



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

NATION RELIGION KING

MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND FINE ARTS

PRESS RELEASE

on

Proposed "Angkor Lake of Wonder" development project

In view of the considerable public interest expressed in the above proposed development project, the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts would like to inform the public of the outcome of the consideration of the proposal:

- Following the inscription of the Angkor Archaeological Park on the World Heritage list in 1992, the International Coordinating Committee of Angkor (ICC-Angkor) was established as an international coordinating mechanism for the assistance provided by different countries and organizations for the safeguarding and development of the historic site of Angkor.
- ICC-Angkor is composed of delegated representatives of the Royal Government of Cambodia (led by Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts); with France and Japan as Co-chairs; and the Office of UNESCO in Phnom Penh, with designated international ad-hoc experts on conservation and sustainable development. It has the mandate to implement international conventions relating to World Heritage (especially the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 1972) and to preserve the Universal Outstanding Values of Angkor, a World Heritage Site and symbol of the national identity of Cambodia.
- Through the ICC-Angkor, as a State Party to the 1972 Convention, the Royal Government of Cambodia under the leadership of **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, has been highly effective in fostering and maintaining excellent cooperation among all concerned parties working in partnership with the APSARA Authority in implementing preservation and maintaining the balance between conservation and development in Angkor, a world cultural property of humanity. The ICC-Angkor has been recommended as a model for other World Heritage sites of such complexity and significance.



- During the 27th Plenary Session of ICC-Angkor held on 27 January 2021, a proposal for a development project entitled "Angkor Lake of Wonder" was presented by the Naga Group for the ICC's consideration.
- After having carefully considered the proposal and taking into account comments given during the ICC's 27th Plenary Session as well as in two other subsequent special sessions held on 22 February and 4 March 2021, the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts wishes to state that it shares the views of the ICC-Angkor and its ad-hoc experts that the proposed "Angkor Lake of Wonder" project put forward by the Naga Group cannot be implemented in this context.

Phnom Penh, 23 March 2021



For further information, please contact

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