



**Royal Government of Cambodia**

## **Political Platform**

**Of the Royal Government of Cambodia of the Seventh  
Legislature of the National Assembly  
For Nation Building and Defense 2023-2028**

**Phnom Penh, August 2023**



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## INTRODUCTION

With the aim of upholding the genuine and invaluable patriotic convictions; continuing to serve the nation, the country, and the people; transforming Cambodia into a sacred land of peace and prosperity; building a harmonious and united society, without recurrence of war, genocide and national division, with vigorous development and better livelihoods for the people; becoming an upper middle-income country by 2030, a high-income country by 2050, and eventually a civilized and advanced country in the region with the smiles and hopes of the people, the Royal Government of the Seventh Legislature of the National Assembly hereby declares its Political Platform as follows:

### I. Strategic Objectives of the Royal Government

In the spirit of firm adherence to its objectives and noble convictions, and in response to the aspirations of the current developments, the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) is strategically committed to:

1. Protecting peace, independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and all achievements of the nation.
2. Building the Kingdom of Cambodia that is a prosperous and strong with liberal, multi-party democracy based on the rule of law, with sustainable and equitable economic development, and people living in prosperity, harmony, dignity, and with respect for human rights.
3. Establishing an inclusive, efficient, and financially sustainable social protection system that ensures protection for the people in response to economic risks, public health risks, and other vulnerable circumstances arising from changes in working and living conditions.
4. Accelerating the implementation of a "**Mine-Free Cambodia by 2025**" and reducing unexploded ordnance to a minimum.
5. Continuing to pursue an independent and rule-based foreign policy, building good relations and cooperation between the Kingdom of Cambodia and all countries in the world and international organizations, and to actively participate in the cause of peace, stability, security, and prosperity in the region and the world.

### II. Policy Priorities

To achieve the above strategic objectives, the RGC has set forth a number of policy priorities, as follows:

#### 1. Protection of Peace, Political Stability and all Achievements of the Nation

1. Continue to raise the flag of national unity under the umbrella of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and under the serene shade of the **Most Revered His Majesty the King**, so as to unite all Cambodians, regardless of races, genders, languages, beliefs, religions, past political affiliations, ethnic origins, social status, resources, or other conditions, to ensure that peace, political stability and other achievements of the nation can be maintained, and that the country continues to unite to build and defend the motherland for a glorious future.

2. Strengthen national unity to prevent and eradicate all forms of extreme politics and activities perpetrated by individuals, groups, political organizations, or other hostile entities that seek to incite national division, create social unrests, and destroy political stability, in order to realize their vile attempts to rebelliously change Cambodia's political regime, that is contrary to the principles of democracy, and in violation of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia. Any individual or organization that commits such extremist activities must be severely punished, in accordance with applicable laws to prevent national division and the recurrence of war.

3. Continue to promote the spirit of peacekeeping through organizing annual gatherings on every December 29<sup>th</sup> to commemorate the end of civil wars in Cambodia through the **Win-Win Policy** and the building of the Win-Win Memorials; continue to build the **Win-Win Policy**

monuments in areas linked to actual history; commemorate the **Win-Win Policy** through printing and producing documents and images; enhance the education of students, youth, civil servants, the armed forces and people from all walk of life about the history of peace building, the values of peace, and their duties to safeguard peace and all achievements of the nation.

## **2. Improvements towards Proper and Dignified Livelihoods for All People with Dignity, both Materially and Mentally**

1. Continue to consider poverty reduction as a policy priority. This requires the collective mobilization of national resources, both public and private, to aim for better outcomes in realizing the goals of poverty reduction at each stage, while protecting those who have graduated from poverty from falling back into poverty.

2. Continue to accelerate the preparation of the National Strategic Development Plan 2024-2028 (NSDP 2024-2028), that is pragmatic and responsive to the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 (SDG 2030), and to ensure that no one shall be left out of the development process, based on the principle of “no one who suffers without a solution shall be neglected without support from the RGC.”

3. Continue to develop and strengthen an inclusive, efficient, and financially-sustainable social protection system that entirely covers the whole society, in order to strengthen its members’ capacity to respond to economic risks, poverty reduction and other vulnerable circumstances, while contributing extensively to the protection and development of human resources, as well as strengthening its preparedness to rescue people from disasters, such as floods and droughts.

## **3. Protection of Monarchism, Promotion of Democracy, People's Rights and Freedoms, and the Rule of Law**

1. Protect and firmly uphold the principle of constitutional monarchy through a liberal, multi-party, and parliamentary democratic system for eternity, in accordance with the will of all Cambodian people, who pledge allegiance to **the Most Revered His Majesty the King**, so that His Majesty the King shall stand to provide the serene shade for the entire nation, and that independence, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity can be safeguarded and the people’s rights and freedoms are protected. Strongly condemn and oppose all deeds and activities that adversely affect or violate **the Most Revered His Majesty the King**.

2. Continue to expand and strengthen the foundation of the multi-party liberal democracy, from the national to the grassroots levels, in order to promote more participation from the people in building and defending the nation, as well as to take ownership of the nation’s future. Protect and promote the people’s rights and freedom to participate in political activities, in accordance with the principles of democracy and the rule of law, including the rights to establishing, selecting, supporting, and joining political parties. Strongly defend and support free, fair, just, and safe elections, both universal and non-universal, which shall be regularly organized at both national and sub-national levels, based on the principles of multi-party liberal democracy as mandated by the Constitution and laws.

3. Protect and promote the people’s rights and freedoms, as enshrined in the Constitution, the United Nations Declarations, the treaties, and international conventions related to human rights, women's rights, and children's rights. Continue to promote the legal responsibility to respect and value human life and individual freedoms, by committing to protect the rights to life and the rights to actively participate in the political, economic, social, and cultural domains of the nation. At the same time, continue to strengthen and promote the fulfillment of duties and obligations of all people in the society to respect laws, morality, ethics, dignity, as well as to prevent violations of rights and freedoms that hamper the rights and freedoms of others, and public security and order.

4. Protect and promote the rule of law by strengthening the separation of power in accordance with the principles of parliamentary democracy; strengthening the judiciary system; raising awareness of laws; respecting laws and the proper enforcement of laws, and preventing all forms of abuses of power, impunity, and all forms of violence.

#### **4. Strengthening of Public Administration at All Levels as the Administration of the People for the Interests of the People**

1. Prepare, strengthen, and improve structures, work management systems, functions and responsibilities of public institutions so that they can be more effective in formulating policies, strategies, and national standards; in monitoring, performing inspections, providing support and making interventions, as well as taking the responsibilities to provide public services that are closer to the people, respond to their needs and requests, and address their issues effectively, timely and meet the real needs of the people in the communities.

2. Continue to strengthen and enhance public institutions' capacities at all levels, through: 1). Strengthening public officials' capacities with professionalism, innovation, and ethics; 2). Providing appropriate financial resources, means, equipment, materials, and human resources to each public institution; and 3). Modernizing work management systems, and communications and public service deliveries to the people with accountability, quality, transparency, speediness, and reliability.

3. Strengthen the powers, capacities, and responsibilities of the sub-national administration councils at all levels in leading, and more effectively deciding on service deliveries and local development with greater accountability, inclusiveness, justice, and social equity, in order to represent the benefits and voices of the people.

4. Promote the roles, powers and responsibilities of women, youth, and people with disabilities in the public sector, including capacity building to help them gain management positions in public institutions, hence ensuring their greater participation in decision-making in an inclusive and socially equitable manner.

5. Promote citizens' empowerment and participation in decision-making on public service deliveries and local economic development by establishing, strengthening, and improving mechanisms for information provision, citizens' participations, monitoring, and mechanisms for resolving citizens' complaints and requests, as well as receiving feedbacks without discrimination or regard to political affiliations.

6. Promote and strengthen collaborative partnerships between public administration, civil society organizations, and private sector, to mobilize resources and contribute to public service deliveries and local economic development.

7. Strengthen the integrity and accountability of all levels of administration through 1). Establishing and strengthening modern and transparent management and mechanisms for public service deliveries; 2). Raising salaries and pensions for public officials and providing them with both financial and non-financial incentives for their good work performance; and 3). Taking firm legal actions in the form of punitive and legal measures against public officials who commit corruption, violate professional ethics or abuse power in their performance of duties and responsibilities.

#### **5. Continuing Promotion of Reforms for Good Governance**

1. Continue to carry out public administration reforms to build a strong, clean, smart, and people-centric public administration through undertaking reforms and enhancing public institutions' efficiency; and enhancing efficiency of public institutions' performance and public accountability, to ensure equitable, fair, and inclusive public service deliveries and social development. These can be done by focusing on innovation promotion, the use of ICTs in public administration, the introduction of performance-based management systems and public institutional accountability mechanisms for people, as well as people's participation in evaluating the process of public service deliveries.

2. Continue to undertake decentralization and de-concentration reforms to strengthen people's rights and their participation, improve the quality of public services, and develop local economies with quality, transparency, accountability, inclusiveness, equity, and social justice. This can be done by transferring powers, functions, resources, and responsibilities to sub-national administrations; improving structures and work management systems; developing capacity of sub-national administrations;

modernizing sub-national governance systems; and improving the processes of public service deliveries and the quality of public services.

3. Improve the quality and capacity of, and provide support to, key local officials, including commune/Sangkat's chiefs, clerks, administrative police chiefs, health officials at health posts, health centers and referral hospitals, and teachers of public schools at general education level, to serve people with transparency and accountability.

4. Continue to advance the public financial management (PFM) reform to transform the public financial system into a result-oriented (or performance-oriented) and decentralized system that complies with the international standards and best practices. This can be achieved by establishing budget credibility, financial accountability, as well as linking budgets to policies and performance accountability to ensure the efficiency in collecting public revenues, and in managing the public expenditures.

5. Continue to reform the legal and judicial systems to ensure justice for all, by improving the quality and efficiency of judiciary services and promoting the rights to justice of all citizens. This can be achieved by strengthening law enforcement, integrity, ethics, and education/training of law enforcement officers; activating mechanisms for improving work disciplines; modernizing the administration of justice; improving the deliveries of legal services; and strengthening and improving dispute resolution mechanisms that are effective and responsive to the real social situations.

6. Continue to push for reforms in other priority areas, such as education, healthcare, natural resources and environmental management, and land management to improve the quality and efficiency of public services and enhance people's lives.

7. Strengthen the fight against corruption with a resolute will and determination by promoting the implementation of the three core measures, namely education, prevention and implementation of Anti-Corruption Law, to ensure the efficiency of law enforcement, promote integrity in public administration and the private sector, promote governance and internal inspection, and engage with the international community in the fight against corruption and money laundering.

### **III. Sectoral Policies**

On the sectoral policy front, the RGC continues to prioritize the following policies:

#### **1. Management of Macroeconomic and Public Financial Stability**

##### **Continuing to Ensure Economic Stability and Promotion of High Economic Growth**

1. Continue to strengthen mechanisms for the management of risks, economic and financial crises, as well as for economic interventions and the conduct of monetary policy to keep inflation low and to maintain a stable and manageable exchange rate.

2. Continue to strengthen the private financial system or the financial sector through regulatory mechanisms and financial security systems to ensure strength and resilience to future crises.

3. Ensure financial stability through appropriate credit growth management to support economic growth, as well as the development of a comprehensive crisis management framework and close and regular monitoring of the financial sector.

4. Strengthen the management of non-bank financial sectors—such as real estate, sector of pawn and transfer of title for security purpose, insurance, and securities markets—to promote sustainable and strong growth with positive contribution to the development of financial sector, as well as consumption and investment.

5. Continue to develop the financial technology infrastructures and the capacity of the financial system to be more diversified, resilient to crises, and inclusive, in order to support the overall economic activities, as well as to adapt to, and tap maximum benefits from, changes in the regional and global economic and financial integration.

6. Continue to promote economic diversification by strengthening existing growth engines in agriculture and agro-industry, tourism, garment, and non-garment manufacturing; create new growth drivers that are based on productivity, technologies, and innovations. Continue to restore and strengthen the foundation of socio-economic development, in accordance with the "**Strategic Framework and Programs for Economic Recovery in the Context of Living with COVID-19 in a New Normal 2021-2023**" and related policies.

7. Promote the implementation of Cambodia's main policies, such as Cambodia Industrial Development Policy 2015-2025, Cambodia Digital Economy and Society Policy Framework 2021-2035, Cambodia National Productivity Policy Framework 2022-2035, Cambodia's National Energy Efficiency Policy 2022-2030.

8. Continue to support the development of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), and that of the informal economy, through the Law on Investment and the interconnected linkages between the introduction of the new fiscal law and the introduction of specific incentives to improve business environment for SMEs, as well as the development of policies and strategies to promote the informal economy. Further develop agro-industry, tourism, and SMEs through SME Bank of Cambodia, Agricultural and Rural Development Bank, Credit Guarantee Corporation of Cambodia, Entrepreneurship Development Fund, and Skills Development Fund.

9. Promote investment in digital infrastructures and green development, as well as promote green credits, aimed at establishing their linkages to the economy, and at supporting digital transformation and sustainable development.

10. Encourage public investment that is resilient to climate change and increase sustainable financing to maximize socio-economic development and environmental protection, as well as increase resilience to climate change.

### **Maintenance of Budget Sustainability**

1. Continue to implement the PFM reform programs towards international standards by reforming national budget revenue management and increasing expenditure efficiency; implementing information technology systems for PFM; and establishing specific budget frameworks to strengthen the strategic budget planning and budget plans of all ministries and institutions at both national and sub-national levels to ensure the implementation of program budgeting leading to the advancement of the implementation of performance-based budgeting.

2. Continue to firmly implement the reform works related to the revenue management of the national budget through: 1). Improving fiscal policy based on the principle of optimizing the collection of national budget revenues; ensuring a competitive environment with transparency, accountability, equality, and justice; encouraging economic activities, businesses, and investments; as well as ensuring social equity; 2). Instituting measures to strengthen and modernize fiscal administration to continue to develop into a modern digital fiscal administration in line with international best practices and the digital socio-economic context for growth, employment, equity, efficiency, and sustainability; 3). Improving fiscal governance; 4). Improving tax culture; 5). Improving the deliveries of tax services; 6). Developing key mechanisms for strengthening revenue collection efficiency; and 7). Improving the administration and governance of non-tax revenues.

3. Continue to implement measures to increase expenditure efficiency by improving budget allocation in line with policy priorities; improving the efficiency of expenditure operations and strengthening public procurement; as well as focusing on five public investment priorities, namely "**People, Road, Water, Electricity and Technology**," which are based on the principles of "**Efficiency, Productivity, Quality, Resiliency and Sustainability**".

4. Continue to increase vigilance in managing public debt to ensure its sustainability by adhering to five key principles, namely: 1). Borrowing at a reasonable amount that the budget and the economy can afford; 2). Borrowing only concessional loans or loans with high favorable conditions;



3). Borrowing only for priority sectors that sustain economic growth and increase economic productivity or manufacturing productivity; 4). Using loans with transparency, accountability, highest efficiency, and effectiveness; and 5). Using loans for financing investment projects in public infrastructure that shall be of high standards and quality in line with public investment management principles and are responsive to the new phase of national development needs, especially ensuring economic, social, and environmental sustainability, as well as increasing resilience to climate change.

5. Continue to promote the development of government securities as a mechanism and financing tool to support and promote socio-economic development.

6. Strengthen the reform of management of financial inspection and audit to contribute to the prevention of mistakes and strengthen governance in the management and implementation of public finance, as well as the management of state assets in a highly efficient and timely manner.

### **Enhancement of the Inclusiveness of Economic Growth**

1. Continue to launch packages of socio-economic intervention measures, by putting **"people"** as the top priority to 1). Address the adverse impact of high inflation, crises, and emergencies, which may pose serious difficulties to the livelihoods of people, especially the poor, the vulnerable, and at-risk households; 2). Promote social welfare; 3). Create jobs for the people; 4). Promote technical and vocational training; and 5). Accelerate the adoption of digital technologies to promote economic diversification and Cambodia's competitiveness.

2. Continue to develop and strengthen the health system and expand the social protection system, in terms of both quality and coverage, by strengthening the implementation of the National Social Protection Policy Framework 2016-2025.

3. Continue to improve the **"Cambodia Food Reserve System"** to be more capable, responsive, and effective in providing food support to the poor, vulnerable people, and at-risk people for their livelihoods, as well as in providing them with rice seeds, paddy rice, and vegetable crops to rehabilitate their cultivations and farming after a damage inflicted by natural disasters. Continue to provide vegetable seeds to promote large-scale family vegetable farming to ensure food security and family nutrition, as well as to contribute to product diversification and incomes.

4. Continue to implement the policy of tax exemption on family-cultivated farmland and provide tax incentives for the cultivation, purchase, and production of milled rice for exports.

5. Continue to reduce the cost of living of the people by stabilizing food price and reducing the cost of water and electricity consumption for the general population, especially those living in rural areas; and continue to issue identification cards, family books, residence books, and extend registration services, free of charge.

6. Continue to implement the principle of eliminating taxes and other fees for small-scale vendors in baskets in the markets throughout the country, allowing vendors to own, use and reap the benefits of their stalls, stands or other outlets, and allowing the transfers of those rights to children or other individuals.

7. Continue to implement the stamp duty exemption policy for the transfers of property titles within the family, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and continue to promote the development of affordable housing.

8. Continue to expand and develop credit projects that focus on the value chains of agricultural production by providing financing to support related stakeholders, including smallholders and agricultural cooperatives/communities, to contribute to improving the livelihoods of people, especially those in rural areas.

9. Continue to increase the salaries of civil servants and the armed forces, as well as raising the minimum wages of workers to an appropriate level; introduce incentive framework for officials,

primarily based on their performance or meritocracy, to improve productivity and livelihoods, as well as to strengthen institutional capacity, and quality of public service deliveries.

10. Continue to implement the policy of tax exemption on the minimum wage of all types of civil servants and workers

11. Continue to increase budget for sub-national administrations, focusing on local administrations such as municipalities, districts/*Khans* and communes/*Sangkats* to support the operational capabilities of the sub-national administrations in effectively delivering public services to the people, and better promoting local development.

### **Enhancement of Competitiveness**

1. Promote competitive advantage through the development of potential industries, improve the quality of economic institutions, and expand the trade partnerships in both bilateral and multilateral mechanisms.

2. Increase competitive advantage by creating a favorable business environment; reduce business costs, such as logistics and electricity; enhance trade facilitations; push for tax reforms; as well as improve logistics, transportations and energy connectivity through the adoption of digital technologies.

3. Promote socio-economic digitalization in both the public and private sectors, especially build both hard and soft infrastructures, logistics, green energy, and digital technologies, with high quality.

4. Continue to promote the development of human resources and human capital by improving the quality of technical and vocational education and training at all levels to ensure adequate supplies of skilled workers with high productivity, and to meet the demand in the labor market and socio-economic development.

5. Promote cooperation and coordination between ministries, institutions of the RGC and all relevant stakeholders in line with the approach “**Dynamics of Stakeholder System**” to strengthen the capacity of national institutions in improving service deliveries, and to enhance competitiveness.

## **2. Strengthening of Development Partnerships**

1. Continue to strengthen partnerships with development stakeholders to mobilize financial resources from all sources to support socio-economic development, based on the principles of ownership and leadership of the RGC.

2. Continue to deepen integration in, and improve relations with the region and the world through mechanisms, measures, programs and initiatives to enhance Cambodia’s prestige, increase opportunities for the country’s development, and instill confidence in Cambodia’s peace, security and investment and trade environments, based on the principles of “**equal rights and equality**”.

3. Continue to enhance international trade facilitation through the signing of bilateral and multilateral free trade agreements (FTAs); streamline customs clearance procedures; reduce scanning fees and simplify the principles and procedures for identifying goods to be scanned; cancel Certificate of Origin (CO) for non-required countries and discount port fees and so on.

4. Continue to improve the efficiency in utilizing development cooperation financing by minimizing risks and debt service burdens to a minimum and manageable level, with high caution.

5. Continue to implement the public-private partnerships (PPPs) by strengthening the enforcement of the Law on PPPs.

6. Continue to strengthen partnerships with civil society, associations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) within the framework of Law on Associations and NGOs to promote the rule of law, strengthen democracy and contribute to the socio-economic development of Cambodia.

### 3. Development of Private Sector

1. Attract foreign direct investment and domestic investment, as well as SMEs in all sectors, especially new industries, such as automobiles, electronics, components, and food processing, in order to diversify industries, promote the transfers of technology, strengthen capacity and technical skills, and create more added values, jobs, employment, and incomes.

2. Create favorable environment for investment and business through the implementation of the Law on Investment; continue to improve legal frameworks and governance; strengthen the efficiency of relevant public institutions; reduce costs and improve logistics; improve trade facilitations; reduce bureaucracy; strengthen the implementation of One-Stop-Service and eliminate informal fees.

3. Continue to build good corporate governance to enhance competitiveness, increase resilience, and develop institutional capacity, as well as promote the culture of social accountability and fulfillment of tax and excise duties.

4. Strengthen entrepreneurship and business development through the government's mechanisms, programs, projects, and initiatives. Collaborate with development partners and the private sector to improve production chains, improve quality, expand markets; and enhance linkages and reap the benefits from large foreign enterprises and investments.

5. Enhance the efficiency of service deliveries to the private sector by facilitating registration, matching and networking, disseminating comprehensive and timely market information, promoting and mainstreaming new technologies, and continuing to seek and to get access to the export markets for Cambodia's products.

6. Continue to implement and operate **“Government-Private Sector Forum”** mechanism at policy and technical levels, both at the national and sub-national levels, to address challenges, and make the private sector to become more dynamic, and eventually transform this mechanism into **“Cambodia Development Forum.”**

7. Promote entrepreneurship and strengthen the capacity of the private sector, including businesspeople in the informal economy, through incentives, consultations, trainings, and access to finance.

8. Develop and implement strategic policy frameworks to attract private investments through creating appropriate and targeted incentives, supporting infrastructure development, and streamlining administrative and procedural facilitation, to respond to the long-term development needs.

### 4. Development of Industries, Handicrafts, and SMEs

1. Continue to promote industries, handicrafts, and SMEs, as well as support the works of science, technology, and innovation in enhancing production, with a focus on the feasibility study on technology transfers to gradually participate in the global trends of the Fourth industrial revolution (IR 4.0).

2. Promote the establishment of new industrial zones, especially the establishment of the clusters of SMEs and parks of science, technology, and innovation, where production processes provide support for one another among small and medium and large enterprises for accelerating socio-economic development. Promote the development of special economic zones (SEZs) as production sites with proper technical standards to ensure competitiveness in the current global environment.

3. Promote partnerships in the development of industries and SMEs, science, technology and innovation and PPPs to serve as effective catalysts for the development of this sector.

4. Continue to promote the development of Sihanoukville into a multi-purpose SEZ.

5. Continue to develop provincial industrial zones as cluster zones for SMEs to enhance their competitiveness, to support start-ups, and to develop medium-term plans for the development of

SMEs, by attaching importance to enterprises with potentials for exports, new product development, linkages to multinational corporations, value chain connection, and linkages to the regional production networks.

6. Develop the areas around Phnom Penh into cluster industrial zones with a clear land use plan and zoning industrial, business, and residential areas or towns, as well as laying out a long-term plan for transforming Phnom Penh into a center of administration, industry, science, technology, and innovation.

7. Enhance the quality and productivity of SMEs and handicrafts, based on the 5-S principle, namely "**Sort, Set in order, Shine, Standardize, and Sustain,**" and promote research and development, as well as protect the new inventions by patent and provide trainings on industrial property right.

8. Provide support to SMEs and handicrafts in terms of training and investment in machinery or production equipment, as well as other incentives, by linking production to local raw materials, improve product quality and modernization of production chains, and foster links to multinational enterprises.

## **5. Development of Financial and Banking Sector**

1. Continue the conduct of active monetary policy in a flexible and prudent manner and continue to develop new monetary policy instruments, based on national and international markets, to ensure social normalcy and people's livelihoods through maintaining price stability, keeping inflation at a manageable level, maintaining exchange rate stability and the value of the Khmer Riel (KHR), as well as gradually increasing its use in the economy.

2. Continue to strengthen the legal frameworks as the foundation for risk prevention and foresight through the review and amendments of laws and regulations to be in line with the international practices, and the development of the banking and financial sector, as well as continue to strictly implement relevant laws and regulations to further increase resilience and enhance effectiveness of the banking system so that it can adapt to market conditions, and to ensure financial stability.

3. Continue to strengthen and expand the roles of the banking sector to mobilize local financial resources to meet the increasing needs of the economy, seek out sources of low-cost capital, study the factors that influence high capital costs, and find ways to lower interest rates through market mechanisms.

4. Continue to strengthen monitoring and modernizing the payment systems; expand the means of payments and transfers of money across borders; promote and establish new financial technology platforms to offer varieties of banking operations in a convenient and modern manner in line with new technologies; increase public trust in payment systems and promote efficient, secure and affordable electronic payments to meet the increasing needs brought about by sustained economic growth and integration at the regional and global levels.

5. Continue to strengthen and expand bilateral and multilateral cooperation by deepening integration of Cambodian financial into the region and the world and strengthening financial security networks to optimize economic benefits, mobilize resources, and develop new markets and financial technologies.

6. Continue to promote financial inclusiveness through the strengthening and broadening of financial policy, financial education programs, enhancement of diversification of financial products, the strengthening of cooperation and the promotion of social media to ensure that people have access to and use financial services more widely for investment and expansions of businesses for the improvements of people's livelihoods and poverty reduction.

7. Continue to expand the mechanisms for protecting the users of banking and financial services through the development of financial literacy programs and the setting of clear definitions

of conditions for loans from banks and microfinance institutions, advertisements, legal and grievance procedures, in order to increase public confidence in the banking system and to contribute to financial stability.

8. Continue to combat money laundering and terrorism financing through strengthening relevant Legal frameworks, enhancing analytical capacity, monitoring, and controlling, as well as expanding cooperation with relevant authorities and international partners in the exchange of information, in order to take necessary measures to ensure that Cambodia is safe country, not a 'safe haven' for money laundering and terrorism financing.

## **6. Agricultural Development, Rural Development, Trade Promotion, Management of Land, Management of Natural Resources and Environment, and Development of Tourism**

### **Agricultural Development**

1. Continue to modernize the agricultural sector, increase productivity, diversify the economy, develop infrastructures to support the agricultural value chains, improve the safety of agricultural products, and increase exports, through effectively implementing the National Agricultural Development Policy 2022-2030.

2. Continue to strengthen the production capacity of farmers and agricultural cooperatives, strengthen supply chains for the processing of agricultural products, increase the processing capacity of agricultural products through the implementation of contract-farming mechanisms, increase the dissemination of the applications of smart farming techniques resilient to climate change, and promote implementation of national action programs to address soil degradation.

3. Continue to implement technical measures to ensure safe and nutritious food, strengthen food system by modernizing food production to improve food security and safety, and implement a roadmap on food system for sustainable development in Cambodia by 2030.

4. Continue to support family and commercial animal husbandry, increase meat supply, improve animal health and public welfare, increase research capacity and animal disease diagnostic laboratories, strengthen partnerships with animal husbandry communities, and strengthen the enforcement of laws on animal health and animal production.

5. Develop e-farming strategies, establish digital farming techniques, and facilitate the adoption and use of digital platforms for agribusiness, as well as expand digital agricultural marketing information services to farmers.

6. Improve the management of forestry resources by enhancing the management and development of forests and wildlife, the development of forest and wildlife development plans, the improvement of community forestry development, the implementation of agroforestry systems, the promotion of management and development of wildlife and biodiversity, and promote reforestation, especially trees of high economic values. Continue to accelerate the registration of forest lands and community forest lands, increase monitoring of the implementation of economic land concessions, and strengthen the effective implementation of forestry laws.

7. Continue to implement strategic plans for fisheries development, strengthen management and development of fishing communities, increase research and dissemination of aquaculture techniques, fish breeding and conservation of high-value fish species. Promote the development of capacity and technology to improve the quality of fishery products, promote aquaculture and aquaculture clusters by implementing contract aquaculture production mechanisms and continue to strengthen the effective enforcement of fisheries laws.

8. Continue to reform institutional management; strengthen governance and develop human resources in accordance with human resource policies in the agricultural sector, improve the quality of agricultural education through the implementation of the 2030 Master Plan of the Agricultural Education Institutions; establish the Agricultural Science Academy; and increase research capacity for the development of Cambodia's agricultural sector.

9. Increase the capacity of technical outreach services on agricultural skills and equip young farmers with new and digital agricultural technologies by better linking to their respective dissemination and research. Expand the enabling environment for producers, owners of processing business, and exporters, as well as strengthen cooperation with all stakeholders through the ‘State-Private Sector-Development Partners-Community’ approach to accelerating the agricultural development.

### **Rural Development**

1. Promote rural development, both economically and socially, to improve the quality of life of the people and transform rural areas into prosperous and civilized places, in par with status of an upper-middle-income country by 2030 and a high-income country by 2050.

2. Continue to improve the living conditions of rural communities by improving the deliveries of social services, such as education, health, water, sanitation, telecommunications and so on; strengthen cooperation, coordination and mobilization of resources to expand the coverage of clean water supply; and efficiently improve rural sanitation by continuing to promote the implementation of National Action Plan for Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene to achieve a coverage rate of 90% by 2023 and 100% by 2030, as well as to address the issues of climate change, the emergence of new challenges in the regions, and inequality of access to services.

3. Continue to improve the livelihoods of rural people by rehabilitating rural transport infrastructure, upgrading rural roads from red gravel to paved or concrete roads to ensure long-term use and climate change resilience with the aim of promoting socio-economic interactions and linking business activities between rural and urban areas.

4. Continue to pay attention to the regular maintenance of rural roads; strengthen monitoring and evaluating the implemented projects; establish legal documents related to the management of lands adjacent to roads; and continue to update the inventory of rural roads.

5. Continue to promote the diversification of rural economic activities to increase the decent livelihoods of rural households by promoting family farming, animal husbandry, handicrafts, basic services, businesses, small family enterprises, and development of rural markets and so on.

6. Continue to develop indigenous areas into the areas of economic, social, and cultural development; and guarantee the rights to protection by laws and social measures that meet the basic needs for living in dignity and respects for the customs, traditions, languages, and beliefs of indigenous people.

### **Trade Promotion**

1. Continue to strengthen market management and protect the interests of producers and consumers by promoting the creation of local markets for traders, entrepreneurs, and smallholders, and develop value and supply chains to connect farmers, producers, owners of processing business, buyers and exporters, in particular continue to improve the business registration system and the process of granting permits through the information technology system of the RGC.

2. Develop strategies to promote the use of Cambodian products in the domestic and international markets through holding local and international exhibitions, as well as assist the private sector in establishing Chambers of Commerce in all capital cities and provinces and establish representation of the Chambers of Commerce of Cambodia abroad, as well as establish associations by professions and product categories so as to participate in the supply chains and to seize trade opportunities.

3. Compile and manage trade statistics as a basis for analyses and for use as business information for public institutions, educational institutions, and the private sector. Continue to strengthen the mechanisms to monitor the prices of goods and the balance of market supply and demand of strategic goods, such as rice, fuel, and other commodities by taking necessary actions against rent-seeking behaviors which raise the prices of the goods that in turn adversely affect people's livelihoods.

4. Lay out plans to participate in the implementation of the digital economy policies by way of encouraging e-commerce activities through establishing links between major markets and local SMEs and implementing trade facilitation in accordance with the legal frameworks and national and international agreements, especially facilitations of fast e-commerce activities.

5. Develop strategies to take the advantage of regional and bilateral FTAs to enable Cambodian producers and exporters to participate more fully in the international supply chains and to increase exports.

6. Strengthen Cambodia's capacity for economic integration with the ASEAN member states and international trading partners, as well as continue to coordinate cooperation in enhancing cross-border trade with neighboring countries and other trading partners, aimed at ensuring the improvements of trade positions.

7. Establish and implement master plans and action plans for developing markets along the border and in the provinces, as well as set up online markets to support the production and supplies of products.

8. Continue to carry out research and have more geographical and collective brands registered to improve the quality and supplies of Cambodia's products to the domestic and foreign markets, whereby imports can be reduced.

9. Continue to develop strategies and work programs to promote rice production and other potential crop production for exports.

10. Develop programs and action plans to implement legal documents, namely competition law, consumer protection law, and food law to ensure good health, safety, and well-being of consumers, and create a fair and just environment for trade and investment activities in Cambodia.

11. Continue to develop trade sector at sub-national level by continuing to implement the "**One Village, One Product Movement**" widely and effectively. This encourages people to produce according to geographical conditions, and domestic and foreign market conditions and to increase production of high-quality and high-priced products, utilizing skills and talents of the local people.

### **Management of Land and Construction**

1. Continue to accelerate reforms of the land sector by strengthening management of land, accelerating the completions of initial land registrations, facilitating the registrations of land for indigenous communities and registrations of all other types of land, as well as providing land titles to eligible land occupiers. Introduce measures to prevent illegal encroachments on all types of state land and continue to oversee the granting processes of land to people, who have lived on and benefited from state land, especially in Areas 3 and 2 of the Tonle Sap Lake, where people's settlements have been prevalent since the ancient times, and strengthen all mechanisms for effectively addressing land disputes to promote social harmony.

2. Continue to implement social land concessions to distribute land to poor civilians and/or provide housing to border guards, former armed forces, and poor and landless families in a transparent and equitable manner.

3. Continue to strengthen plans for land management, land use master plans, and land use planning, especially in priority areas to ensure sustainable development. Continue to build and manage permanent measuring stations, and effectively launch the cadastral information and data management systems, land management and urban planning data, and construction and housing data nationwide in the context of digital technologies.

4. Continue to strengthen the development of the construction sector in accordance with the Laws on Construction, and regulations on urbanization-related technicalities to ensure quality, security, safety, aesthetics, public order, and the environment, as well as to take necessary measures to prevent against any construction on public land adjacent to roads.

5. Promote the construction of affordable housing for rent and sales to middle-income and low-income households and to vulnerable people, in line with the National Housing Policy and the Incentive Policy, as well as establish the National Program for Development of Affordable Housing.

### Management of Natural Resources and Environment

1. Reduce environmental pollution by continuing to strengthen the management of solid waste, plastics and hazardous wastes, the monitoring of polluted water, air, and noise, as well as continue to enhance clean energy, energy efficiency, smart agriculture practices resilient to climate, green transportation, clean industrial processes, circular economy implementation, environmental impact assessment mechanisms, green certification, and environmental friendliness operations.

2. Strengthen the management of the protected areas, biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of natural resources by continuing to register state land, speed up demarcation, strengthen law enforcement, restore habitats and wildlife species, and preserve the natural conservation system, to ensure the well-functioning of ecosystem services, as well as to continue to improve people's livelihoods and diversify the economic base of the natural protected area communities through the implementation of state policies, incentives for private investment, mixed crop plantations, economic crops, industrial timber, and animal husbandry, which are resilient to climate change.

3. Continue to promote education on environment and climate change by increasing innovative dissemination methods and enhancing partner participation, to raise people's awareness and responsibilities for the environment, as well as to strengthen the close bonds between humans and nature through promoting the spirit of "**Cambodia, My Motherland**" as well as land and nature-connected tourism.

4. Continue to strengthen modern administration, expand sustainable finance, and improve policy frameworks to effectively respond to environmental challenges and trends by improving institutional mechanisms, technical facilities, and human and financial resources, including facilitating contributions from various sources of environmental financing, such as green securities, carbon credits and ecosystem services payments.

5. Promote green diplomacy by continuing to engage the international community in the implementation of international obligations related to the environment, contributing to addressing global environmental issues, and promoting the green agenda, climate change, carbon neutrality, carbon markets and climate financing, to enhance Cambodia's prestige on the international stage and promote the national interests.

### Development of Tourism

1. Promote Cambodia's tourism sector as a cultural and natural tourism, which is considered "**green gold.**" Tourism development contributes to the socio-economic development, providing employment opportunities and incomes, and improving people's livelihoods.

2. Continue to implement key strategic plans and policies to promote effective promotion of tourism management and development in line with the vision towards the future goals of **clean, green and sustainable** Cambodia tourism to attract about 8 million international tourists and 16 million domestic tourists by 2028.

3. Continue to promote the development of better infrastructure to support tourism, such as roads, clean water, electricity, airports, ports, telecommunication systems, as well as other facilities and support services.

4. Optimize tourism industry to create and expand more new jobs, foster its competitiveness, promote the prestige of culture and traditions of our motherland as an attractive, safe and comfortable tourist destination.

5. Promote the development of innovative and creative tourism products and services, especially the improvements of the quality of tourism services, as well as increase trainings of tourism professionals, and facilitate the safe travels and transport.



6. Strengthen the capacity to carry out market research and promote tourism industry, the use of new technologies, the improvements of governance efficiency and human resource development.

7. Effectively improve the implementation of tourism safety measures, road maps, strategic plans, guidelines, and mechanisms.

8. Continue to promote domestic tourism activities and international tourist flows to Cambodia, and encourage people's participation in the development of attractive tourism.

9. Continue to strengthen and expand tourism development in various destinations, such as community-based tourism, ecotourism, and agro-tourism, under an effective cooperation between inter-institutions and stakeholders.

## **7. Development of Physical Infrastructures**

### **Development of Transportation Infrastructures and Transport**

1. Continue to develop transport and logistics infrastructures to be adequate and responsive to demographic changes and urbanization, trade, industrial diversification, agriculture, and tourism, as well as to enhance major economic connectivity and regional integration.

2. Continue to improve and develop transport systems, by land, rail, waterway (navigation and ports) and air, focusing on strengthening the quality of physical infrastructures and setting direction towards the development of interconnected transport systems; reducing time and costs of travels and transporting goods; and strengthening the ability to provide logistics services that are convenient, stable, comfortable, economically efficient, and safe.

3. Continue to restore, maintain, expand, and develop new networks of national roads, provincial roads, urban roads, and strategic roads with economic potentials, and develop safe beautiful border belt protection zones, resilient to climate change and natural disasters.

4. Accelerate the formulation of the master plan for and improve public transport in cities and towns on major national and provincial roads.

5. Promote the construction of wastewater treatment systems, landfills, and waste recycling, and expand the coverage of sewerage systems in major cities and towns, as well as promote the construction of flood protection systems and riverbank protection systems to maintain a healthy environment, improve people's well-being, and avoid flooding in residential areas.

6. Continue to develop, repair, and maintain the Cambodia's existing railway networks (both northwest and southwest) to expand the scope of freight, passenger, and cross-border transports, as well as to integrate the Cambodian railway into the regional railway system of ASEAN and the Greater Mekong Subregion.

7. Continue to seek out investment partners and promote the construction of light rail system for priority lines in Phnom Penh.

8. Continue to develop maritime, waterway and port transport systems, especially the expansion of blue-water ports and modernize physical port structures to improve productivity and operational capacity to facilitate trade and tourism flows.

9. Strengthen the enforcement of the road traffic law by strengthening the technical inspection of vehicles, putting an end to the processing of vehicles that are not technically correct, and eliminating overweight transport, as well as taking necessary measures to reduce road accidents and the damage caused to transport infrastructure.

### **Civil Aviation**

1. Continue to implement the open skies policy and strengthen international cooperation in the field of civil aviation and aviation connectivity to integrate and harmonize policies and the Cambodian Civil Aviation Guide maps with sub-regional and global aviation development policies.

2. Continue to develop and modernize national and international airport infrastructures to meet the growing demand for air transport and facilitate the landing of all types of small and large aircrafts.

3. Continue to focus on strengthening civil aviation security by strictly complying with national and international standards on civil aviation security, aiming to prevent and combat terrorism, destruction and threats to passengers' lives and properties.

4. Continue to strengthen aviation safety and modernize air navigation services in accordance with the international standards to ensure the safe operations of aircrafts and navigation.

## **8. Water Resource Management and Irrigation Development**

1. Strengthen measures to protect, prevent, and conserve water resources through enhancing the management and maintenance of rivers, streams, lakes, tributaries, irrigation systems and natural waterways, by way of clearly defining maps delineating areas of water management and water use, creating irrigation and plantation maps, and determining the waterbody, land areas adjacent to the rivers, streams, lakes, tributaries and so on, and continue to implement mixed water resource management methods to ensure the sustainability of water resources.

2. Continue to develop and promote the modernization of irrigation systems and waterworks by increasing public investment, attracting assistance from development partners and encouraging participation from the private sector, in irrigation system development, research, and the use of new technologies.

3. Continue to rehabilitate, repair, and maintain the irrigation systems on a regular basis in order to maintain the sustainability of the water supply for plantation, aquaculture, and for day-to-day use.

4. Continue to encourage volunteer farmers to participate in establishing farmer water user communities for all irrigation systems in their localities to enhance ownership and responsibilities in management, use, and maintenance of the irrigation systems.

5. Continue to update information systems related to hydrology, meteorology, and weather forecast and provide early warnings on weather, especially information on possible natural disasters, such as floods, storms, droughts, and heat waves to people so that they can take necessary actions, and be prepared to avoid, respond and minimize its impact in a timely manner.

## **9. Development of Water Supply**

1. Continue to develop the water supply sector, with firm adherence to quality, safety, sustainability, and affordability.

2. Increase water supply capacity through the piped water system in cities, towns, suburbs, and rural areas so that it can adequately provide clean water services through networks as aspired in Cambodia Sustainable Development Goals 2016-2030.

3. Expand the scope of water supply services by strengthening the implementation of the roles and responsibilities of the Public Water Supply Authority and encourage private sector investments in the development of water supply infrastructures in areas that lack access to clean water.

4. Establish a water supply development fund and mobilize various resources from various sources to accelerate the development and increase the efficiency and sustainability of water supply services, especially development areas, and vulnerable and remote areas.

5. Continue to expand the water supply installments and water supply at affordable price to workers and students who live in small rental spaces in the cities and towns.

## **10. Development of Electricity**

1. Improve the efficiency of electricity supply and use in a sufficient, stable, and reliable manner.

2. Continue to strengthen and promote the leading role of the state in developing power supply infrastructure.

3. Continue to develop power sources, sub-stations, and all kinds of power lines, further modernize management and control infrastructure, and develop supportive infrastructure by offering incentives and encouraging greater participations from the private sector.

4. Continue to promote the implementation of the National Energy Efficiency Policy and Law on Environmental Protection and Natural Resource Management, and to maximize the use of clean energy sources to contribute to mitigating climate change and to reduce adverse effects on the environment.

5. Continue to expand the scope of and strengthen the power supply to key production areas by ensuring efficiency, stability, and sufficiency.

6. Strive to maintain electricity price stability and explore the possibility of lowering prices, including preferential tariffs for night-time electricity consumption for industries, handicrafts and agriculture to help reduce production costs and enhance Cambodia's competitiveness.

7. Launch full online services for electricity supply application, billing, payments, information, and communication in a more convenient, fast, transparent and efficient manner.

8. Continue to provide preferential electricity tariffs to low-income earners, workers' and students' rental rooms with a monthly electricity consumption of 200 kWh or less. The preferential tariffs are also applied to schools, hospitals, rural health centers, and electricity consumers in agriculture.

9. Strengthen international, regional, and global cooperation to enhance electricity trade, diversify power sources and complement one another through the sharing of practical experiences and new technologies.

## **11. Development of Mineral Resources**

1. Strengthen the management of mineral resources, promote the effective, sustainable, and full potential development of mineral resources, and transform these resources into new sources for contributing to the socio-economic development and the long-term interests of the nation.

2. Encourage the private sector to conduct research, exploration and investment in the mining sector through special excise tax regimes, and encourage them to process mineral resources and local mineral products before them being exported according to changes in international market demand, with a focus on the use of modern technologies to increase values added and maximize the benefits from international trade.

3. Lay out a development plan for the mining sector to be consistent with the physical infrastructure development plan to ensure the sustainability of the supply of minerals as construction materials to meet domestic demands.

4. Continue to develop infrastructure in communities that perform mineral resources businesses through the effective use of mineral funds to effectively support local community development by promoting the development of local communities and improving people's livelihoods in those areas.

## **12. Development of Posts, Telecommunication and Communications Technology, and Information Sectors**

1. Continue to modernize postal services by strengthening the legal frameworks and clear management mechanisms using digital technologies as the core, building postal infrastructures from the central level to the communal level to establish a well-interconnected national system to meet the needs of businesses, enterprises, and people.

2. Continue to develop the telecommunications sector by promoting investments in digital connectivity infrastructures, including antenna stations, submarine fiber optic networks, backbone fiber optic networks, and distributed fiber optic cables to expand the coverage of telecommunications services to reduce the digital divide between the national and sub-national levels and among the population, especially promote the connection of fiber optic networks for all cities, districts/*Khans*

and communes/*Sangkats* by 2027, and expand the scope of telecommunications services in the areas with economic and tourism potentials, as well as encourage operators to focus on improving their service quality.

3. Develop digital platforms and digital enabler to accelerate the development and digitalization of public and private institutions by providing a common enterprise architecture that allows them to digitalize quickly without worrying about user safety, system security, and data security, as well as help increase the number of system users. The digital platforms and system will also accelerate the modernization of the digital sector in a timely manner to meet the needs of businesses, enterprises, and people in an innovative, efficient, and sustainable manner.

4. Continue to build digital human capital for digital transformation, focusing on four mechanisms: (1) digital leadership training for leaders and civil servants in all ministries-institutions and sub-national administrations to enable them to lead the works of institutional transformation and promote the deliveries of digital public services to the people. In order to achieve the digitalization process, all public ministries-institutions must establish digital transformation units; (2) provide digital-skills trainings to existing human resources of the private sector, as well as encourage and engage in providing trainings in digital technologies to corporate staff members; (3) promote education in digital technologies at schools and universities, turning students the digital resources for the nation; (4) promote dissemination and adoption of digital technologies to reduce the digital divide between people in urban and rural areas; (5) increase the effective and efficient capacity of the digital transformation through national and international cooperation, as well as enhancement of research and innovation on new technologies.

5. Promote the implementation of Cambodia Digital Economy and Society Policy Framework 2021-2035, to create a digital ecosystem that is resilient to various crises, and timely responsive to the development of digital technologies based on three pillars, namely digital citizens, digital government and digital business; and promote the implementation of Cambodia Digital Government Policy 2022-2035, which focuses on the vision of "**building a digital government to improve the quality of life and confidence of the people through better public services**".

### 13. Preservation and Development of Culture and Religion

#### Preservation and Development of Culture

1. Maintain, protect, and preserve the national cultural heritage to ensure safety, harmony, and sustainable progress in line with the slogan "**Cambodia! The Kingdom of Culture.**" Continue to propose the enrollment of Cambodia's cultural and historical heritages on the World Heritage List, the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, the World Memory and the UNESCO Innovative Urban Network; update the National Cultural Inventory List by creating a national database, develop legal mechanisms, regulations and work plans that respond to the realities of the management of both tangible and intangible cultural heritage; prepare appropriate and timely measures to protect, prevent, maintain and repair national cultural heritage in danger or at risks of disappearance; strengthen mechanisms to reclaim Cambodian artifacts stolen and illegally occupied, both inside and outside the country, as well as raise awareness and participation of the public in the preservation and protection of national cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible.

2. Promote national cultural values by continuing to raise the awareness, attention and participation of the masses, especially youth, women and children in the field of culture through education and training based on the principle of "**Education for Culture, and Culture for Education**"; promote education, disseminate and integrate cultural knowledge to the people, especially local youth and communities to increase participation in the preservation and protection of national culture, enhancement of social morality, maintenance of national traditions and customs, keeping an orderly society and reducing immoral activities.

3. Continue to strengthen and expand the scope of national cultural dissemination through performances, organizing festivals and exhibitions; strengthen and expand the role of museums as well

as other cultural sites; continue to study, research, and disseminate national cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible; preserve and protect indigenous cultures; and promote Cambodian film industry.

4. Increase support for artists, producers, organizations, associations and entrepreneurs engaged in the field of culture; promote the expansion of markets for cultural products and the labor market in the field of culture and the arts; incentivize and promote the creation of new works in the fields of music, film, performing arts, handicrafts, fine arts, traditional weaving and design; promote the organization of innovative works in the field of arts and culture; and launch the promotion of Cambodian cultural products.

### Preservation and Development of Religion

1. Respect for freedom of beliefs and religious observance; promote Buddhism as the state religion; and support the observance of other religions in the Kingdom of Cambodia. Strive to make Buddhist monasteries and other religious shrines and churches a center of spiritual life that actively participates in the development of the national society in terms of culture, education, health, social affairs, and social morality.

2. Strengthen harmony between or among all religions and races in the Kingdom of Cambodia; prevent the beneficial exploitation of religions; and oppose the discrimination and division between the people caused by differences in faith and religious practices, with the aim of transforming the potential of all religions into a single, powerful national unifying force in order to maintain peace, national unity, and promote socio-economic development.

3. Continue to strengthen and expand Buddhist education from primary to higher education and post-graduate education. Preserve the heritage, tradition, and customs in the field of Buddhism; train human resources in the field of religion; equip Buddhist monks with knowledge, skills, and virtues, with strict adherence to laws, the Buddha's teachings and permits. Promote the research and translation of Pali scriptures and Buddha's teachings from foreign languages into Khmer; continue to publish books, ordinances, bulletins of *Moha Sangkranta*, history of Buddhist monasteries throughout the country, books on roles, duties, and ethics of the chief monks and deputies, heads of monasteries, Achars (religious ceremony masters), as well as books on ritual events, Khmer traditions and so on, and continue to enhance the training of human resources of other religions.

## 14. Capacity Building and Human Resource Development

### Development of Education, Science, Technology and Vocational Training

1. Continue to promote the development of quality human resources in all areas with proper balancing between knowledge, skills, attitude, physical fitness, patriotism, and humanity to meet the needs of socio-economic development by enhancing quality, equitable and inclusive education, and increasing the opportunity for lifelong learning for all.

2. Improve the quality of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) to respond to the labor market by focusing on the quality of TVET at all levels in both public and private educational institutions; enhancing capacity, qualifications, honors and dignity of teachers and technical trainers; continuing to develop standard curriculum and textbooks; strengthening teaching and learning methods to be in line with the new trends; strengthening school inspections and management; strengthening close relationship between schools and students' parents; strengthening all types of examinations; conducting national and international student assessment tests; and increasing research and innovation in higher education.

3. Continue to implement the national policy on TVET by focusing on the development of a knowledgeable and skilled workforce to support national economic development, and to retain national competitiveness by promoting the implementation of skills training programs, reskilling and upskilling programs, programs for enhancement of productivity and efficiency management; mutual recognition of skills in ASEAN, and recognition of past and current competencies of workers, employees and migrant workers to ensure that **"one citizen has at least one skill in life."**

4. Continue to enhance the quality of TVET by expediting the implementation of training programs based on competencies and teaching methods in the context of the IR 4.0; continuing to invest in infrastructures for TVET institutions; and strengthening public-private partnerships to link students' research outcomes with actual industrial use and production.

5. Continue implementing education reforms by focusing on 8 priorities, namely: 1). School reform programs, 2). Teachers' development, 3). Digital education, 4). Science and technology education, 5). Enhancement of school health, 6). Youth development, 7). Increase of the number of the Centers of Excellence in higher education, and 8). System building and capacity development.

6. Continue to increase the number of kindergartens in all forms, expand primary schools to all villages, increase the number of lower secondary schools to all communes based on the existing potential primary schools, increase the number of high schools in each district/*Khans*, enhance the management of high schools with resources, increase the number of the new generation schools at all levels, strengthen the management of community learning centers, and create lifelong learning centers. Build new school facilities and renovate dilapidated school buildings; and build science laboratories, libraries, and computer labs, and provide clean water and toilets. Reduce parents' expenses; increase the operation budget for educational institutions; deploy teachers to all schools; and increase the number of dormitories in higher educational institutions.

7. Promote the values and honor teaching professions through the reform of teachers training institutions, the annual celebration of Teachers' Day, the continuing increase of salaries for teachers to improve their working and living conditions, regular professional development, implementation of the teaching career paths, and the annual presentation of the **Samdech Techo Awards** to the best schools, school principals and teachers, and teachers in Khmer language and mathematics for early primary education.

### Promotion of People's Health

1. Strengthen the protection of people's health by continuing to develop health sector to **"ensure that all people live safely and healthily on the strong foundation of peace"** with a focus on two main goals: 1). Protecting citizens' lives from the risk of outbreaks of the Covid-19 pandemic and other deadly infectious diseases that may emerge at present and in the future; and 2). Improving health and well-being of the people, especially the poor, and vulnerable people, such as women, children, adolescents, the elderly, people with disabilities through strengthening resilience of health security systems and modernizing health care delivery systems towards achieving universal health coverage (UHC) in Cambodia by the end of 2030.

2. Continue to accelerate the implementation of the Health Strategic Plan and the Cambodian SDG Framework 2016-2030 by strengthening the management of health system, especially the promotion of health care services with quality, safety, effectiveness and equity for the people throughout the country, focusing mainly on reducing the morbidity and mortality of mothers, infants and children, the morbidity and mortality of the population caused by infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases and major public health problems, as well as strengthen health system through: 1). Strengthening and expanding the health care system with quality, safety, effectiveness and equity; and 2). Expanding the coverage of the social health protection system to reduce the financial barriers to accessing health care services, especially for the poor and the low-income households.

3. Strengthen the resilience of the health security system, with a focus on strengthening the health system's readiness to respond effectively and in a timely manner to the recurrence of the Covid-19 pandemic or the outbreaks of other infectious diseases and emergencies or threats to public health through the implementation of the following main activities:

- Continue to provide Covid-19 vaccinations, both the basic and booster doses, to all citizens, free of charge,
- Facilitate easy access for people to quality and effective Covid-19 test kits and Covid-19

medicines in the market at a reasonable price, as well as provide technical support and counseling services for the treatment of Covid-19 patients with mild symptoms at home,

- Promote health-related educational activities and continue to implement the "**three do's and three don'ts**" measures and other necessary measures,
- Prepare adequate resources for health care facilities, especially for all hospitals nationwide, such as buildings, hospital beds, doctors, staff, medicines, medical equipment, and supplies, including first aid kits, equipment for laboratories, and ambulances to save patients' lives in a timely and effective manner, in case of recurrence of the Covid-19 pandemic or outbreaks of other infectious diseases,
- Manage and reduce public health hazards caused by unsafe food, immunity to antibiotics, improper use of pesticides, environmental health risks, and other catastrophic disasters, and
- Prevent the importation of new variants of Covid-19 or other infectious diseases to Cambodia through conducting proper quarantine and safety measures at border crossings and enhancing cooperation with countries in the region and the world to manage infectious diseases and public health threats in accordance with the international health regulations (2005).

4. Promote the modernization of health care system to achieve UHC in Cambodia by the end of 2030, with the focus on:

- Promoting reproductive health, reducing maternal, infant and child mortality, improving malnutrition, reducing morbidity and mortality from major infectious diseases, such as HIV, AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, and infectious/chronic diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure, cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases, and reducing other major risks to public health, such as mental illness, drug and alcohol abuses, unsafe food, injuries and disabilities caused by traffic accidents, environmental health risks and so on,
- Providing essential health care services to the public at all healthcare facilities, improving education aimed at raising public awareness and knowledge in preventing risks of being contracted with diseases and in taking the responsibilities for personal health; as well as at rectifying inappropriate behaviors in seeking health care services when facing health issues or illness,
- Providing quality and effective primary health care services in accordance with technical standards and customs of the people at health centers/posts, and the deliveries of mobile health services at the village-commune level in rural areas; and providing innovative health care in the entire health care system to ensure that people have access to comprehensive health care services and quality continuing care services, including preventive services, health improvement education, diagnosis, treatment, care and rehabilitation at health centers, city-district-*Khan* referral hospitals, capital city-provincial hospitals and national hospitals, in accordance with technical standards and professional ethics,
- Continuing to provide free primary health care services at health centers, and preventive services, diagnosis, treatment, care and rehabilitation services, free of charge, in public hospitals throughout the country to the poor and vulnerable people, such as the people with disabilities, orphans and the elderly, and other target groups through the Health Equity Fund (HEF) program, and providing safe prenatal and postpartum, antenatal care services and disease prevention vaccinations, child development monitoring and nutrition for pregnant women and children under two years of age in poor families under the subsidy program in the expanded coverage of social security system in health care, to reduce the people's financial risks in accessing health care services, and
- Building public-private partnerships to promote prevention, treatment and health care services based on the principle of interest for public health and businesses, focusing on the

deliveries of health services, health-related human resource capacity building, and the use of digital health technologies, and ICTs in health sector.

### Strengthening of Food System

1. Continue to promote a healthy diet to break the intergenerational cycle of malnutrition and make a healthy, safe, accessible, and affordable diet for Cambodian people.
2. Continue to strengthen the resilience of employment and resilience of food system in responding to crises and challenges through taking actions to reduce poverty, strengthening of resilience of stakeholders, and strengthening of employment networks and other infrastructures.
3. Continue to strengthen governance to make food system more inclusive by continuing to organize dialogues; enhancing coordination and cooperation with all relevant stakeholders in the country, region, and the world, to make food system more resilient to vulnerable circumstances and crises, and more responsive to consumer needs; and protecting the environment and reducing the impact of climate change by developing food system towards green development.

## 15. Development of Jobs and Social Protection System

### Development of Jobs and Employment

1. Continue to implement the National Employment Policy to retain and create jobs, to increase opportunities for decent and high productivity jobs for the people and ensure the harmonious industrial relations in workplace, as well as to promote the development of skills on a regular basis.
2. Continue to improve the living standards of workers by continuing to increase minimum wage and other benefits, examining the possibility of expanding the scope of the minimum wage to other sectors, continuing to alleviate the burdens of workers by further expanding the affordable electricity network and clean water to their rental accommodation and promoting the implementation of the law on special leases, continuing the extension of tax exemption on workers' benefits and adjustment of taxable minimum wage level, and ensuring bimonthly salary payment and seniority pay every six months.
3. Strengthen the quality and efficiency of labor inspection by continuing to modernize labor inspection system through ICTs, strengthen and expand inter-institutional inspection mechanisms, conduct labor inspection based on risk classification, establish standard operating procedure (SOP) for labor inspection and medical labor inspection, regularly assess the status of labor inspectors and medical labor inspectors, and support 'Better Factories Cambodia' projects.
4. Strengthen harmonious industrial relations by enhancing the quality and efficiency in resolving labor disputes; strengthen the practices of rights and freedoms of professional organizations in accordance with relevant labor laws and international labor conventions; promote the representation of professional organizations; promote social dialogues and tripartite mechanisms; support and develop the capacity of leaders of professional organizations, workers' representatives and individuals in charge of human resource management in factories and enterprises; develop SOP for labor dispute mediation, strengthen the capacity and provide support for labor dispute mediation officers, develop code of ethics and internal regulations for labor dispute mediation officers; strengthen mechanisms for addressing workers' strikes and demonstrations; introduce labor court; and create a national competition program under the theme **"one enterprise is one community of peace"** by establishing a national mechanism to fully protect the rights and dignity of workers in general, especially workers in the garment and construction sectors.
5. Strengthen the implementation of occupational safety and health by further improving the quality and safety of workers' transportation; reducing work accidents; promoting hygiene and safety in workplace; promoting proper implementation of SOP for the operation and management of factories and enterprises; managing, monitoring and evaluating occupational diseases; and promoting the proper establishment of affordable accommodation, proper dining areas or canteens in factories, industrial parks, and SEZs.



6. Continue to strengthen labor market governance and increase domestic job-seeking services by strengthening the National Employment Agency and increasing cooperation with communes and relevant partners in disseminating labor market information; and strengthen foreign labor management mechanisms and prevent illegal cross-border labor trafficking by requiring foreigners, in accordance with international conventions on combating crossing-border labor trafficking, to have proper employment contracts and work permits before entering the country to seek or perform their jobs in Cambodia.

7. Strengthen the implementation of labor migration policies by strengthening and enhancing cooperation with friendly countries to open more labor markets; protect and promote the rights, interests, and dignity of Cambodian workers; and promote the mobility of the social security system of Cambodian workers when they return home; assist the children of Cambodian migrant workers in receiving a proper education in the host countries; and support the families of workers in the event of disasters;

8. Continue to support and develop employment for the people by providing basic knowledge on entrepreneurship, industrial relations, and job performance for high school students, as well as providing technicalities related to agro-processing and production to people in the community.

9. Promote the roles, honors and dignity of entrepreneurs and workers in the informal economy and support the informal economy through the development of incentive policies and facilitation for enterprise registration and other necessary applications.

## **Development of Social Protection System**

### **A. Social Assistance System**

1. Increase social interventions through the National Social Assistance Fund based on the principles of inclusiveness, efficiency, financial sustainability, and life cycle, and focus on establishing volunteer social workers (social service workforce) to expand capacity to provide protection and emergency care to the poor, vulnerable people, and victims inflicted by disasters.

2. Continue to expand programs to address the issues of homeless people and people with mental illness so that they can receive social services and rehabilitation services for mental health, and to assist them in their integration into the communities and families. Strengthen the management of risky cross-border labor migration and enhance services of labor centers near borders.

3. Encourage the establishment of humanitarian programs to contribute to the development of the poor communities and to build housing for the poor and vulnerable households, and people with disabilities, in accordance with the spirit of the culture of sharing.

4. Continue to fight against human trafficking and to increase assistance to the victims of various forms of trafficking, such as illegal migrant labors, cross-border marriages and so on.

5. Continue to assist the poor and vulnerable households through the strengthening of HEF, social assistance programs and family package programs including 1). Cash support for pregnant women, children under two years of age, people aged 60 and older, people with disabilities, and people with HIVs in the poor households, and the provision of school meals and scholarships to students of the poor households from grades 1 to 12; 2). Creating employment programs for the poor and vulnerable households; 3). Setting up a bridging program that allows individuals to become professional social workers to help provide social services in the communities; and 4). Exploring the possibility of providing cash support to the youth of the poor households under vocational training programs.

6. Continue to enhance the protection and promotion of welfare and rights of people with disabilities through re-identification, the improvement of labor rehabilitation services, vocational training, the provision of job-seeking services to people with disabilities, and support for the poor people with disability in the communities. Continue to promote the employment of people with disabilities to work in public institutions, private companies, and civil society, in accordance with laws and regulations related to the rights of people with disabilities. Establish a national center for people with disabilities to bring together standard services for them.

7. Continue to implement the National Policy for the Elderly by continuing to promote the implementation of community-based active elderly development programs and family-based elderly care programs. Strengthen and support the activities of the elderly's associations in communes/*Sangkats* and encourage the establishment of humanitarian programs to help the elderly. Enhance the organization, management, and process of delivering services to the elderly, in order to train related service providers for this purpose.

8. Continue to promote the works related to youth rehabilitation and juvenile justice programs through the prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation of drug addicted victims in the centers, and facilitate their integration into the communities, as well as encourage and support treatment and rehabilitation programs for victims of drugs abuses in their communities and households.

### **B. Social Security System**

1. Continue to strengthen the social security system by strengthening the National Social Security Fund of the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training, the National Social Security Fund for Civil Servants, the National Fund for Veterans, Fund for People with Disabilities, the HEF and the *Kantha Bopha* Foundation.

2. Continue to strengthen technology-based mechanisms for the pension system and other benefits to provide social security fund to former civil servants, veterans, as well as their families and dependents in a timely manner.

3. Continue to implement policies that require employers to pay in full the workers' contribution to social security for occupational risks and health care and continue to study the possibility of launching and operationalizing unemployment benefit scheme.

4. Continue to implement state's policy in paying contributions to social security fund on behalf of civil servants for occupational risks, health care and pensions, and paying contributions on behalf of former civil servants and veterans, as well as their dependents to social security fund for health care.

5. Continue to strengthen the quality and efficiency of health services in health facilities that are in partnership with the National Social Security Fund.

6. Develop policies and legal regulations to expand the scope of social security fund to cover entrepreneurs and workers in the informal economy, and volunteers.

7. Study the possibility of using the National Social Security Fund to invest in low-risk projects to provide additional benefits to members.

8. Promote discussions and agreements with countries to exchange social security data related to pensions to implement the mobility of social security system from one country to another.

## **16. Improvements of the Status of Women and Children, Development of Youth and Sports**

### **Improvements of the Status of Women and Children**

1. Continue to pay attention to promoting the values of Cambodian women in society, promoting the status, roles, and rights of women in society, and eliminating all kinds of discriminations or discriminative behaviors towards women and vulnerable people, to ensure gender equality and inclusivity in development.

2. Promote gender mainstreaming in national policy frameworks and programs, including public administration reform programs, PFM reform programs, decentralization and de-concentration reform programs, legal and judicial reform programs, National Social Protection Policy Framework, climate change and green development programs.

3. Promote women's participation and leadership in the public, private and political spheres. Advance women's empowerment in the economy through the development of women's entrepreneurship,

support for women in leading and managing micro, SMEs, promotion of knowledge and skills, promotion of the women's family economy and welfare economy, protection of women's rights in formal and informal economic activities and promoting programs for family and work life balance.

4. Prevent all forms of violence against women and girls through the implementation of the National Action Plan on the Prevention of Violence against Women, expanding the scope of victim assistance services, and strengthening the implementation of relevant laws and regulations. Promote social morals and values of Khmer women and families through continuing implementation of parenting programs, positive child education, expansion of culture of non-violence, and the building of a happy family in society.

5. Improve the safety system for the well-being and rights of children, especially those who lost their parents or have guardians left for long-term migration, by promoting education and firm implementation of the International Convention on the Rights of the Child to ensure their four fundamental rights, namely **"the right to life, the right to development, the right to protection and the right to participation."** Focus on educating children to become **"good children, good students, and good friends,"** who will eventually become future good citizens;

6. Strengthen the implementation of alternative care policies for children, care for children by birth family, relatives, and adoptive families in the communities to prevent unnecessary separation of children from their families; increase quality control for childcare services in public centers and those of NGOs; as well as explore the possibility of establishing daytime childcare centers in all forms. Strengthen child protection, prevent, and respond to violence against children in the birth family, relatives, adoptive families, and in the communities. Promote the development of child protection laws and the firm implementation of international conventions and applicable laws to find good families in and outside of the country for children; prevent all forms of child exploitation and prevent the most serious forms of child labor and forced labor.

### Development of Youth and Sports

1. Develop youth in all aspects and forms including: 1). Youth development program, both hard and soft skills, with a particular emphasis on the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and leadership development; 2). Promotion of good relations between and among youth, as well as the values of friendship; 3). Creation of platforms that will help youth develop resilience, maturity, and critical thinking skills; 4). Promotion of the Scout Movement, Children's Council, Youth Council, and Red Cross Youth so that youth can actively participate in social development and expand the sense of humanity and responsibility for themselves, their families and society; and 5). Nurturing of youth to become good citizens with skills, character, physical fitness, intellect, moral values, and patriotism necessary to actively participate in building, defending, and developing their country and society; promotion of universal citizenship education so that youth can become human resources with knowledge, skills, discipline, ethics, good behaviors, positive thinking, with strong love for their families, cultures, traditions, and country, which are desires of parents, society and employers.

2. Promote science and technology camps, improve the implementation of education programs on entrepreneurship, expand the youth volunteer movement in schools and communities, and strengthen the provision of career counseling programs, youth education orientations and the provision of job market information to youth in schools and communities to enhance their roles in economy.

3. Gradually delegate responsibilities to youth at all levels to increase their participation in leadership, socio-economic development, and the protection of all achievements of the nation. Create conducive conditions for youth to fully participate in community and institutional work. Encourage the inclusion of youth representatives in national and sub-national commissions or councils to promote the rights of youth to participate, express opinions, and make informed decisions. Promote understanding of youth needs in development policies and plans across all sectors and levels.

4. Continue to promote sports as a national priority, improve people's health and well-being, physical fitness, willpower, perseverance, discipline, teamwork spirit, creativity, and hard work. This will help achieve better results in international sporting competitions and ensure that sports thrive in accordance with the slogan **"Sport: Live Harmoniously In Society Under Peace."**

5. Promote the implementation of in-depth reforms in the field of physical education and sports by strengthening the management of physical education and sports and strengthening existing mechanisms for the development of physical education and sports. This includes developing sports infrastructures, training human resources, and providing incentives. These are all key factors in improving the efficiency and quality of athlete readiness, and the quality of competitions at all levels. This can be achieved by enhancing national sports federations and promoting the practice of physical education and sports programs during school hours and after school activities.

6. Encourage and promote physical education and sports culture to help people understand the importance of regular physical exercise and sports for both health and social and cultural activities, and for eliminating socially unacceptable behaviors so that all people can live in a civilized and harmonious society, based on the principle **"everyone should participate in at least one sport in their lifetime."**

## **17. National Defense, and Protection of Security, Social Order and Safety**

### **National Defense**

1. Strengthen the people's foundation for national defense, with the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) at its core to ensure the protection of peace, independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity in all circumstances. It will also enable our people to live in harmony within our own territory and enjoy full opportunities for socio-economic development.

2. Continue to promote the reforms of the RCAF; human resources enhancement through training; and the capacity building of the military through moral and material supports, techniques, military equipment, logistics, and finance. The objectives are to ensure that the RCAF is modernized to respond to the advancement of modern technologies and military innovations in the region and the world, as well as to ensure the sustained development of the defense sector. On this basis, ensure the building of the armed forces that are loyal to the motherland and are fully capable of defending territorial integrity, protecting the Royal Government born from the will of the people through elections, and protecting all achievements of the nation.

3. Develop, strengthen, and expand the RCAF as a major force for the protection of national security, socio-economic development, infrastructure construction, protection of natural resources, clearance of mines and unexploded ordnances, and rescue operations in the event of disasters, such as floods, drought, pandemics and so on.

4. Strengthen the national defense strategy; ensure strong protection of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Cambodia in all domains, including land, air, water, islands, coasts, contiguous zones, exclusive economic zones, and continental shelves. Build strategic road networks along the border, develop villages, communes, and communities along the border; and attach the importance to the establishment and development of military historical sites along the border to strengthen long-term border defense strategies, which will provide a solid foundation for the defense of territorial integrity, the building of the border areas of peace, friendship, cooperation and development, as well as for transforming the former battlefields into a production, market and tourism zones.

5. Build military historical sites, monuments and memorials of the Win-Win Policy at various historical sites that will preserve the symbolic evidence and achievements to instill the spirit of **"gratitude, harmony and participation,"** and to provide lessons for future generations to remember and be grateful to **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen**, the founding father and

operator of the Win-Win Policy, which brought about peace and national unity, complete territorial unity, and honor the noble deeds of the patriotic combatants who heroically sacrificed for the motherland.

6. Ensure the effective implementation of policies for improving the lives of soldiers, soldiers with disabilities, retired soldiers, soldiers losing working capacity, families of deceased soldiers and veterans. Increase political and psychological education in the army to strengthen their will and make them a strong, disciplined, competent, and morally upright defense force that is born from the people, respects and loves, and serves the people.

7. Foster stronger ties between border military units and ministries, institutions, private companies, civil society, and other social groups to enhance the bond between the people and the army. Increase public awareness—particularly among students and youth—of history, national pride, and civic responsibilities, patriotism, and a resolute commitment to defending the motherland.

8. Strengthen defense cooperation with other countries, in accordance with the Constitution, national and international laws, to expand Cambodia's defense capabilities, strengthen its national sovereignty and promote its active participation in the cause of peace, stability and prosperity in the region and the world. Continue to send Cambodian troops to participate in peacekeeping missions under the United Nations' umbrella in various countries in the world.

### **Protection of Security, Social Order and Safety**

1. Protect peace and strengthen national security with the Cambodian National Police as the core and a joint force that people can rely on, by improving the effectiveness in preventing terrorism, transnational crimes of all kinds, especially money laundering and terrorism financing, financing for the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and all forms of human trafficking; as well as by contributing to the defense of national sovereignty and territorial integrity; continuing to promote cooperation with neighboring countries to maintain borders of peace, friendship, cooperation and development, and suppressing any use of Cambodian territory as a base to conduct activities against neighboring countries.

2. Maintain the stability of internal security; ensure normalcy of national institutions; and protect the safety for national and international dignitaries, as well as national political events and regional and international events in Cambodia; prevent the formation of illegal armed forces or the establishment of separatist zones, and oppose all attempts, which are contrary to the principles of democracy, to overthrow the legitimate government.

3. Continue to promote the implementation of **"Safe Village-Commune-Sangkat Policy,"** which is a roadmap for more effective measures to prevent and combat crimes.

4. Continue to promote and strengthen the effectiveness of campaigns against illegal drugs, as well as the rehabilitation of drug addicts, and seek and implement appropriate and effective measures to prevent the use of illegal drugs, in order to improve the people's well-being.

5. Strengthen and improve the livelihoods, health, education, and vocational training for prisoners, and continue to implement pardon and commutation measures. Additionally, promote the implementation of release on bail for prisoners who have acknowledged their guilt and adjusted their behaviors, as well as promote the implementation of community service sentences for prisoners who commit minor offenses, in order to promote social integration and participation in duties and works that benefit the society.

6. Enhance the capacity of administrative police posts by continuing to strengthen the virtues, ethics, discipline, dignity, order, and working performance behaviors when providing services to the people with professionalism, conscience and loyalty; continuing to provide both material and moral support, and incentives to the administrative policy posts' officers and village guards, who are close

to the locals, and serves as a crucial force to rally people's participation in the implementation of the **"Safe Village-Commune-Sangkat Policy."**

7. Strengthen the management of any entry/exit to the Kingdom of Cambodia, the management of foreigners' residency and occupations/employment, and the modernization of immigration management data system, in order to prevent illegal intrusion, residence, and occupation by foreigners.

8. Strengthen the implementation of procedures for granting visas and temporary residence permits to prevent foreign criminals from using Cambodia as 'safe haven' to conduct illegal activities.

9. Consider revising the new immigration law to be in line with the country's development status, in order to ensure efficient immigration management.

10. Promote the implementation of the National Strategic Plan for Identification 2017-2026 to achieve the expected outcomes by establishing the National Center for Population Data Management and be prepared to use the individual identification number as a special identification number for the people for their entire lives. Promote the development of laws on civil status, statistics (birth, death and so on), and identification, as well as other relevant legal documents. Continue to strengthen the efficiency in providing identification services to the people, in an easier, faster and less costly manner.

11. Continue to promote the reform of the Cambodian National Police by building capacity for institutions and human resources; put more emphasis to the lives and wellbeing of the national police force; and put forth supportive policies for police officers who are retired, deceased, sacrificed, and disabled, due to the cause of national security protection.

12. Continue to strengthen bilateral and multilateral cooperation in regional and international frameworks to enhance the effectiveness of the fight against transnational organized crimes, such as drugs, human trafficking, cybercrimes and so on. Meanwhile, continue to establish the "White" villages and communes along the borders.

### **Elimination of Landmines and Unexploded Ordnances**

1. Promote the implementation of the **"Samdech Techo Project for Mine Action (STP-MA)"** under the theme **"Providing Safe Ground, Creating Smiles"** to eliminate all landmines and unexploded ordnances by 2025.

2. Expedite the implementation of the Mine-Free Cambodia 2025 Fund and mobilize assistance and cooperation with development partners in regard to mine action, in order to implement the demining projects in accordance with the National Mine Action Strategy 2018-2025.

### **18. Strengthening and Expansion of Friendship Ties and Cooperation with other Countries, and Deepening into Regional and Global Integration**

1. Continue to protect Cambodia's core interests by defending and strictly adhering to the Constitution, and continue pursuing proactive diplomacy that ensures Cambodia's sovereignty, territorial integrity, independence, and due recognition of the aspiration and necessity to maintain peace, stability, and socio-economic development. Galvanize and utilize joint efforts of the Royal Government, the legislative institutions, and organizations of the mass population, to counter against any interference to Cambodia's internal affairs, as well as to protect the interests of Cambodian people abroad, and the nation's honor and prestige.

2. Continue to pursue an independent rule-based foreign policy, abiding by the norms, objectives and principles of the United Nations Charter and the ASEAN Charter. Continue to pursue a soft diplomacy, yet firm, flexible, and balanced, in line with strategic changes, and regional and global geopolitics. Restore relations with traditional partners, while establishing further relations and cooperation with new partners, with a special attention to countries in Central America, Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, and Central Asia. Nurture, strengthen and deepen relations with friendly neighbors and countries in the region.

3. More actively participate in regional and global efforts to maintain and strengthen peace, stability, and prosperity; continue to fight against the adverse impact of climate change, transnational crimes, terrorism, infectious diseases and so on. Continue to contribute to the United Nations' peacekeeping missions, and mines and unexploded ordnances clearing operations. Contribute to the strengthening of multilateralism and actively participate in regional and international forums. Leverage the positive momentum gained from the successes of Cambodia's ASEAN Chairmanship to enhance Cambodia's roles within the region and the international community through the increasingly important roles of ASEAN in promoting dialogues, consultations, and coordination. Continue to act as facilitator for negotiations, for the search of dialogue channels, and for the pursuit of political resolutions, as Cambodia does not seek any other individual interest, save peace, stability, and reconciliation.

4. Strengthen economic ties with old and new partners; promote investment attractiveness; search new markets for Cambodia's products and its exporting industries; promote tourism and Cambodian culture based on economic potentials and the Angkor historical heritages; and promote the implementation of FTAs, as well as bilateral and multilateral cooperation mechanisms to support domestic production and economic growth. Continue to seek financial resources from partner countries to contribute to the building of both soft and hard infrastructures; and seek scholarships to develop human resources, which are key to further Cambodia's economic development and income as it is progressing towards the status of an upper middle-income country by 2030.

5. Continue to focus on the training of human resources in the field of diplomacy, which requires time, ways and means, intellectual resources, and appropriate incentives to retain and attract capable and talented people.

#### **IV. Six Priority Policy Programs to Be Implemented from 2023**

In addition to the strategic priorities above, the RGC sets out six priority policy programs to be implemented from 2023 as follows:

**Program 1:** Providing healthcare services towards the universal health coverage (UHC) program by starting from: 1). providing healthcare services to about 450,000 at-risk households, consisting of more than 1.5 million people, through health equity fund (HEF), and 2). expanding healthcare services under Social Security Funds for both workers and civil servants, which together covers over 3 million family members and dependents, starting on a voluntarily basis. In sum, both programs will benefit approximately 7.4 million people through Social Security Funds for healthcare services.

**Program 2:** Providing nationwide vocational and technical trainings to youth from the poor and at-risk households. The trainings will include over 1.5 million students studying at level-1 certificate of technical and professional program at any state-owned vocational training centers. The students will waive tuition fees and receive stipends.

**Program 3:** Institutionalizing national social security program for the poor households, vulnerable members of the poor households, and at-risk households during economic crisis and any emergencies in order to support and provide timely and systematic protection to the people across the country, especially the poor, vulnerable and at-risk households, in accordance with the actual situation of the crisis or emergency. The program will cover over 4.3 million people.

**Program 4:** Enacting and promoting the implementation of the development strategy for the informal economy in order to boost its participation in the formal economy and to enable them to receive benefits from the formal social protection system through: 1). Providing protection and creating of enabling environment for business and trade, as well as providing vocational and technical trainings to companies and micro, small and medium enterprises, and 2). Providing social protection to self-employed individuals in the informal economy by initially focusing on providing healthcare services under the HEF.

**Program 5:** Triggering coordination mechanisms and financing programs, aiming at promoting production, marketability, and price stability for agricultural products through allocating a specific amount of budget, starting from USD100 million and more, if needed. The program objectives are to provide timely intervention through schemes such as purchasing farmers' agricultural products, and price stabilization for agricultural products during harvesting period, especially rice, mango, *Pailin* longans, cashew nuts, cassava, corn and other products.

**Program 6:** Assigning technical staff to provide agricultural services in communes /*Sangkats*, where agricultural activities are active, throughout the country in order to promote agricultural productivity and help poor farmers to improve their agricultural products. The Royal Government of the Seventh Legislature will also focus on establishing farmers associations in rural areas to help uphold farmers' production and increase their bargaining power.



## CONCLUSION

The RGC submits this political platform to the National Assembly and, through the National Assembly, to all compatriots. It presents the RGC's clear objectives, nationalist ideals, and unwavering commitments on serving the nation and citizens in every situation. It projects the RGC's vision and policy objectives for every sector in the course of building and defending our motherland toward the glorious future, especially transforming into an advanced country of the region, in line with the will and aspiration of the Cambodian people.

The RGC requests the support from the National Assembly and, through the National Assembly, the active participation from all compatriots in the implementation of this political platform in order to build a forceful collective movement under a principle of national solidarity with dynamism toward successfully achieving the greater national interests. In this regard, the RGC will launch and assure the successful implementation of the **Pentagon Strategy-Phase 1 Year 2023-2028 for Employment, Growth, Equity, Efficiency, and Sustainability: Building Foundations to realize Cambodia Vision 2050**, which is **the Socio-economic Policy Agenda** under this **Political Platform** in the Seventh Legislature of the National Assembly.

The RGC would like to express the deepest respect and gratitude to compatriots of every corner, who have conviction on the reality of revival and progress of the nation, which is the foundation of socio-economic development process; and who have given faith and huge supports to the RGC at all stages. With support from the people, strong will and talents, as well as our experiences and capabilities, the RGC commits to mobilize all efforts for successfully carrying out historic mission of the Seventh Legislature of the National Assembly; on the path of concrete peace and robust development; toward progress, prosperity, richness of virtue and confidence, high sense of responsibility, strong solidarity and national unity; and aims to create new and greater achievements of all fields for the nation and the people.



