



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
Nation Religion King

**Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Cambodia
to the United Nations Office and other
International Organisations at Geneva**

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The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations at Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and, with reference to the Office's note dated 6 May 2020, has the honour to transmit to the latter herewith a report of the Ministry of Cults and Religious Affairs of the Kingdom of Cambodia as to "Eliminating Intolerance and Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief and the Achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 16 (SDG 16)".

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Cambodia would be grateful if the said information could be forwarded to its highest destination.

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 22 June 2020



Office of the United Nations High Commissioner
for Human Rights (OHCHR)
Geneva

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATIONAL-RELIGION-KING

Ministry of Cult and Religious

REPORT

About

**Eliminating Intolerance and Discrimination based on Religion or Belief and
the Achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 16 (SDG16)**

I. Introduction:

Everywhere we look, we see differences in wealth, power, and status. Some groups have higher status and greater privilege than others. This inequality in the system is what we call social stratification. In this unequal social system, there is often unfair treatment directed against certain individuals or social groups. This is referred to as discrimination. Discrimination can be based on many different characteristics age, gender, weight, ethnicity, religion, or even politics.

II. Discrimination and Practice:

In Cambodia, the practice of law as well the policy of the government has shown that, there is no support any forms of discrimination. In fact, under in the Cambodia constitution of the Cambodia's article 43 has stated that "Khmer Citizen both sexes shall the full rights of belief. Freedom of belief and religious practice shall be guaranteed by state, provided that such freedom and religious practice do not impinge on other belief or religions on public order and security." And in chapter 3 "On the rights and duties of Khmer citizens" as in article 31 has stated that "the Kingdom of Cambodia recognizes and respects human rights as enshrined in the United Nation Charter, the universal declaration of human rights and all the treaties and conventions related to human rights and children's rights". Khmer Citizen are equal before law enjoying the same rights liberties and duties regardless of race, color, sex, religious, belief, political, national origin and status. The rights of freedom is guaranteed by the constitution and international instruments that

Cambodia has been a signatory. In article 2 has stated that “Shall be considered a foreigner, a person without any Cambodian nationality regardless of his / her nationality, religion or national origin. Religious discrimination does not happen in the Kingdom of Cambodia. In fact, Khmer people have the right to practice the religion they love. Major religions that have been practicing harmoniously in the Kingdom of Cambodia, such as Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, and other small religions accord with the policies and objectives of the Ministry of Cult and Religion as there is The Peace and Friendship dinner annually, presided over by **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia**, to the three big major religion that are operating in Cambodia with the aim of eliminating religious discrimination and racism. Procedures for various religious practices which can operate and celebrate by asking permission and informing to the local authorities. The Kingdom of Cambodia does not have any laws and policies that restricts the rights to freedom of expression in minority or community beliefs. For example, the creation of an association or organization can only made when there is sufficient documents and registered at ministry interior and registered at ministry of cult and religious for association and organization which perform on religious.

III. The effects of discrimination:

In Kingdom of Cambodia, the displacement and the migration of religious and belief communities or land violation are strongly protected by the land law and the national policies on indigenous development according with the United Nation principle on global elimination of racism, etc...

VI. Good Practices:

- For law enforcement, different policies, anti-discrimination and violence, addressing injustice in Cambodia is in line with national policies on indigenous development, including the Ministry of Rural Development and the Ministry of Cult and Religion applies the above national policies to improve the living conditions and improve the living standard of the nation, which focuses on 10 areas: health,

environment, land, agriculture, water resources, justice, tourism, industry, mining and energy.

- For specific measures, initiatives on promoting awareness and cooperation between religious communities or faiths are under the Ministry of Cult and Religion of the Kingdom of Cambodia, with the General Department of Religious Affairs as the Marshal for the Ministry of Cult and Religion. The Department of Buddhist Affairs and Department of Other Religious has the duty to instruct religious or religious leaders to adhere to religious rules and to have a spirit of unity and respect. For example, the establishment of interfaith dialogue which show a sign of unity, non-discrimination as well as the religious and belief harmony

- For specific policies on initiatives for promoting effective participation on religious or belief minorities in public life in responding inclusive and by their representatives in decision making at all level. There are highlighted in the 11 points national policy on the development of ethnic minority communities which promote the awareness of multiculturalism, the government incentive both legal norms and administration as well as the establishment of legal norm or any measures to protect the rights freedoms and minority communities' interest.

- For specific measures to promote interfaith dialogue in school curriculum which Ministry of cult and religion contribute to education sector: Buddhist Study Sector; the program of Buddhism connects to social and the program of Buddhism concepts and the Islam secondary education sector as well as Christian Education (as there is the promotion awareness through public and private media and social morality training, youth behavior and social discrimination ...)

Phnom Penh, 09 June, 2020

