



**Remarks  
by  
His Excellency Ieng Mouly,  
Senior Minister in Charge of Special Mission,  
Chair of the National Aids Authority,  
on the Occasion of Hand-Over Ceremony  
Phnom Penh, October 1, 2013**

Your Excellency Keat Chhon, Permanent Deputy Prime Minister,

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today is a great honor for the National Aids Authority to organize this hand-over ceremony under the high presidency of His Excellency Keat Chhon, Permanent Deputy Prime Minister.

The high presence of His Excellency Permanent Deputy Prime Minister on this occasion is testimony to the high attention paid by the Royal Government to combating aids, a human-made danger, which has led to tremendous consequences of many kinds to human society.

Respected Your Excellency Deputy Prime Minister,

I would like to take this rare opportunity to express my sincere respect and commendation for your long and excellent experiences in the service of our nation and motherland in all circumstances. I would also like to extol Your Excellency especially for your cardinal role as chief of staff of the Royal Government, under the clear-sighted leadership of Samdech Techo Prime Minister, as Commander-in-Chief, in leading the national economy toward incessant progress from year to year, bringing about macroeconomic stability, satisfactorily forestalling inflation at a yearly rate of 4, 2% and constantly cutting down poverty at 1% every year. What I should learn from Your Excellency Deputy Prime Minister is your efficient leadership, which I have valued as "flexible but firm."

Besides, availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to laud the National Aids Authority's leaders of all levels, under the direction of His Excellency Senior Minister Nuth Sokhom in the previous mandate, for having performed their duties attaining achievements, the gratifying results, that has placed our country among a small number of the countries worldwide that have achieved the millennium development goal. What we should underline about the noteworthy achievements is that the United Nations has bestowed on our country the trophy called UN Award for Achieving Millennium Development Targets on Aids for having successfully cut down aids transmission by 50% ahead of 2015.

Along with the commendation, I would also like to wish His Excellency Senior Minister Nuth Sokhom and family best luck, good health, prosperity, and grand successes in the course of his new duties in the near future.

Your Excellencies, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

The combat against aids is a multi-sector task that requires wide participation from all levels of state sectors, private sector, development partners, international cooperation agencies, civil society, and the entire population to be able to achieve success. Therefore, the National Aids Authority should strive to perform its duty as initiator in taking measures and as coordinator in bringing about cooperation and harmonization between all operators in the broadest dissemination to make the public aware of aids disaster and the nondiscrimination against aids patients, equip them with the knowledge of how to contain and prevent the spread of aids, and inspire them to help care, treat, and provide full health services to people living with HIV/Aids (PLH/A) .

Even though the rate of people living with HIV/Aids, not yet receiving health services of care and treatment, is low, it still poses risk to the Cambodian citizens, for the spread of aids can take place any times should we be imprudently negligent or failing to pay attention to taking appropriate measures.

In order to establish more accurately and clearly the number of PLH/A, the National Aids Authority has to continue to motivate the mass movement to undergo HIV/Aids tests voluntarily in a permanent and more vigorous manner. We should continue to implement successfully the national strategic plan for comprehensive and multi-sectoral response to HIV/AIDS III (2011-2015). Moreover, the National Aids Authority will assess the progress in the implementation of the seven strategies of the above plan. Afterward, we will work together with national and international experts of the development partners and all parties concerned to prepare an inventory of challenges, solutions, needs, and sources of resources that will assist in the preparation of the next strategic plan IV (2016-2020).

Your Excellencies, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

I wish to concede that since I am not a medical, anti-aids, or social service expert, I certainly need full and active participation of those experts, in terms of advice and technical assistance. I hope that my colleagues within the National Aids Authority, a part of whom is experts, will offer me their valuable collaboration, contributing to making our anti-aids mission achieve success in accordance with our wish and in line with the goal of our role determined by the Royal

Government of Cambodia. As for me, as the National Aids Authority Chair, I will strive to perform my duty in leading this national institution most attentively to achieve constant progress, reinforce internal solidarity to create work harmony, strengthen external relations, and seek and drum up aid from development partners and friendly countries in order to make anti-aids activities more highly efficient. I am resolved to bring along sincere goodwill and determination to serve this national humanitarian institution in agreement with the recommendation and direction of the Royal Government, under the adept leadership of Samdech Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia. Taking this opportunity, I would like to express my deep gratitude to Samdech Techo, the Prime Minister, who has trust in and assigned me to lead the National Aids Authority in the new term of this government.

Before concluding, I would like to appeal to all the development partners and friendly countries to provide and continue to provide the National Aids Authority with aid, which is genuine humanitarian so that we have the possibilities to continue to stem the spread of aids virus and widely offer care and treatment services to people living with HIV/Aids (PLH/A) in urgent need of them in a timely and broad fashion.

Once again, I would like to thank His Excellency Keat Chhon, the Permanent Deputy Prime Minister, for having the honor to preside over today's hand-over ceremony, as well as Excellencies, Ladies, Gentlemen, and all the distinguished guests for having attended this event, making it magnificent. I wish all of you, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen to enjoy the four blessings of Lord Buddha: longevity, high social status, happiness, and robust physical strength without fail.

Thank you.