



National Committee for Disaster Management

Kingdom of Cambodia
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**STATEMENT OF H.E. HANG SAMOEUN
MINISTER AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF
THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT (NCDM) OF
THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**

**ADDRESS AT
THE ASIA-PACIFIC MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (APMCDRR) 2022
19 - 22 SEPTEMBER 2022
BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA**

***Your Excellency Co-Chairs,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,***

1. At the outset, allow me to congratulate the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) for the convening of the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) 2022 as well as the Australian Government for hosting this event.
2. This year's conference comes at a critical time for the Asia-Pacific region, with the theme "**From Crisis to Resilience: Transforming the Asia-Pacific Region's Future Through Disaster Risk Reduction**," provided an important opportunity to review ongoing efforts to further improve disaster risk reduction and disaster resilience in countries in order to prepare for the successful implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.
3. Considering the three main pillars and three cross-cutting themes of APMCDRR 2022, and in line with Cambodia's ASEAN Chairmanship theme in 2022 "**Address Challenges Together**," our collective efforts with a strong sense of togetherness to address unprecedented challenges of human cost and suffering, as well as profound socio-economic impact of disaster and COVID-19 pandemic, will speed up the recovery process from the crisis by building resilience and preventing activities focused on saving lives and livelihoods.



Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

4. The Royal Government of Cambodia, under the leadership and comprehensive consideration of **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia and President of the National Committee for Disaster Management, has issued a number of policies, legislations and measures to address the challenges by engaging with the wider national, regional and global responses to the impacts of disaster, climate change and sustainable development without leaving no-one behind.
5. Cambodia is fully committed to implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030. In this vein, Cambodia has developed the National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction 2019-2023 in line with the Sendai Framework in order to strengthen disaster risk reduction and disaster resilience in the country. Furthermore, Cambodia wishes to reaffirm its strong support to the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Action Plan 2021-2024 for the implementation of the Sendai Framework.
6. Recognizing that the period to 2023 marks the midpoint in the Sendai Framework's implementation, Cambodia conducted the Mid-Term Review of Sendai Framework by organizing the National Consultation in the form of a National DRR Forum, with the theme "**Cambodia's Progress in the Implementation of the Sendai Framework**" on 13 July 2022. The forum has offered the chance to actively engage with relevant and important government ministries, development partners, national-international organisations, civil society, and the private sector to update the progress of DRR implementation at all levels and speed up the process of achieving the Sendai Framework's objectives and its seven global targets by 2030. The review had been completed, and as a result, the national voluntary reports of the Mid-Term Review of Sendai Framework to be submitted in due date.
7. We encourage the development partners to work with us to build and deploy six safe evacuation centres in three flood-prone provinces, as well as standard operating procedures (SOPs) for the safe evacuation centres. The Platforms for Real-Time Impact and Situation Monitoring (PRISM) application was created and is being used across the country to assist decision makers in responding to a shock in a timely manner and to improve access to early warning communication for vulnerable communities. Cambodia had also established and implemented the Early Warning System (EWS 1294).



8. The 16 National Search and Rescue Teams (SAR) are composed of 1,920 Cambodian Armed Forces personnel have been established to carry out and ensure efficient and timely emergency response, search and rescue operations.
9. Recognizing that Cambodia is at high risk of natural disasters and is becoming more affected by climate change, NCDM and development partners are implementing the joint strategic activities in Cambodia for the reduction and management of shocks and risks that focus on "**strengthening capacities to mitigate risks and lead coordinated shock preparedness and response efforts.**" These collaborative strategic projects enabled us to manage and mitigate risks, as well as improve coordinated disaster preparation and response efforts to protect lives and livelihoods in the most vulnerable areas.
10. To protect lives and livelihoods during disasters and to improve the capacity of local governments and communities to prepare for flooding, we have built and improved infrastructure in counties that are prone to flooding, such as safe evacuation centres.
11. We recognize the value of localization, inclusion, science, technology, and knowledge in reducing the risk of disasters. These factors are among the top priorities of the Cambodia National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction 2019-2023 and the Guidelines to Mainstream Gender into Inclusive Disaster Management.
12. Cambodia updates the National and Sub-national Flood Contingency Plan on an annual basis, incorporating the flood risk map and Identification-Poor Households map across the country, to ensure an inclusive, timely, and effective disaster emergency response that leaves no one behind, particularly vulnerable groups and poor people in the event of a flood.
13. Through a variety of capacity-building programmes, we also pursue the guiding principle of localisation in order to implement the whole-of-government and multistakeholder approach by strengthening national and sub-national capacity for adaptation and mitigation in response to climate change and natural hazards.



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14. By actively involving the relevant ministries, development partners, national and international organizations, civil society, and the private sector, we also continue to strengthen the local and national DRR Forum, which supports to formulate national strategies and plans and provides the progress updates on the Sendai Framework's implementation.
15. NCDM will continue to work closely with line government ministries, development partners, national and international organizations, civil society, academia, and the private sector to organize the National Disaster Management Day on the 13th of October each year, in conjunction with the ASEAN Day for Disaster Management (ADDM) and the International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR), to promote awareness-raising, resource mobilization, and greater collaboration with multi-stakeholders.
16. We encourage stronger partnerships and collaborations with UN Agencies, ASEAN, Development Partners, Non-Governmental Organizations, Red Cross, Academia, and the Private Sector to strengthen disaster risk reduction at the national, regional, and international levels by sharing knowledge, experience, and best practices in disaster resilience.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

17. Cambodia welcomed the Co-Chairs' Statement, which will be the key takeaway from APMCDRR for countries to accelerate efforts towards achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.
18. Last but not least, in the name of the National Committee for Disaster Management of the Royal Government of Cambodia, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and high appreciation to the Australian Government and UNDRR for their gracious hospitality in hosting and organising this significant conference successfully.
19. At the end, I would like to wish Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen with good health and the entire conference with great success.

Thank you.