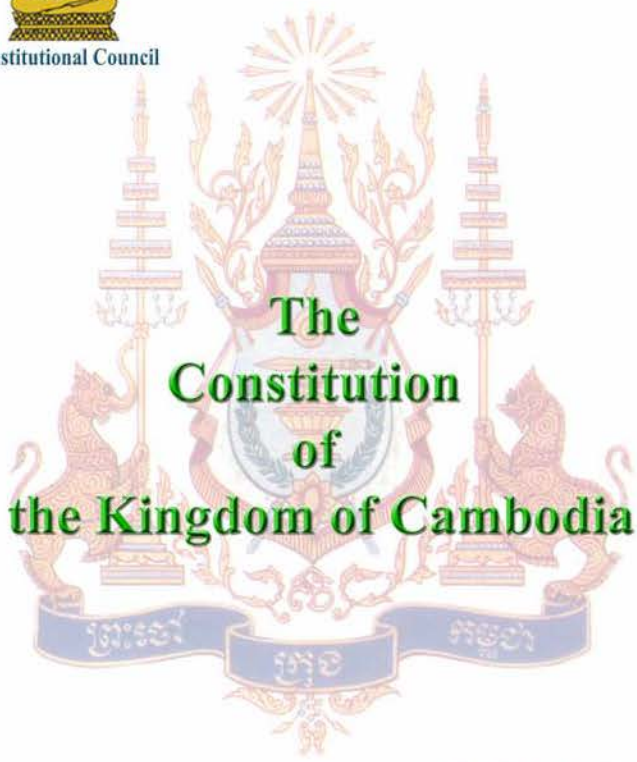




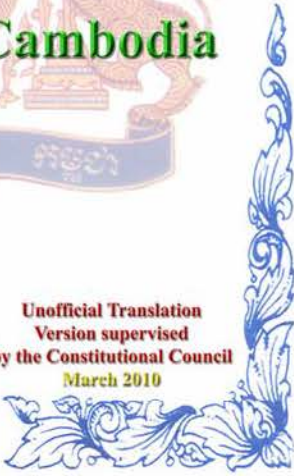
Constitutional Council

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA  
NATION RELIGION KING



The  
Constitution  
of  
the Kingdom of Cambodia

Unofficial Translation  
Version supervised  
by the Constitutional Council  
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# **PREAMBLE**

## **WE, THE KHMER PEOPLE,**

*Accustomed to having a grand civilization, a prosperous nation, a very large territory, a prestige glittering like a diamond;*

*Having fallen into a terrifying decay for the two last decades, when we have been undergoing unspeakable, demeaning sufferings and disasters of the most regrettable way;*

*In a burst of consciousness, rising up with a resolute determination in order to unite, to strengthen the national unity, to defend the Cambodian territory, to preserve the precious sovereignty and the marvelous civilization of ANGKOR, to re-build the country and become once again an "Oasis of Peace" based on the system of a liberal multi-party democracy, to guarantee human rights, to ensure the respect of law, to be highly responsible for the destiny of the nation forever evolving toward progress, development and prosperity.*

## **IN VIRTUE OF THIS UNSHAKEABLE WILL,**

*We inscribe in the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia, as followed:*

## **CHAPTER I**

### **ON THE SOVEREIGNTY**

#### **Article 1.**

Cambodia is a Kingdom where the King shall fulfill His functions according to the Constitution and the principles of liberal multi-party democracy.

The Kingdom of Cambodia is an independent, sovereign, peaceful, permanently neutral and non-aligned State.

#### **Article 2.**

The territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Cambodia shall be absolutely inviolable within its borders as defined in the 1/100,000 scale map made between the years 1933-1953, and internationally recognized between the years 1963 - 1969.

#### **Article 3.**

The Kingdom of Cambodia is an indivisible State.

#### **Article 4.**

The motto of the Kingdom of Cambodia is: Nation, Religion, King.

#### **Article 5.**

The official language and script are those in Khmer.

#### **Article 6.**

Phnom Penh is the capital city of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

The national flag, anthem and coat of arms are defined in Annexes 1, 2 and 3.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **ON THE KING**

#### **Article 7.**

The King of Cambodia shall reign, but not govern.

The King is the Head of State for life.

The Person of the King shall be inviolable.

#### **Article 8.**

The King shall incarnate the symbol of national unity and continuity.

The King shall be the guarantor of the national independence, the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and the guarantor for the respect of citizens' rights and freedom, and of international treaties.

#### **Article 9.**

The King shall assume the role as supreme arbiter to ensure the regular execution of public powers.

#### **Article 10.**

The Cambodian monarchy is an elective monarchy.

The King can not appoint His heir to the throne.

#### **Article 11 *new***

In case the King can not as usual perform His duties of Head of State for being seriously ill, as certified by a team of

specialized medical doctors chosen by the President of the Senate, the President of the National Assembly and the Prime Minister, the President of the Senate shall perform the duties of Head of State as Regent in His stead.

In case the President of the Senate can not perform his duties of Head of State in the stead of the King, acting as Regent, while the King is seriously ill as stipulated in the aforementioned paragraph, the President of the National Assembly shall perform these duties.

In the case stated in the aforementioned paragraph, other dignitaries in the following hierarchy can perform the role of Regent as Acting Head of State:

- a - First Vice-President of the Senate
- b - First Vice-President of the National Assembly
- c - Second Vice-President of the Senate
- d - Second Vice-President of the National Assembly

**Article 12 *new***

At the decease of the King, the President of the Senate shall perform the role of Head of State *ad interim* in his capacity as Regent of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

In case the President of the Senate can not perform his duties of Head of State *ad interim* in his capacity as Regent, the paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 11 *new* must be implemented.

**Article 13 *new***

Within a period not exceeding seven days, the new King of Cambodia shall be elected by the Crown Council.

The membership of the Crown Council shall be composed of:

- The President of the Senate
- The President of the National Assembly
- The Prime Minister
- The Supreme Patriarchs of the two religious orders, Mahanikaya and Dhammayutikanikaya
- The First and Second Vice-Presidents of the Senate
- The First and Second Vice-Presidents of the National Assembly

The organization and functioning of the Crown Council shall be determined by law.

**Article 14.**

Shall be elected King of Cambodia, a member of the Royal family, aged at least 30 years, descendant of King Ang Duong or of King Norodom or also of King Sisowath.

Before ascending the throne, the King shall take oath as stipulated in Annex 4.

**Article 15.**

The Consort of the King shall have the title of Queen of Cambodia.

**Article 16.**

The Queen of Cambodia shall have no right to engage in politics, to assume a leading function in State or Government affairs, or to assume an administrative or political role.

The Queen of Cambodia shall devote herself in tasks of social, humanitarian, religious interests, and assist the King in protocol and diplomatic obligations.



**Article 17.**

The provision, in which the King shall reign but not govern, as stipulated in Article 7 paragraph 1 of this Constitution, can not in any case be modified.

**Article 18 *new***

The King communicates with the Senate and the National Assembly through royal messages.

These royal messages can not be subject to debate at the Senate and the National Assembly.

**Article 19 *new***

The King shall appoint the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers in accordance with the procedures stipulated in Article 119 *new*.

**Article 20.**

The King grants official audiences twice a month to the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers, who report on the situation of the country for His highest information.

**Article 21.**

Upon the request of the Council of Ministers, the King shall sign the Kret appointing, transferring or dismissing high-ranking civil and military officials, ambassadors and envoys extraordinary and plenipotentiary from their position.

Upon the request of the Supreme Council of Magistracy, the King shall sign the Kret appointing, transferring or removing judicial judges from their position.

**Article 22 *new***

When the nation faces danger, the King shall make a public proclamation placing the country in a state of emergency, after unanimous agreement from the Prime Minister, the President of the National Assembly and the President of the Senate.

**Article 23.**

The King is the Supreme Commander of the Royal Khmer Armed Forces. A Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Khmer Armed Forces shall be appointed to command the Armed Forces.

**Article 24 *new***

The King is the President of the Supreme Council of National Defense which shall be created by a law.

The King declares war after the approval from the National Assembly and the Senate.

**Article 25.**

The King receives credentials from ambassadors or envoys extraordinary and plenipotentiary of foreign countries accredited to the Kingdom of Cambodia.

**Article 26 *new***

The King signs and ratifies international treaties and conventions after their approval by the National Assembly and the Senate.