



**Kingdom of Cambodia
Nation Region King**

CAMBODIA'S VIEW ON ENHANCING JOINT EFFORTS AND PARTNERSHIP

by

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***Excellencies MRC Council Members,
Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,***

It is my great pleasure to be here today with other fellow MRC Council Members and all Distinguished Delegates at the Ministerial Meeting prior to the 3rd MRC Summit being held tomorrow, the 5th April 2018. The slogan of the Summit is about “One Mekong, One Spirit” with a main focus on “Enhancing Joint Efforts and Partnership towards the Achievements of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Mekong River Basin”.

We obviously acknowledge that the Mekong River Basin continues to support the sustainable economic growth and development of the riparian countries and the challenges the Basin facing continue to be in the greater extent/context now and in the future due to the increasing need for the sustainable water, food and energy security in the riparian countries, rapid development and the continued population growth and so on together with the emerging impacts of the climate changes which have been observed now more serious than before.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have to enhance further our joint efforts and cooperation to work together to ensure for now and the future that the Mekong River continues to be the river of shared prosperity, peace, friendship, solidary, brotherhood and the river of excellent example of mutually beneficial cooperation among all the riparian countries for our sustainable future. We are proud of the achievements made till now in our regional cooperation in promoting the socio-economic development and improving the sustainable water management while protecting the ecological balance of the Mekong River Basin.

In addition, partnerships with all MRC Partners are our strategic key to contribute to the success of the MRC work in the past, now and in the future. We acknowledged with our high appreciation the past and present progress and achievement in that regard. The MRC's core business is to continue to enhance further partnerships with its existing partners and to develop and build networks and partnerships with new relevant initiatives to support our regional cooperation towards the sustainable development in the Mekong River Basin.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

To attain at this aim, it is our common business and shared responsibility. The success in our joint efforts and partnership toward the achievements of an economically prosperous, socially just and environmentally sound Mekong River Basin is heavily dependent on our closer cooperation with stronger commitment among the riparian countries and further effective contribution from other Mekong Partners. We have to cooperate and work together at the better and closer level for our joint success for our sustainable future in the Mekong River Basin.

In this context, Cambodia would assure of our full commitment to further intensify the regional cooperation in all fields among all riparian countries and with all other Mekong Partners for the overall interest of sustainable development and more effective management of the Mekong River Basin with an ultimate goal to enjoy with sustainable great benefits of both the present and future generations in the Mekong riparian countries.

Thank you.