

**PRESS RELEASE****CONCILIATION BETWEEN
THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA AND THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND**

SINGAPORE, 16 SEPTEMBER 2026

Conciliation Commission Concludes First Meeting with the Parties

From 14 to 16 September 2026, the Conciliation Commission in the conciliation proceedings between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Kingdom of Thailand under [Annex V](#) to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the “**Convention**”) held its first meeting with the Parties in Singapore.

The meeting opened on 14 September 2026 with a procedural session, during which the Parties and the Commission signed the Terms of Appointment and finalised the Rules of Procedure governing the proceedings.

On 15 September 2026, the Agent of each Party delivered an opening statement, which was webcast live.

In his opening statement, H.E. Mr. Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, recalled a statement made by the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, H. E. Mr. Hun Manet, who stated that “[b]oth Cambodia and Thailand stand to gain from a fair and lasting settlement agreed with the guidance of the international expert conciliators and in accordance with international law”. H.E. Mr. Sokhonn further noted that he sees this conciliation process “as a means to rebuild trust, not as a form of escalation”. Looking ahead, he stated that the “overriding objective” is “to achieve a resolution that serves the people of both nations and contributes to peace, cooperation, and shared prosperity in the region”.

H.E. Mr. Sihasak Phuangketkeow, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, in his opening statement, said that “conciliation can help the Parties to identify common ground, narrow divergent legal positions, and negotiate a way forward”. He further stated that Thailand had “enter[ed] this conciliation in good faith, fully mindful of the provisions of UNCLOS, and with confidence in the independence, impartiality, and collective expertise of this Commission”. Looking ahead, he added that Thailand “stands ready to engage in this process constructively, with the aim of achieving, with the Commission’s assistance, a negotiated and equitable solution”.

Following the opening statements, each Party made substantive presentations and engaged bilaterally with the Commission in confidential sessions, addressing the background to the dispute and the issues to be considered in the course of the conciliation proceedings.

On 16 September 2026, the Commission convened an additional meeting with the Parties.

Next Steps

The Commission and the Parties will continue their engagement on the issues presented and hold further meetings, which are expected to take place in the coming months.

Background on the Proceedings

These conciliation proceedings were initiated by the Kingdom of Cambodia on 2 June 2026 by way of a “Notification Instituting Conciliation under Article 11 of Annex V” addressed to the Kingdom of Thailand pursuant to Article 298 and Annex V to the Convention.

On 19 June 2026, the Kingdom of Thailand submitted the “Response of the Kingdom of Thailand to the Notification of Conciliation”.

The five-member Conciliation Commission is chaired by Ms. Katrina Cooper (Australia). The other members of the Commission are Ambassador Peter Taksøe-Jensen (Denmark), Professor Jean-Marc Thouvenin (France), Judge Albert Hoffmann (South Africa), and Judge Rüdiger Wolfrum (Germany).

With the agreement of the Parties, the Permanent Court of Arbitration acts as Registry in the proceedings.

Further information about the case may be found at <https://pca-cpa.org/en/cases/380/>, including earlier press releases, as well as the video recording of the opening statements delivered by the Agents of the Parties.

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Background on the Permanent Court of Arbitration

The Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) is an intergovernmental organization established by the 1899 Hague Convention on the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes. The PCA has 129 Contracting Parties. Headquartered at the Peace Palace in The Hague, the Netherlands, the PCA facilitates arbitration, conciliation, fact-finding, and other dispute resolution proceedings among various combinations of States, State entities, intergovernmental organizations, and private parties. The PCA’s International Bureau is currently administering five inter-State proceedings, one inter-State conciliation, one other inter-State proceeding, 90 arbitrations arising under bilateral or multilateral investment treaties or national investment laws, 103 arbitrations arising under contracts involving a State or other public entity, and 10 other proceedings.

More information about the PCA can be found at www.pca-cpa.org.

Contact: Permanent Court of Arbitration
E-mail: bureau@pca-cpa.org