



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
Nation Religion King**

NATIONAL STATEMENT

**His Excellency Eang Sophalleth, Head of the Cambodian Delegation,
Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment**

United Nations Climate Change Conference COP 24/ CMP 14/CMA 1.3

Katowice, Poland, December 2018



- **EXCELLENCY MR. PRESIDENT**
- **DISTINGUISHED HEADS OF DELEGATIONS,**
- **EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN**

1. It is indeed a great pleasure for me to join you to address the “High Level Segment of the United Nations Climate Change Conference” being held in Katowice, the great city of the Republic of Poland. On behalf of the Cambodian Delegation, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the people and Government of Poland, as the host of the important event, for the warmest welcome and gracious hospitality, extended to us.

2. After the historic agreement in Paris, the need for decisive and ambitious actions on climate change has never been stronger. Recent IPCC findings pointed out serious consequences if the objective to maintain global warming below 1.5°C is not delivered. Therefore, significant works have been done this year to develop mechanisms for the implementation of the Paris Agreement. We firmly hope that this COP meeting will come up with tools and guidelines for us to move further with

implementation. In this context, we urge the developed country parties to step up the level of commitment pre-2020, both on emissions targets and on financing.

3. Mr. President, Cambodia is doing its share, in line with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. Our domestic budget allocations to climate change have almost quadrupled over the past seven years, but international financing has been much less predictable. Financing mechanisms under UNFCCC, such as the Green Climate Fund and Global Environmental Facility, need to further facilitate direct access to readiness programs and finance for developing countries, particularly LDCs. Direct access is one of the main added values of the GCF, and progress to date is not up to the magnitude of the challenge.

4. The current policy platform to take stock of the efforts to develop Cambodia is the Rectangular Strategy Phase IV, in which sustainability and climate change action are one of the major pillars. With this regards, Cambodia has made progress in promoting renewable energy, particularly through solar farms. We are also making the progress in the establishment of protected areas and biodiversity corridors, which currently cover 41 per cent of our the total country land area.

5. As one of the most vulnerable countries to the impacts of climate change, adaptation still remains one of the top priority for Cambodia. Recent modelling indicated that our GDP in 2050 could be almost 10 per cent lower. The impacts of increasing temperatures and extreme weather events are particularly damaging. We optimistic that process can be made to increase the share of adaptation in climate finance, and to improve the accessibility of adaptation technologies for developing countries.

6. Cambodia reaffirms the commitment to the implementation of our Nationally Determined Contribution, and seek consideration from development partners to provide the technological, technical and financial supports to complement our resources.

7. I would like to conclude with the hope that our negotiations here will deliver the concrete results for better implementation, enhanced pre-2020 ambition, and improved predictability and accessibility of climate finance for the most vulnerable countries. ***Thank you.***