



Press Release

‘Assessment and Voters’ Score Card on the First Year Fulfillment of Political Platform of the Fifth Mandate of Government’

The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) declared and launched its political platform incorporating four main sectors: 1: National defence, security and public order, 2: Improvement of public administration, decentralization and deconcentration, law and justice, and anti-corruption activities, 3: Development of economics and 4: Development of education, health, labor, culture and social affairs. Many points of political platform that the RGC promises to fulfill are found in these four sections, but only 16 points in the 3rd and 4th are considered as precise indicators. Another 33 points without precise indicators are also scored based upon whether they have been fulfilled or not.

In the year since the beginning of the fifth legislature of the National Assembly (NA), the RGC has fully fulfilled 6 (37.5%) of 16 political platforms with precise indicators They are: annual 7% economic growth, annual 1% poverty reduction, halting of economic land concessions, improvement of rural roads, transportation policy creation and an increase in foreign tourist numbers.

While another seven political platforms related to water for family fishing, land title registration, national housing policy design, people’s access to running water, village electricity supplies, secondary school construction in all communes and national career and labor policy design, have only been partly fulfilled or/and implemented by the RGC. Three political platform promises have been implemented but when compared to the previous performance the RGC is unlikely fulfill them. For example, one million tons of rice exports in 2015, maintenance of existing forest cover, and implementation of -retirement allowance in the private sector.

For the first year, voters’ score card on the fulfillment of political platform with imprecise indicator in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap, 44.4%¹ of participants are partly satisfied, while 55.6% are not satisfied.

On the fulfillment of the Development of Education, Health, Labor, Culture and Social Affairs, 50.7%² of participants are partly satisfied, while 49% are less or completely dissatisfied.

¹ An average of partly satisfying, averagely satisfying, quite satisfying and strongly or completely satisfying

² An average of partly satisfying, averagely satisfying, quite satisfying and strongly or completely satisfying

Vision : A democratic society that democratization in particular democratic elections are promoted and qualified to bring benefits to people.

ទស្សនៈវិស័យ ៖ ដើម្បីឱ្យការបោះឆ្នោតជាតិមានគុណភាព និងប្រយោជន៍ដល់ប្រជាពលរដ្ឋកម្ពុជា

Looking at the 2014 national budget, the RGC planned to spend US\$3,400 million including in the budget which was not allocated. It may have spent 23.3% on social affairs, 13.8% on national defence and security, 8.9% on the economic sector, and 8.2% on general administration. The expenditure on social affair is the highest of the four sectors

61.4% of people are dissatisfied with the fulfillment of national defense security and public order commitments. This sector received the most dissatisfaction while the government may have spent 13.8 % of the total national budget which second largest. The result of satisfaction on the fulfillment of this sector is not better if compared with the amount of expenditure.

The RGC of the fifth legislature of the National Assembly (NA) is led by the Cambodian People's Party (CPP). In the previous mandate the RGC was considered to be a coalition government as it consisted of two parties, CPP and FUNCINPEC. The RCG's currently lacks legitimacy because it was formed after having not followed constitutional procedure. . The vote of confidence in the proposed government and the vote for the leadership of NA were conducted with package vote on 24 December 2013 in the first plenary session. It was preceded with article 4³ of the extra constitutional law, while it says in article 3 that if the objectives of procedures stipulated in aticles 82 and 119 New of the Constitution cannot be achieved, article 4 of the extra constitutional law will be practised.

The RGC led by the CPP has increased the number of ministries to 28 as a result of the cancellation of public service department the government currently consists of about 600 officials including 244 members of cabinet, 238 under general secretaries of state, about one hundred governmental advisors and other high raking political offials. The number of governmental members has increased as there is no law or provision that stipulate how many ministries, members of carbinet, under general secretaries of state and governmental members elected by the government and the prime minister are. It is noted that for the fifth legislature, the number of female members of cabinet has increased by 17%.

Compared with neighboring countries, the fifth legislature government is made up with a large number of cabinet members that is not proportional to the number of National Assembly members, the general population or the geographic and economic situation. According to Cambodia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2013, per capita income was US \$ 1,007 US. Bangladesh, a country with a population of 158, 518,000 with a GDP of US\$958 in 2013, has only 55 members of carbinet. Moverover, India with 1, 267, 402,000 people and US\$1,499 US GDP had only 66 member of cabinet. The population of these two countries is many times more than Cambodia, but Cambodia has 244 cabinet members and 238 under general secretaries of state.

³ The list of candidates for package vote on the election and vote of confidence is prepared as follows:

- The list of candidates for President and vice-president of the National Assembly, as well as the chairpersons and vice-chair person of the commissions of the National Assembly shall be prepared and proposed by the political party that agree to form a coalition government, and shall be sent to the oldest member of the National Assembly.
- Upon the request by the political party that won the most seats in the National Assembly, made through the oldest member of the National Assembly, the King shall appoint a dignitary from among National Assembly Member of the winning party to propose the Royal Government. The appointed dignitary shall prepare and send to the oldest Member of the National Assembly a list of propose member of the Royal Government.

The report on an Assessment and Voters' Score Card on the First Year Fulfillment of the Political Platform of the Fifth Mandate Government compiled by COMFREL is based on analysis of existing primary data from NGO, INGO, press agencies and national institutions for making an assessment on the fulfillment of political platforms with precise indicator. For an assessment on fulfillment of the political platform with imprecise indicators, some voters' score card forums were conducted in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap with about 250 participants in December 2014. Thirty three points of political platform with imprecise indicator were scored two times⁴.

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បេសកកម្ម ៖ បេសកកម្មរបស់ខុមហ្វ្រែល គឺជួយបង្កើតបរិយាកាសគួរជាទីពេញចិត្ត និងមានព័ត៌មានគ្រប់គ្រាន់ ទី១/ដើម្បីឱ្យមានដំណើរការបោះឆ្នោតដោយសេរី និងយុត្តិធម៌ តាមរយៈការបញ្ចុះបញ្ចូល តស៊ូមតិ ដើម្បីទទួលបាននូវក្របខ័ណ្ឌច្បាប់សមរម្យ, ការអប់រំដើម្បីផ្តល់ព័ត៌មានដល់អ្នកបោះឆ្នោត អំពីសិទ្ធិ និងសកម្មភាពចូលរួមសង្កេតការណ៍របស់ពួកគេ ដែលអាចរារាំងនូវភាពមិនប្រក្រតី ព្រមទាំងផ្តល់នូវរបាយការណ៍អង្កេតយ៉ាងទូលំទូលាយ និងឆាប់រហ័ស ដើម្បីអាចឱ្យមានការវាយតម្លៃលើដំណើរការ បោះឆ្នោតមួយដែលមិនលំអៀង និងមិនប្រកាន់បក្សពួក ទី២/ដើម្បីឱ្យមានអត្ថន័យនៃដំណាក់កាលក្រោយពេលបោះឆ្នោត តាមរយៈការអប់រំ និងវេទិកាសាធារណៈក្នុងគោលបំណងជំរុញលើកទឹកចិត្តប្រជាពលរដ្ឋឱ្យចូលរួមក្នុងកិច្ចការនយោបាយ និងការធ្វើសេចក្តីសម្រេចនានា ការតស៊ូមតិ/បញ្ចុះបញ្ចូលដើម្បីឱ្យមានការកែទម្រង់ ដំណើរការបោះឆ្នោតដែលបង្កើននូវគណនេយ្យភាព (ការទទួលខុសត្រូវ) របស់មន្ត្រីជាប់ឆ្នោត ព្រមទាំងផ្តល់នូវរបាយការណ៍អង្កេតយ៉ាងទូលំទូលាយ និងឆាប់រហ័ស ដើម្បីអាចឱ្យមានការវាយតម្លៃមួយដែលមិនលំអៀង និងប្រកាន់បក្សពួក ទៅលើការបំពេញកម្មវិធីនយោបាយ និងដំណើរការអនុវត្តន៍ការងាររបស់មន្ត្រីជាប់ឆ្នោត។

⁴ Political platforms with imprecise indicator is first scored with participant's knowledge and second scored with not only their knowledge but also information of fulfillment of them from the speaker.