



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

No. PR 82/2026 MFA.IC

PRESS RELEASE

**Diplomatic Briefing on Cambodia's Decision
Concerning Overlapping Maritime Claims with Thailand**

On the afternoon of 2 June 2026, His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, briefed Heads and Representatives of Diplomatic Missions and International Organizations in Phnom Penh on the latest developments regarding the Cambodia–Thailand border situation, with a focus on Cambodia's initiation of compulsory conciliation proceedings under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

His Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister began the briefing by expressing deep appreciation to all ASEAN Member States, ASEAN partners, and friends of both Cambodia and Thailand for their continued support for the ceasefire and efforts to seek a peaceful settlement of the Cambodia–Thailand border disputes. He informed the participants that, on 2 June 2026, the Royal Government of Cambodia sent a formal notification to Thailand and the Secretary-General of the United Nations regarding Cambodia's initiation of compulsory conciliation proceedings under UNCLOS to peacefully resolve the overlapping maritime claims.

His Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister recalled Cambodia's deep regret and disappointment over Thailand's decision to unilaterally withdraw from the Memorandum of Understanding between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Kingdom of Thailand regarding the Area of Their Overlapping Maritime Claims to the Continental Shelf (MOU-2001). He underscored that the MOU-2001 reflected the genuine will and intention of both countries to work together, in good faith and in compliance with international law, to peacefully settle their maritime boundary and jointly develop resources in the areas of overlapping maritime claims. Over the past 25 years, the MOU-2001 had served as the sole bilateral framework upon which both parties relied to resolve their overlapping maritime claims. As Thailand had withdrawn from the MOU-2001, Cambodia, after carefully considering all available peaceful and lawful options, concluded that it had no alternative but to initiate compulsory conciliation proceedings under UNCLOS.



His Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister also recalled the first compulsory conciliation process under UNCLOS between Timor-Leste and Australia, which was successfully concluded with the peaceful settlement of their maritime boundary in 2018. He expressed hope that, by initiating this peaceful legal mechanism under UNCLOS, Cambodia could, for the second time in the history of the Convention, demonstrate the value of international law and the peaceful resolution of disputes in protecting sovereignty, strengthening confidence, unlocking resources, supporting development, and contributing to peace and stability, not only for Cambodia and Thailand but also for the region as a whole.

Finally, His Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister reaffirmed Cambodia's commitment to resolving the overlapping maritime claims with Thailand through peaceful means and expressed Cambodia's sincere hope that both countries would achieve a fair and lasting settlement.

Phnom Penh, 2 June 2026

