



Climate Vulnerable Leaders' Event "Midnight Survival Deadline for the Climate"

Statement

by

H. E. Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen
Honorable Prime Minister of Cambodia

7 October 2020

Excellencies,
Madam,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Today I am Delighted to join this important Climate Vulnerable Forum via online video conference.

The year 2020 is a difficult period for social and economic development as COVID-19 pandemic has caused devastating effects on the economy and society, as well as creating uncertainties on the development for both now and in the future.

Certainly, similar to COVID-19, climate change is another worrying problem that would render severe and unpredictable consequences on societies, economies and security in the region and the world.

In recent years, series of disasters worldwide have become more severe and intense than we have ever experienced before.

In this context, although we need to shift policies and resource priority to combat the COVID-19, we should all work harder to prioritize and ensure continuities of the implementation of climate change mitigation measures, which is a core agenda for our sustainable socio-economic development.

Excellencies, Madam, ladies and gentlemen,

Cambodia is a small country with limited resources. But we have strived to fulfill our obligation as stated in COP 21. That is, we have taken climate change mitigation as an important component of the national development policies. At the same time, the legal institutional and technical frameworks for the program on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation first is on a rapid tract and is expected to be fulfilled completely by the end of the year.

We have also activities involved in global climate change response efforts by updating our Nationally Determined Contribution update, which will be submitted to the UNFCCC secretariat at the end of the year.

Although Cambodia has less greenhouse gas emissions, we would like to demonstrate our commitment to combat climate change according to our capacities and available resources.

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At the global level, I'm of the view that climate change is a cross cutting issue that needs to be addressed through a comprehensive policy with the balance on social, economic, and environmental aspects. At the same time, I would like to encourage all countries to finalize and submit their Nationally Determined Contribution report, so as to ambitiously address the issues of climate change.

In addition, I believe that we have to expand the financial resources, especially climate change financing for adaptation pledged developed countries, and transfers of technologies to developing countries in order to effectively respond to climate change, including mechanism to manage and promote private investment in research on renewable energies, energy efficiencies, forest conservation, adaptation technologies, infrastructures, etc.

Overall, in the present context, advancing and adhering to regionalism and multilateralism are key principles for addressing emerging challenges in all aspects, especially the challenges caused by climate change.

Despite limited resources and capabilities, Cambodia is highly committed with political will to contributing to global effort in addressing climate change according to key principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, especially the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.

Thank you for your kind attention.