## **Kingdom of Cambodia Nation Religion King**



## National Statement

of

H.E. Heng Kunleang, General Director of Energy of the Ministry of Mines and Energy
During the attendance of the
The 69<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the IAEA's General Conference
15-19 September, 2025 in Vienna, Austria.

His Excellency Mr. Peter Burian, Honorable and Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

- 1. On behalf of His Excellency **Keo Rottanak**, Minister of Mines and Energy and the Cambodian Delegation, I would like to express my sincere congratulation on your election as the President of 69<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency. With your guidance and leadership, I am confident that this session will achieve significant and impactful outcomes.
- 2. I also extend my gratitude to His Excellency Ambassador **Sang Wook Ham** of the Republic of Korea, the President of the 68<sup>th</sup> General Conference, as well as His Excellency **Rafael Grossi**, Director General of the IAEA and the Secretariat for their leadership and dedicated efforts throughout the past year.
- 3. Nuclear technology offers important advantages, such as better medical treatments and reliable sources of energy, However, it also brings risks, especially if not managed carefully. This means safety, security, and international cooperation must always come first. The IAEA General Conference is the right place to discuss these matters openly and find the best solutions together.
- 4. Cambodia remains dedicated to global nuclear non-proliferation. Our Constitution clearly prohibited the use or possession of nuclear and radiological weapons. We have signed numerous international treaties to support safety, security, and safeguards worldwide. Recently, Cambodia reaffirmed its commitment to the IAEA Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of the Radiation Sources, and we are considering joining more international agreements to strengthen our national regulations and security even further.

- 5. Institutionally, several authorities have been established to oversee the management of nuclear and radioactive materials, including the Ministry of Mines and Energy, the Secretariat of the National Counter Terrorism Committee, and the National Authority on Chemical Weapons. We also maintain close cooperation with international partners on legislative development, application of nuclear science and technology in sectors such as health, industry, and agriculture, as well as on safety, security, and safeguards implementation.
- 6. Since 2013, the Ministry of Mines and Energy has been entrusted with regulatory oversight of nuclear and radioactive materials and activities in Cambodia. We have been developing relevant legislation and regulations, while enhancing the capacity and competencies needed for effective licensing, inspection, and enforcement to uphold nuclear safety and security standards nationwide.
- 7. As the global community accelerates the transition to low-carbon energy sources in response to climate change challenges, nuclear power presents a promising and scalable solution. While Cambodia has no immediate plans to develop nuclear power infrastructure, we acknowledge nuclear energy as one of the most efficient and reliable low-emission sources for electricity generation.
- 8. Beyond energy, nuclear technology substantially contributes to advancements in medicine and agriculture. Nuclear medicine techniques, including PET-CT and radiation therapy, are vital tools in cancer diagnosis and treatment. In line with the IAEA's recommendations, Cambodia has recently adopted a National Cancer Control Program to strengthen national capacities in cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and care. Similarly, nuclear applications in agriculture improve food security by boosting crop yields and resilience against pests and diseases, supporting sustainable agricultural development.
- 9. Through the Technical Cooperation Programme with the IAEA, Cambodia's Ministry of Mines and Energy collaborates closely with national stakeholders to promote peaceful uses of nuclear technology, particularly in cancer management and food safety and security. This partnership enhances healthcare services by integrating nuclear medicine and supports agricultural resilience through the application of nuclear techniques.
- 10. As we embrace the peaceful uses of nuclear technology, let us also advocate for public awareness and education. It is vital to demystify nuclear science and its advantages,

addressing public concerns and misconceptions. Engaging communities in constructive dialogue regarding the benefits and safety of nuclear technology will lead to foster greater acceptance and collaboration.

- 11. In conclusion, the peaceful utilization of nuclear technology holds great promise for fostering sustainable development, resilience, and security at national, regional, and global levels. From clean energy generation to breakthroughs in healthcare and agriculture, its wide-ranging benefits are substantial. Cambodia looks forward to collaborating with governments, scientific communities, industries, and civil society to ensure responsible and effective use of nuclear technology for the collective well-being of humanity.
- 12. Thank you!