

Keynote Address
By His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister YIM Chhay Ly,
Highly Esteemed Representative of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen,
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia
On the Celebration of World AID Day, 1 December 2018
Under the theme “Together to End AIDS by 2025”
At Chaktomuk Conference Hall on 1 December 2018

My respect to:

- The revered monks
 - Excellency, Lok Chumteav, Members of the Royal Government, Senate and National Assembly;
 - Excellency, Lok Chumteav, ambassadors and diplomatic representatives;
 - Excellency, Lok Chumteav, leaders and all civil servants of the National AIDs Authority, national and international distinguished guests, all students!
1. Today it is my great honor and pleasure being the highly esteemed representative of **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, to participate with your excellency, ladies and gentlemen, national and international distinguished guests on the celebration of the World AIDS Day, 1 December 2018, which Cambodia has celebrated 25 times. Taking this opportunity, I would like to sincerely express my high appreciation to your excellency, ladies and gentlemen and the national and international HIV/AIDS activists at all levels throughout the country for your strong commitment and effort to combat HIV/AIDS, which resulted in reduced new HIV infections, reduced rate of AIDS-related death, reduced discrimination against those living with HIV/AIDS. All this progress truly contributes to realizing the goal of the Royal Government of Cambodia in eliminating AIDS problem by 2025.
 2. The progress, effectiveness and achievements on HIV/AIDS that Cambodia has achieved thus far are scientific evidence which clearly proves that our vision to build a society free from HIV/AIDS threats is achievable, and it reflects that Cambodia is on the right track to achieving the **“95-95-95 Target”** as set out by the United Nations.
 3. According to the report of **H.E. Senior Minister IENG Mouly**, Chairman of the National AIDS Authority on combatting the spread of HIV/AIDS in 2018, Cambodia has reduced new HIV infection by up to 50% since 2011. Moreover, Cambodia is able to provide antiretroviral treatment for up to 98% of PLHIV, which resulted in reduced rate of AIDS-related death every year in Cambodia. This is a proud accomplishment of the National AIDS Authority, line ministries, institutions and other actors who have been working together to respond to the spread of HIV/AIDS in Cambodia.

Your Excellency, Lok Chumteav, Ladies and Gentlemen, and all young guests!

4. Although Cambodia has achieved continuous, proud successes, this success situation remains fragile. That means if we are not careful enough, HIV infections could rise again making it more difficult to manage than before, particularly the rise in HIV transmissions

among youth, men who have sex with men, people who use or inject drug, migrants, entertainment workers, etc., that has not been addressed comprehensively. Thus, all citizens please pay very close attention to prevent yourself from HIV infection and continue to actively join with the Royal Government of Cambodia in eliminating HIV/AIDS by 2025.

5. To support the policies of the Royal Government of Cambodia of the 6th Legislature under the leadership of **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen** and the journey of the nation and citizens, with high confidence, on the path of development, peace and stability as well as to support the developmental process of Cambodia ensuring quality and sustainability, the Royal Government of Cambodia has prioritized key policies which include human resources development, building of physical infrastructure, continued agricultural development and value creation, enhancement of health service quality, improvement of educational system, promotion of social protection system, particularly implementing in-depth reforms across all sectors as set out by the Royal Government of Cambodia in order to continue supporting and encouraging quality economic growth, ensuring equity towards realization of development vision of Cambodia, which is to become an upper middle income country by 2030. In the meantime, the Royal Government of Cambodia will continue to maintain the accomplishment in health sector for reducing infant, child and maternal mortality rate; reducing illness and death due to infectious diseases, which include HIV, malaria and tuberculosis; and the use and strengthening of Health Equity Fund for the poor, and more extensive social security fund on health care for our citizens.

Your Excellency, Lok Chumteav and all!

6. The fight against AIDS in order to achieve the three zeroes target by 2025 is neither easy nor unrealistic, but it merely requires cooperation, leadership, management, coordination and highly committed engagement to overcome all obstacles to our interventions, such as discrimination, resources and technology factors, etc.
7. On behalf of Highly Esteemed Representative of **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia and on my own behalf, I would like to declare that the Kingdom of Cambodia, as a member country of the United Nations engaged in the organization and decision at the general assembly of the United Nations on AIDS in 2016 in New York city, has already introduced the “**New Declaration on the Political Decision to End AIDS by 2030**”. Hence, the mission of combatting AIDS in Cambodia remains a high priority of the Royal Government of Cambodia as specified in the Rectangular Strategy Phase IV of the Royal Government of Cambodia of the Sixth Legislature of the National Assembly to ensure increased employment, equity and efficiency for “building the basis towards realizing Cambodia vision 2050”, the Royal Government continues to demonstrate strong commitment to eliminate AIDS by 2025.

8. Taking the opportunity to celebrate the World AIDS Day, 1 December 2018, on behalf of **Samdech Techo Prime Minister**, I would like to give some messages to our compatriots as follows:

1. Continued maintenance of sustainable successes, which we have accomplished thus far, and continue to realize AIDS elimination by 2025 via continued responsibility and extensive and multi-sectorial engagement from institutions of the Royal Government of Cambodia private sectors, civil society, development partners, network of people living with HIV/AIDS and network of key population and all citizens under the management, leadership and coordination of the National AIDS Authority based on the “Three One Policy,” which means one national coordination institution, one national strategic plan and one national monitoring and evaluation system.
2. For future responses, Cambodia has a clear road map in place via the National Strategic Plan IV for Comprehensive & Multi-Sectorial Response to HIV/AIDS 2015-2020. Therefore, what needs to be done is to implement and double our commitment building our ownership of the National AIDS Authority and relevant institutions to continue this great mission on monitoring the HIV epidemic and responding to AIDS, particularly the management, utilization of resources on the right target and priorities as specified in National Strategic Plan IV for Comprehensive & Multi-Sectorial Response to HIV/AIDS 2015-2020, ensuring the garnering of trust and good governance in order to jointly respond to the spread of HIV.
3. The National AIDS Authority shall keep up its effort to conduct research studies on the new high-risk factors which may spur the rise of HIV infection based on the principle of human rights, gender equality and to ensure that no one is left behind from HIV prevention, care, treatment and support they need.
4. To facilitate the two-fold increase of extensive, comprehensive and timely response, I hereby request the Ministry of Economy and Finance, other relevant ministries, institutions, municipality and provinces, especially the commune/Sangkat levels, to ensure that budget is available for responding to the spread of HIV based on Extensive and Multi-Sectorial Strategic Plan of National AIDS Authority.
5. All HIV/AIDS activists shall take this valuable opportunity today and use all available means to promote new information/knowledge on the spread of HIV/AIDS as well as encourage citizens to engage more actively in the prevention, care, treatment and support to people living with HIV/AIDS.
6. Double care of the management to reduce HIV transmission among Key population, especially young people, men who have sex with men, people use drug, migrants, entertainment workers, etc. via “**Early Blood Test, Early Detection and Early Treatment**” measure.

7. Explore highly effective intervention strategies and plans to achieve an absolute end of mother-to-child transmission and the total elimination of discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS by 2020.
8. Achieve the 95-95-95 Target by 2025, which means 95% of HIV-positive people know about their HIV status, 95% of those living with HIV receive antiretroviral therapy, and 95% of those on antiretroviral therapy with suppressed viral load, and ensure that Cambodian people can afford preventive services, counseling services, blood test and appropriate treatment as soon as possible.
9. To ensure sustainability in combating AIDS, ministries, institutions, local administrations which are members of the National AIDS Authority shall integrate AIDS combating mission into their policies and strategic plans and incorporate them into the comprehensive action plans.
10. Encourage the citizens to use condom more extensively due to the fact that it is still the most effective means to prevent HIV infection, sexually transmitted diseases and birth spacing, etc. Hence, condom alone cannot be used as evidence for accusation of sexual trafficking.

To conclude, in the name of the Royal Government and on behalf of **Samdech Techo Prime Minister**, I hereby wish the presiding guests and other honorable guests of this event the five gems of Buddhist blessings: longevity, nobility, health, strength and wisdom, and may you accomplish new achievements for the nation in the upcoming years. I hereby declare that “**Cambodia doubles its commitment with United Nations and global community to use strategic toward achievement of the 95-95-95 Target by 2025.**”

Thank you!