

## Updates on the situation of the Cambodia-Thailand border

26 August 2025

### I. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia—

- On 25 August 2025, the MFAIC sent a diplomatic note to the Thai side to strongly protest against the continuous encroachment actions persistently undertaken by the Thai military forces involving the illegal installation of barbed wire fences and black net in Chouk Chey village, O Bei Chorn commune, O Chrov district, Banteay Meanchey province, which is within Cambodia's territorial sovereignty. The MFA emphasized among others:
  - (1) Such action constitutes a violation of Cambodia sovereignty and reflects Thailand's deliberate attempt to further expand the conflict into civilian area. The incidents occurred on August 12-13, 2025, and again on August 25, 2025.
  - (2) Reiterate Cambodia's call on the Thai side to fully and unconditionally respect the ceasefire agreed on August 28, 2025, the 13-point Agreed Minutes adopted on August 7, 2025, as well as the MoU 2000.
  - (3) Highlighted the key point provided in the agreed MOU 2000 which state "Both sides agreed not to undertake provocative actions that may escalate tensions, including military activities to enter the other sides' air space and territory or positions as of ceasefire from 24:00 hours (local time) on 28 July 2025. ~ "Both sides agreed not to expand the scope and scale of the disputes, including provocative activities that may escalate tensions".
- It is noted that this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> protest following the previous two made on August 14 and 19, 2025.

**- Concerning the Ottawa Convention:**

- The Spokesperson illuminated that (1)-H.E. Dara In, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Cambodia to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva, wrote a letter dated August 21, 2025 to H.E. Ichikawa Tomiko, Ambassador of Japan and President of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of States Parties to the Ottawa Convention, and (2)-H.E. Senior Minister Ly Thuch, First Vice-President of CMAA, also held an online meeting on August 22, 2025 with H.E. Ichikawa Tomiko.
- The Spokesperson also stressed that both the letter and the meeting mentioned Cambodia's categorical rejection of Thailand's accusation of newly plant anti-personnel mines along the border of both countries, describing them as "baseless, politically motivated, and lacking credible evidence, attempting to undermine Cambodia's credibility."
- In addition, the spokesperson also highlighted that "International demining organizations, including APOPO (Anti-Personnel Landmines Detection Product), MAG (Mines Advisory Group), and Halo Trust, confirmed the mines discovered are remnants of past conflicts, not new deployment."
- Furthermore, concerning Cambodia's efforts in humanitarian mine actions, the Spokesperson added that "the Ottawa Convention Chair and Committee members took note of Cambodia's clarifications and acknowledged its longstanding contributions to mine action," and they have encouraged that Cambodia and Thailand pursue dialogue and de-escalation, uphold the spirit of the ceasefire, and continue advancing humanitarian mine efforts.

**II. The Ministry of National Defence of Cambodia—**

**- On the Thai military forces' attempt to lay barbed wire:**

- On 25 August 2025, starting from 2:20 PM, Thai military forces attempted to install barbed wire at Chouk Chey village, O Bei Chorn commune, O Chrov District, Banteay Meanchey Province, Cambodia, opposite to Nong Chan Village, Khok Sung District, Sa Kaeo Province,

Thailand. However, they were strongly prevented by Cambodian villagers and authorities in Chouk Chey Village, which led the Thai forces to take back the barbed wire.

- The Spokesperson accentuated that "...the landowners and other citizens who have stood united in response to the above-mentioned action by the Thai military forces are merely motivated by their deep concerns over the Thai military's barbed wire fencing and by their determination to protect what they regard as their lawful property. Their actions stem solely from their love for their motherland and their desire to safeguard their legal possessions.
  - It should be noted that Cambodian forces and relevant authorities—unarmed and stationed in the area—were also present at the location the entire time to ensure the safety of Cambodian citizens.
  - The Spokesperson also stressed that "both our forces and authorities have carried out their duties with professionalism and high responsibility. Furthermore, our forces have strictly adhered to the ceasefire conditions..."
- On August 26, 2025, the Ministry of National Defence facilitated another official visit for the Interim Observer Team ( IOT ) comprising **5** countries: Malaysia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, the Philippines, and Vietnam, under the leadership of Colonel Nazlee bin Abdul Rahim, Defence Attaché of Malaysia to the Kingdom of Cambodia. The team departed for Banteay Meanchey Province to observe, verify, and report on the updated situation in the affected areas.
  - It has been **28 days** since **18** Cambodian military personnel have been held in unlawful custody by the Thai side, counting from the morning of July 29, 2025, a few hours right after the Ceasefire came into effect.