



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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STATEMENT

BY

HIS EXCELLENCY MR. CHENDA SOPHEA SOK

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International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia**

SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE

23 September 2024

United Nations Headquarters, New York

**Mr. President,
Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,**

1. It is my great honor to address this gathering on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia. This is a crucial moment to consolidate our commitment to address together many deeply interconnected challenges – climate change, inequality, poverty, gaps in technology and increasingly complicated violent conflicts.
2. The Summit of the Future is an opportune occasion to adapt global governance to today's reality. It is a time to rebuild trust in the multilateral system, as we strive to build a prosperous, healthy and harmonious world for our current and future generations.
3. Allow me to elaborate on a few key points:
4. **First: International Peace and Security becomes more fragile with each passing day, as geopolitical tensions continue to intensify.**
5. It is incumbent on us all to firmly uphold the principles of the United Nations Charter and international law; they are the backbone of the international order and global cooperation. The use of diplomacy and mediation must be prioritized to resolve conflicts. Concerted efforts toward peacebuilding should be enhanced.
6. Cambodia sees great merit in the **New Agenda for Peace** presented by the UN Secretary-General. And we are proud to have contributed nearly 9,000 men and women to support UN peacekeeping operations since 2006.
7. Once a war-torn country, Cambodia understands that peace is the prerequisite for development and progress. Thanks to peace and stability, Cambodia now ranks among the best achievers on Sustainable Development Goals, particularly when it comes to reducing poverty, providing quality education and health care, creating more jobs and driving growth, and addressing climate change.
8. **Second: Sustainable development requires sufficient and efficient financing.**
9. Cambodia is currently investing in building up its human capital, targeting 1.5 million youth, diversifying its economic base and intensifying its green transition. Cambodia strongly supports efforts to ensure a fair and rules-based multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organization at its core.
10. Cambodia also joins the call to reform the international financial architecture and address financial gaps, particularly those that affect the Least Developed Countries.
11. **Third: The advancement of science, digital technologies and innovation presents both transformative solutions for human development – and risks.**

12. Cambodia strongly supports efforts to intensify international cooperation to ensure that the proliferation of science, technologies and innovation enhances human development. We must work together to overcome growing digital divides and fight against the misuse of digital technologies. To these ends, Cambodia endorses the Global Digital Compact as a common framework to build an inclusive, open, safe and secure digital space that will drive the digital transformation of our economies and societies.
13. **Fourth: It is our shared responsibility to safeguard the needs and interests of our youth and future generations.**
14. Cambodia, fully recognizing the importance of intergenerational partnerships, commits to the letter and the spirit of the Declaration for Future Generations. Cambodia already has in place a long-term development plan, called the Pentagonal Strategy. It is designed to ensure that our youth are engaged in, and well equipped for, long-term development that harmonizes economic growth, social inclusion and environmental protection. We also note the progress in mainstreaming youth into the UN-wide system.
15. **Finally: Transforming global governance for today's challenges is crucial if peace and stability are to prevail and if the Sustainable Development Goals are to be achieved.**
16. Cambodia is confident that the Pact for the Future will bring about the reforms needed to create a strong multilateral system that embodies inclusive governance, technological equity and fair access to financial resources for development. The Summit of the Future should be remembered as a turning point in international cooperation – one that helped build a sustainable future for current and future generations.

Thank you for your attention.