

NATIONAL STATEMENT By Head of the Cambodian Delegation, His Excellency SAY Samal, Minister of Environment At the 27th United Nations Climate Change Conference Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, 15th November 2022

- Excellency President;
- Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen
- The Cambodian delegation highly appreciate the Egyptian Government and the UNFCCC Secretariat for hosting this 27th UN Climate Change Conference here in this beautiful city of Sharm El Sheikh;
- 2. Thanks to peace, political stability and sustainable economic growth over the last two decades, Cambodia is embarking towards a middle-class society. This has opened up new opportunities for Cambodia to address climate change as a responsible member of the international community. At the same time, we remain highly vulnerable to climate change impacts.
- 3. Despite being among the lowest emitters of greenhouse gases, Cambodia has consistently done its share to mitigate climate change.
- 4. Cambodia was the second LDC and the first in ASEAN to submit a Long-Term Strategy for Carbon Neutrality with a 2050 target. We have also updated our NDC.
- 5. In the face of climate change impacts, we have a strong duty to protect the most vulnerable people in our society. We are investing in resilient infrastructures, turning our cities into livable cities, ensuring access to basic and affordable services, affordable housing, food security and decent wages.
- 6. We have allocated 2.3% of GDP in public resources for climate actions, and incorporated more renewable energy in our energy mix. We are adopting a new National Energy Efficiency Policy. We have approved a new pro-environment investment law and we are greening our financial sector to promote private sector investment in climate responses.
- 7. However, while we are engaging in this crucial fight against climate change, new challenges have added up in recent years. COVID-19 and geopolitical tensions have

wreaked havoc in the world, dramatically disrupting global supply chains and food systems; energy and food shortages are impacting our daily lives.

- 8. In these complex times, we must not lose sight of the urgent actions needed to address the climate crisis, whose impacts are already affecting us, with increasing losses and damage every year.
- 9. Cambodia believes that (1) mitigation ambition must be further increased, and (2) actions on adaptation need to be accelerated.
- 10. The USD100 billion per year commitment in climate finance to developing countries has not yet been reached and must be a top priority.
- 11.At the same time, the structure of global climate finance flows is inadequate to address the needs of the most vulnerable countries and communities, and access to finance remains too complicated and slow for developing countries.
- 12. The inclusion of financing for Loss and Damage in this COP agenda is welcome and we do hope that rapid progress can be made on this issue to deliver financing on the ground for the most affected countries.

- Mr. President, excellencies, ladies and gentlemen!

- 13.As the 2022 ASEAN Chair, Cambodia initiated "ASEAN Green Deal", aiming to guide ASEAN towards a green, low-carbon and sustainable future. In addition, as the chair of the ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change, Cambodia presented the ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change, which was just adopted by the ASEAN Leaders during the recent ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh.
- 14. We look forward to ambitious results for this conference, delivering the mitigation ambition and the financial resources needed to effectively protect our economies from the climate crisis.

Thank you!