

His Excellency **PRAK Sokhonn**, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, was yesterday interviewed by Mr PRAK Chanthul, reporter of Reuters, on the situation of Myanmar, as follows:

Q: Will Cambodia continue to exclude Myanmar's Ming Aung Hlaing as Brunei did? What would be Cambodia's approach?

A: The decision to invite a non-political representative from Nay Pyi Daw was made by the Chair of ASEAN after the Emergency AMM could not reach a consensus on Myanmar's representation at the ASEAN Summits and related Summits, after lack of real progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Five-Point Consensus (5PC), especially the unsuccessful demands that the Special Envoy be able to meet all parties concerned, a necessary step to pave the way for genuine dialogue toward the return of normalcy in Myanmar.

The Chair sent an invitation following that line but Myanmar chose not to attend.

Myanmar is a member of ASEAN family and while we all respect the principle of non-interference into domestic affairs of member states, the situation in Myanmar continues to be a subject of grave concern and has negative impacts on the region, the credibility of the Association and on the people of Myanmar, our brothers and sisters.

While some of us have different approaches to help Myanmar on the path to normalcy, none of us, with the exception of Myanmar herself, objected the decision by the Chair.

The simple fact is that all 9 ASEAN Members States (AMS) want to help Myanmar avoiding further tragedy as the country is at the brink of civil war, faces economic, health and humanitarian serious difficulties.

Cambodia has experience and lessons learned from our past tragedy and successful implementation of our **Samdech Techo Prime Minister HUN SEN's** win-win policy. We hope these lessons could be useful for Myanmar to solve her crisis, even though the context and the particularities of our two countries are not exactly the same.

Finally, I do think that the way out of this crisis depends more on actors in Myanmar herself than on external help. Nevertheless, Cambodia stands ready to help and will do our best in this endeavor.

Q: Thank you for your response H.E. Who will be Cambodian official appointed as envoy to Myanmar ?

A: You will know in due time.

One more thing: it's not appropriate to talk about exclusion of anyone at this point in time. Things may and shall evolve but as I said earlier, it would depend much on Myanmar...

Q: Thanks H.E and the ministry spokesman said that Cambodia will appoint a new envoy. Is this true ?

A: We are talking about the Special Envoy (SE) of the Chair of ASEAN (5PC). Cambodia as incoming Chair will appoint its own SE who will continue the work of the current SE, beginning with the term of its presidency: January 2022.
