KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA NATION RELIGION KING



Press Statement on

The Ceasefire Inspection Mission to Border Areas and Shelters of the Displaced Civilians

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The Asian Vision Institute (AVI) took part in the mission from 30 July 2025 to 02 August 2025 to inspect the progress in implementing the ceasefire agreement that went into effect at midnight of 28 July 2025 and the assess the Cambodian-Thai border and refugee situations damage caused by Thai army's heavy artillery shelling and rockets, F-16 fighter jets, cluster bombs and remnants of Unexploded Ordinances (UXO). On 30 July 2025, we joined the visit to An Ses border area on was joined by military attaché from 13 countries, officials from Ministry of Defense, and civil society organizations, including representatives of the press, and visit to Oddar Meanchey and Siem Reap from 01-02 August 2025 joined by 22 Heads of Diplomatic Missions to the Kingdom of Cambodia, 4 representatives of the United Nations Agencies, senior government officials, and relevant institutions. The mission was intended to assess the post-conflict situations and centers of displaced civilian refugees following recent armed clashes between Cambodia and Thailand.

On 30 July, AVI participated in the inspection mission alongside military attachés representing major international powers and ASEAN member states, as well as officials from a total of 13 countries. The on-site inspection at the An Ses border pass in Preah Vihear Province, facilitated by the Ministry of National Defense, aimed to assess the situation on the ground and reaffirm Cambodia's sovereignty following the ceasefire. During the visit, the Cambodian armed forces demonstrated full transparency and reaffirmed that the An Ses area remains firmly under Cambodian control. Officials from participating countries expressed their support for the peace process and commended Cambodia's efforts to protect its territorial integrity.

On 1 August, AVI participated in a technical briefing organized by the Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC), which outlined the types of explosive remnants of war (ERW) discovered in affected zones. CMAC highlighted the risks these munitions pose to civilians and presented ongoing clearance strategies. Later that day, AVI joined the diplomatic delegation in traveling to Banteay Ampil District, including the Chom Te area, where extensive damage from artillery shelling was visible. Key cultural and civilian sites were found heavily impacted, including Wat Prasat Tamone Sen Chey, nearby schools, Buddha statues, local souvenir stalls, and residential zones.

On 2 August, AVI took part in the visit to Wat Sautr Nikum in Siem Reap Province, where displaced civilians are residing. The site, hosting approximately 200,000 individuals, including families from Oddar Meanchey, Banteay Meanchey, and Preah Vihear provinces, reflected the scale of displacement and the humanitarian toll of the conflict. On the same day, AVI also joined H.E. Suos Yara, Chairman of the Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Information of the National Assembly, during a visit to a refugee center at a Buddhist temple in Sautr Nikum district, where he offered moral and material support to hundreds of children displaced by the recent cross-border hostilities.

The observations obtained from the mission reinforced a deep understanding of the situations on the ground and the importance of maintaining open channels of communication between state and non-state actors, as well as between national institutions and international partners. It also emphasized the critical role of research institutions in documenting crisis impacts, identifying actual needs, and offering evidence-based policy recommendations tailored to the Cambodian context.

AVI expresses its sincere appreciation to the Royal Government of Cambodia, particularly the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Information of the National Assembly, for facilitating this important mission. We also extend our gratitude to the Ministry of National Defense, the Governor of Oddar Meanchey Province, the Director General of CMAC, local authorities, and all participating national and international media outlets for their effective coordination, transparent briefings, and contributions to ensuring broad public awareness of the situation on the ground.

As a leading Cambodian policy think tank, AVI takes this opportunity to explore avenues for deeper policy dialogue and regional collaboration in areas such as conflict response, mine action, and community resilience. AVI remains steadfast in its commitment to national sovereignty, regional harmony, and the well-being of all Cambodian people. This mission reaffirms our resolve to ensure that the voices of affected communities are heard and that responsive solutions are delivered with solidarity, compassion, and practical cooperation.

AVI calls on ASEAN, the United Nations, the international community, and relevant humanitarian actors to continue supporting Cambodia's efforts in addressing the urgent humanitarian needs of the displaced civilians, enhancing border stability, and promoting regional peace.

