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2008 Media Releases

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New Policy and Leadership: Key Challenges to Global Witness in 2008

Once again, Global Witness Director Simon Taylor is trying to impress by playing celebrities in Global Witness's press release on 22 January 2008 entitled "US move to ban top Cambodian officials to get tough on corruption".

The Embassy was disappointed by the Global Witness Director's deliberated intention to discredit and to plot against the Government of Cambodia and its leaders at the single occasion found. This can probably explained in the same way dogs are happier to lick bones found in the domestic waste. We find it hard to believe that, the "UNEDUCATED" still exist in such number and continue to lead Global Witness.

The present code of conduct regulating Global Witness is insufficient: **IT IS TIME TO ESTABLISH AN INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR A REVISED GUIDELINES OF GLOBAL WITNESS BY ITS FUNDERS-TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS-DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENTS OF CANADA, IRELAND, NETHERLANDS, SWEDEN AND UK**.

The Royal Government has considered "*Environmental Protection is a Prerequisite Condition*" for ensuring sustainable socio-economic development by enhancing equity and justice in utilizing national resources and environmental services in a way that benefits all people. In this sense, the Royal Government has introduced a rigorous measure against violators to crack down anarchic activities such as deforestation, banning large-scale forest exploitation.

The Royal Government of Cambodia has introduced and implemented an insightful forestry reform with high determination and, national and international support, we have successfully strengthened national order and the ability to control, maintain, protect, plant and to proudly develop the national forestry sector. Until now, regarding some works, Cambodia is leading and acting as a role model in the region such as the implementation of international forestry regime, and forestry technical code.

The relations between Cambodia and other countries in the world have seen remarkable progress:

- recently by the visit of Director of the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Robert S. Mueller and his visit is as another indication of the expanding cooperation between our two countries' law enforcement agencies,
- a US delegation, led by Stephen D. Mull, Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs of the US State Department in which the US highly praised Cambodia which just got of war not long ago, but that it has built itself up following the path of democracy in order to bring in progress in all fields,
- and a Delegation of the European Parliament for relations with the countries of Southeast Asia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) led by Mr. Hartmut NASSAUER, Member of the European Parliament from Germany, aiming to develop EU cooperation program in Cambodia; and the commercial relations between the EU and Cambodia in general.

Cambodia attributed the progress and the development to the maintenance of the peace, the political stability, the social security, the economic growth, the cooperation with international communities, and the international assistance, including the United State, European Union, Japan, France, Germany and the United Kingdom.

"Since Cambodia is back on the path of strong and sustained economic growth, testified by considerable and encouraging achievements during the last few years, I believe that this is the best time for the business community and all investors to assess the potential and opportunity as well as the future vision of Cambodia. I would like to invite businessmen and investors to join me by undertaking concrete investment projects to build a bright future for Cambodia. On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, I would like to guarantee every foreign investor a favorable and conducive environment for investment, particularly peace, security, safety, political stability, macroeconomic stability as well as legal and institutional framework endowed with efficiency, transparency, accountability and predictability". Samdech Techo Hun Sen Prime Minister of Cambodia.



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