODIA.**

On the occasion of the 15th Anniversary of the Paris Peace Agreements on Cambodia, signed by 18 countries, including the United Nations Secretary General, H.E. Boutros Boutros Ghali, and the four Cambodian factions (namely the FUNCINPEC of HRH Samdech Preah NORODOM Sihanouk, President of the Supreme National Council, the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) of Prime Minister SON Sann, the Democratic Kampuchea party under Mr. KHIEU Samphan and the State of Cambodia under Prime Minister HUN Sen), the **Sangkum Jatinyum Front Party** wishes to uphold the principles stipulated in the 1991 Paris Peace Agreements, based on National Reconciliation, Social integration of the returnees from the refugees borders camps, Human Rights Conventions embodied in the UN Charter, the Respect of the Cambodian Territorial Integrity, Independence and neutrality, and democracy within the National Reconstruction.

The **Sangkum Jatinyum Front Party** regrets that fifteen years after their adoption, many aspects of these Agreements have yet to be implemented.

The National Reconstruction according to the democratic principles of the people's participation in and benefit from the social and economic development will not be achieved, as long as corruption remains rampant and when development only profits to a small circle of government officials, as long as impunity goes impeded and when the free market economy with competition is pathetically turned into monopoly in the hands of a happy few.

The Paris Agreements signed by the four Cambodian factions is not yet respected as far as the stipulation rejecting any unequal treaties signed on behalf of Cambodia under foreign occupation forces before 1991 is concerned. The borders delimitation and the so-called 2005 "Additional Agreement" with Vietnam based on these unequal treaties, are contrary to the words and the spirit itself of the Agreements signed in 1991. In the same way, the withdrawal of the foreign troops has never been supervised by the UN, neither the question of illegal immigration solved through the scrutiny during the electoral process, as promised during the negotiations.

The social integration of the returnees from the Thai border camps has so far been systematically and politically impeded by the local authorities affiliated to the ruling party. The returnees were relocated in ghettos or resettlement areas, as to isolate them from the rest of the Cambodian citizens, with all sort of discrimination, especially during the WFP's Food for Work program the access to

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which was denied to them. This problem remains unsettled, unless they join the CPP to get social advantages. This kind of discrimination is contrary to the spirit of national reconciliation as stipulated in the Paris Agreements.

The pivotal question of Human Rights, embodied in our 1993 Constitution as a direct result of the Agreements, is still of great concern for the Cambodian citizens, as long as the judicial system is weak and corrupt, denying any independence and security to the sitting judges. The Special Representative to UN Secretary General, Dr. Yash GHAI, made a bleak report on September 26, 2006, about a political system that systematically denies the citizens of their rights to welfare, economic freedom and development. The unequal status between a small minority of the powerful and very rich and the mass of the Khmer citizens living in the country-side with less than US \$2 per day recalls the Khmer Rouge doctrine of dichotomy between the exploiting cities and the exploited country-side. This situation does not bid well for social justice and national reconciliation.

Though peace and stability seem to have been achieved, though Cambodia seems to enjoy an active civil society, freedom of press and speech, all these are severely hampered by the culture of violence and the daily use of threat as means of government.

As of today, the Paris Peace Agreements are right at the middle of the road. Democratic institutions and human rights achievements could be strengthened or could tumble as well. But the trend is worrying. Just over the last few months, laws restricting freedom of speech and freedom of press have been passed by the National Assembly while a few others are in the pipeline.

As a matter of consequence, the only chance to improve and enhance whatever has been accomplished so far is to make sure that the elections processes are fair, free, transparent and trustworthy. Without democratic elections, no democratic institutions can be built, no respect for basic human rights can be expected. And the full implementation of the 1991 Paris Agreements cannot be achieved. It is now up to the International Community and more precisely to the 18 signatories of these Agreements to show their commitment to delivering on their promises.



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