



Statement by

H.E. Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Kingdom of Cambodia

At the XIV NAM Summit 15-16 September 2006, Havana, Cuba

*“Towards a More Dynamic and Cohesive NAM:
Challenges of the 21st Century”*

*Mr. Chairman,
Your Royal Highnesses,
Excellencies Heads of State, Government and Delegation,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

1. At the outset, I wish to joint previous speakers to express my sincere thanks and high appreciation to the government of Cuba for the warm hospitality extended to my delegation and the excellent arrangement of the 14th NAM Summit in this beautiful city of Havana.

2. I would like also to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your assumption of the presidency of the XIV Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). I am fully confident that under the able guidance and leadership of Cuba, NAM will achieve more successes in the coming years. My delegation is pleased to take this opportunity to associate itself with other distinguished delegates in commending Malaysia's chairmanship of NAM for the major achievements over the past three years.

Mr. Chairman,

3. Today, Peace and Security remain issues of concern to the international community. Therefore, it is essential for NAM, as one of the most important

*international organizations, to work together more closely and more effectively with the main players in world affairs to ensure that global peace and security are preserved for all. In this connection, I think that our NAM should more positively contribute to a peaceful settlement of the Israeli - Palestinian conflict in order to avoid lost of lifes of innocent peoples. The solution of this problem would lead to the establishment of a Palestine State and contribute certainly to defuse the tension in the Middle-East region. In addition, the threat posed by terrorism cannot be simply underestimated because they have serious implication for the whole world. Despite concerted actions and collective determination of the international community, **terrorism** remains one of the greatest threats of our time, as terrorist acts continue to occur anywhere and at any time around the globe. But, I believe that the **most vital challenge** for NAM nowadays is how to help its most vulnerable members to overcome the **problem of development**.*

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished Delegates,

*4. In recent past years, we have seen many high-level forums taking place around the world to center on the agenda of sustainable development with the goal of improving the economic situation and the livelihoods of the peoples in the developing countries. As a result, they have come up with various important Declarations and Plans of Actions, such as the **South-South Summit**, **Monterrey Consensus**, the **Johannesburg Plan of Action** and so forth. However, in actuality, the situation of the developing countries has **not made much progress**. For*

that reason, I think what **NAM** now needs more than ever is not simply words and declarations alone. In other words, to be more effective and more relevant, **NAM** has to concentrate its **primary priority in realizing those decisions into concrete actions.**

5. Furthermore, since the adoption of the **Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)** in 2000, the situation of the **developing countries**, has not been much improved. Thus far they are still facing a lot of **difficulties** due to the **negative impact of globalization**, the **shortage of financial resources**, the **lack of HR**, and more recently the **rising of oil prices** and its **implications on smaller economies**. For this reason, Cambodia believes that **NAM** must endeavor to ensure that the **ultimate goal** of its strategy is to **overcome the proportion of people living under poverty line by 2015** as called by the **MDGs**. This is, in my view, the **most serious commitment** that **NAM** must achieve in the coming years.

6. On the other hand, I believe that we must **reinforce our constructive dialogues and cooperation** with the **developed world**, the **United Nations** and **Financial International Organizations** to **push for greater actions** to help the **developing countries**, such as **writing off debts**, **increasing foreign direct investment (FDI)**, **provision of the GSP** and **better market access** to the **developed countries**. It's equally important that **ODA** should cope with the **commitment promised** and **respond to the national development plan** of recipient countries. All these measures are crucial to avoid the problem of **human security** resulting from the **increasing development gap** between the **North and the South**.

7. Moreover, Cambodia believes that the more developed Member Countries of NAM should consider the possibility of investing in their fellow less developed member-states in order to assist them to develop their economies. By doing so, they contribute to strengthen the position of NAM collectively.

8. Finally, I wish to express Cambodia's support of the ASEAN Candidate - H.E.Dr. Surakiart Sathirathai, Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand - for the post of the UN Secretary-General. With his broad experiences in international affairs and his personal ability and qualification, I believe that he is the most suitable candidate for this very important and responsible position. Cambodia is also very pleased to endorse the Joint Statement of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on the Post of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

9. Before I conclude, allow me to express the best wishes of the Royal Government of Cambodia for the prompt recovery and good health of H.E. FIDEL CASTRO, President of the Council of State and Government of the Republic of Cuba and President of our Movement.

Thank you very much for your kind attention !