



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

Nation - Religion - King

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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

3 October 2000

Mr. Poul Nyrup Rasmussen  
Prime Minister  
Copenhagen  
Denmark

Fax # (45) 33 11 16 65

Sir,

For the last two months Cambodia has suffered from the worst floods in its modern history. In my capacity as leader of the parliamentary opposition, I appeal to your government to provide a timely and adequate assistance in order to alleviate the victims' sufferings and help people living in the affected areas get back to their normal lives.

Please find attached herewith two statements I issued on 17 and 25 September 2000 giving the background and the scope of the current floods and showing recent, massive and anarchic deforestation as the main cause of successive devastating natural disasters in Cambodia in the last few years.

Even though water has started to recede, the plight of the Cambodian people will remain most acute in the coming months because of an increasingly severe food shortage and possible outbreaks of communicable diseases. Given the appalling lack of internal resources and dilapidated social services, massive international assistance is urgently needed in order to save lives and help preserve the future.

I urge your government to use its leverage to ensure that

- 1- any bilateral or multilateral assistance really and fully reach the people in need, especially in remote areas;
- 2- serious measures be taken by the Cambodian government to combat corruption and put an end to deforestation.

With my deepest gratitude and my respectful regards,

Sam Rainsy  
Member of Parliament

Fax # (855) 23 217 452 or 23 211 336