



Kingdom of Cambodia
Nation Religion King

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport

38e CONFERENCE GENERALE DE L'UNESCO

DISCOURS DU CHEF DE LA DELEGATION

DU GOUVERNEMENT ROYAL DU CAMBODGE Son Excellence HANG CHUON Naron

Ministre de l'Education, de la Jeunesse et des Sports

Discours bilingue de politique générale

Mr. President of the General Conference,

Mr. President of the Executive Board,

Madame Director-General of UNESCO, Excellencies, dear colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, I would like to congratulate H.E. Stanley Simataa on his assumption as the Chair of the 38th General Conference and to thank H.E. Hao Ping for his dedicated work as the Chair of the 37th Conference. I would also like to thank H.E. Mohamed Sameh Amr for his commendable efforts as Chair of the Executive Board.

It is my pleasure to congratulate the Director General of UNESCO for her report and the draft program and budget submitted to us. I wish to share with you the efforts of the Royal Government of Cambodia during the last two years under the leadership of the Prime Minister **Samdech Techo HUN Sen**. The Kingdom appreciates the reforms engaged by the Director General to transform UNESCO into a more innovative, performant organization ready to implement the new Sustainable Development Goals Agenda.

Education:

On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia and as Minister of Education, Youth and Sports, I wish to congratulate and thank UNESCO and all stakeholders for the Framework for Action Education 2030 adopted by the High-Level Meeting on Education on 4th November 2015. This was a milestone event. I reaffirm Cambodia's strong commitment to the SDG #4, the Incheon Declaration and the new Framework for Action Education 2030 Agenda. This important Education Agenda fully reflects the education reform efforts that Cambodia has undertaken during the last two years and in the years ahead.

I am proud to inform the international community that the Cambodia has successfully attained the **Education for All** and **Education related millennium development goals**. With 98.5% enrolment rates, we have achieved universal access to primary education with gender parity. We are now focusing our efforts in improving the quality of education, eliminating all forms of exclusion and marginalization.

We have launched reform initiatives, focusing on teachers, national examination reforms, review of curriculum and textbooks, school inspection and learning assessment, school environment and quality assurance to address the skill mismatch and promote economic diversification and to ensure that the basic and higher education are relevant for the development aspirations of Cambodia. We have started implementation of an ambitious Teacher Policy Action Plan to make teaching an attractive profession, training and professional development of teachers, career pathways, in-service qualifications upgrade, technical and professional support and social benefits.

We value and appreciate UNESCO's continued technical support to the education sector in Cambodia and note the active role of UNESCO as the Chair of the Education Sector Working Group, in particular, the **CapEFA programme**.

Communication and Information:

I am pleased to inform you that the Royal Government of Cambodia is continuously working towards improving freedom of expression, democratic governance, and inclusive civic participation, with the drafting of **the first Access to Information Legislation** in close cooperation with media and civil society.

Science and Environment:

In the field of natural science, the Ministry of Environment and UNESCO have been working together to establish the **new management plan 2015-2019 for the Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve** and to find out the best option to promote the Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve as a learning site in terms of biodiversity. At the eve of the COP 21 Conference, the Royal Government of Cambodia considers important supporting the attention given to the conservation of the mangrove ecosystem to mitigate climate change and to ensure food security for local communities.

Culture:

Excellences, Mesdames et Messieurs,

Enfin, le Gouvernement royal du Cambodge estime que la culture est un élément essentiel de la reconstruction et des efforts de réconciliation de notre nation. Le Cambodge a, à cet égard, intégré ces notions dans sa **nouvelle politique culturelle** récemment adoptée qui vise non seulement à protéger son vaste patrimoine archéologique, urbain et immatériel mais également à promouvoir la créativité et les industries culturelles telles que le cinéma.

En ce qui concerne le patrimoine mondial, le Cambodge souhaite vivement remercier le Conseil exécutif de l'UNESCO pour avoir soutenu l'année dernière la **création du CIC-Preah Vihear** co-présidé par la Chine et l'Inde. Ce comité, à l'instar de celui d'Angkor, a d'ores et déjà permis avec succès la coordination des activités de recherche et de conservation entreprises sur le site. Le Gouvernement Royal du Cambodge s'honore d'accueillir à la fin du mois de novembre le Premier Forum régional des jeunes pour

le patrimoine mondial en Asie et invite chaleureusement les états membres de la région à y envoyer leurs représentants.

Convention de 1954 et de 1970:

Le Cambodge souhaite également féliciter la Directrice générale pour avoir dénoncé sans relâche les destructions les plus abjectes du patrimoine culturel du Moyen Orient, soutient sans réserve son initiative « **Unite for Heritage** » et appelle de ses vœux le renforcement du Secretariat des Conventions de 1954 et de 1970.

Comme vous le savez, le Cambodge étant un pays d'une grande richesse patrimoniale, je m'engage en tant que Ministre de l'Education et conformément aux priorités du prochain biennium à dispenser aux enfants et aux jeunes le minimum de connaissances requises en matière de conservation et des valeurs du patrimoine culturel y compris grâce à un programme intégré d'éducation au patrimoine à l'école qui pourrait s'intituler : « Une école-un monument ».

Je vous remercie de votre obligeante attention.