

**DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE  
MEMBER STATES OF ASEAN, SOUTH-EAST  
ASIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

**The Chairman**

Mr Elmar BROK  
Chairman of the Committee on  
Foreign Affairs, Human Rights,  
Common Security and Defence Policy  
Rue Wiertz  
B-1047 Brussels

Subject : European Parliament-Vietnam Interparliamentary meeting  
AIPO General Assembly  
European Parliament-Cambodia Interparliamentary meeting

7-14 September 2002, Hanoi, Phnom Penh

Dear Mr Chairman,

Please find enclosed the record of the delegation's visits to Vietnam and Cambodia.

The visit to Vietnam included participating as observers in the 23<sup>rd</sup> AIPO General Assembly, and a special meeting on EP/AIPO co-operation took place.

Yours sincerely,

Hartmut Nassauer

Copy: Committee on Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy

**DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE MEMBER STATES OF ASEAN,  
SOUTH-EAST ASIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

European Parliament-Vietnam interparliamentary meeting  
Hanoi, 8 September 2002

AIPO General Assembly  
Hanoi, 9-11 September 2002

The delegation's visit to Vietnam included, on 8 September, a parliamentary dialogue with Members of the National Assembly. Since it did not prove possible for the delegation to comply with EP resolution of 5 July 2001 and meet the detained religious leaders it had requested to visit, the delegation decided to limit official activities on the following days to the multilateral meetings in the context of the AIPO General Assembly.

On 11 September, the delegation explained this decision in a press conference (see attached press release).

EP/Vietnam Interparliamentary dialogue, 8 September, 10.00-12.00

The dialogue was centred on two main subjects:

- political, economic and social developments in Vietnam, in particular with regard to "Doi Moi" (reform)
- situation of democracy and human rights, and in particular religious freedom.

The Vietnamese side remarked that reform efforts were now underway since 15 years, the Asian financial crisis notwithstanding. The main objectives were to streamline cumbersome administrative bureaucracy, to increase transparency and accountability, to build up the legislative power, in particular vis-à-vis the executive branch, to put emphasis on democracy at grass-roots level.

The new National Assembly, elected in May, comprised 27% women, and was now composed by 25% full-time MPs. The previous assembly had accomplished an important legislative work, setting up the structure for economic reform, in particular the law on enterprise, and Vietnam was enjoying a steady economic growth, with more than 40,000 private enterprises active.

With regard to democracy and human rights, the situation in Vietnam had to be put in a historical perspective: the country had only enjoyed 11 years of full peacetime in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. There was no religious oppression in Vietnam, but a "small minority makes it a job to create difficulties for Vietnam". Recent expansion of certain religious practices depended also from external financing.

External observers were adopting "distorting microscopes" in order to look at Vietnam.

It was not possible to visit those detainees which were under legal scrutiny; in Vietnam, persons were not detained because of their religion, but because they had operated against the law.

The European side expressed a strong interest for the reform process, and enquired in particular on fight against corruption, the position of trade unions in private enterprises, competition law, legislative procedures, consequences of the use of Agent orange.

On human rights, while agreeing that the dialogue had to be conducted on the basis of mutual respect, it stressed that protection of human rights constituted one of the fundamental principles of EU/Vietnam cooperation, as enshrined in article 1 of the cooperation agreement.

The European Parliament, in a series of recent resolutions, had underlined this principle, and had entrusted its Delegation with meeting certain detained persons. A list of detainees was transmitted on which further information would be appreciated. In particular, it was regrettable that it had not been possible for the Delegation to meet representatives of the main religious denominations.

The Vietnamese side confirmed that it was not possible to meet the detained persons, and considered that it was not helpful to transmit lists of names.

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Both sides remarked that, the disagreement on human rights notwithstanding, it was important to continue the parliamentary dialogue, and the European side hoped that this dialogue could continue in Europe at an early date. The Vietnamese side undertook to refer to the Speaker of the National Assembly on this subject.

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE MEMBER STATES OF ASEAN, SOUTH-EAST ASIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

### EP/Vietnam interparliamentary meeting Hanoi, 8 September, 2002

#### Draft agenda

#### I. DEVELOPMENTS IN VIETNAM AND IN THE EU

##### 1. Developments in Vietnam

- Political developments (including protection of human rights, religious freedom, situation of refugees)
- Social issues (including fight against trafficking in drugs and human beings, protection of the environment)

##### 2. Developments in the EU, in particular

- Enlargement and institutional reform.

#### II EU/VIETNAM RELATIONS

##### 1. Bilateral trade and development cooperation

##### 2. Interparliamentary cooperation

**EP/VIETNAM INTERPARLIAMENTARY MEETING**

**Hanoi, 8 September 2002**

**Members of the National Assembly of Vietnam**

Mrs Ton Nu Thi Ninh, Chair, committee on external relations

Mr Ton That Bach, vice-chair, committee on social affairs

Mr Vu Xuan Hong

Mr Tran Ngoc Duong

Mr Tran The Vuong, vice-chair, committee on legislation

Bonze Superior Thich Thanh Tu

Mr Nguyen Ngoc Dao

News release

Hanoi, 11 September 2002

### European Parliament Delegation visit to Vietnam

A Delegation of the European Parliament visited Vietnam on 7-11 September, on the occasion of the 23<sup>rd</sup> AIPO General Assembly.

The group was led by Member of European Parliament (MEP) Mr Hartmut Nassauer (European People's Party – Germany), Chairman of the Delegation for Relations with the Members States of ASEAN. The other MEPs in the party were Vice-Chair Ms Patricia McKenna (Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance –Ireland), Ms Christa Randzio-Plath (Party of European Socialists – Germany); Mr Luis Berenguer Fuster (Group of European Socialists, Spain); Mr Bert Doorn (European People's Party – Netherlands); and Mr Christopher Huhne (Group of European Liberals, Democrats and Reform Party – UK).

The Delegation took part in the plenary meetings as well as in the dialogues and working groups of the AIPO; it expressed the strong support of the European Parliament for cooperation between the European Union and ASEAN and in particular for strengthening of parliamentary links. The possible creation of an ASEAN Parliament was mentioned in the discussions and the Delegation assured that the European Parliament would gladly share with ASEAN its experience in building a multinational and multilingual legislative institution engaged in regional integration.

It was also the intention of the Delegation to hold, during its stay in Hanoi, a series of bilateral meetings with the Vietnamese authorities.

Unfortunately, this was not possible, since no agreement could be found with the Vietnamese authorities on a comprehensive programme for the visit. In particular, the Delegation had expressed its intention to visit detained religious representatives; these visits, however, were not authorised.

On 8 September the Delegation met Members of the Committee of Foreign Affairs of the National Assembly of Vietnam; in this dialogue, the future development of cooperation between Vietnam and the European Union was discussed. The new EU/Vietnam cooperation strategy for 2002-2006, recently adopted by the EU, aims at facilitating a sustainable reduction of poverty: the indicative EU budget for cooperation with Vietnam is 162 million Euros.

The European Parliament Delegation has used the opportunity of the meeting with the Vietnamese parliamentarians to focus also on problems of religious freedom and human rights; the Delegation stated that, although it respected the autonomous decisions of the Vietnamese, religious freedom and human rights have universal value. The Delegation transmitted also a list of names of persons concerning whom it would like to be informed and suggested the continuation of the dialogue, in particular with a visit of the Vietnamese parliamentarians to the European Parliament in the near future.

The Delegation leaves on 11 September for Phnom Penh, and will return to Europe on 14 September.

**ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organisation**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly, 8-12 September 2002, Hanoi**

**STATEMENT BY MR. HARTMUT NASSAUER, LEADER OF THE  
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DELEGATION**

Mr. President

Distinguished Member of the AIPO General Assembly,  
Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is for me a great honour to represent the European Parliament in this Assembly. These last two days, I have already had the pleasure to attend the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> General Assemblies in Singapore and Bangkok; on these occasions, I appreciated the high quality of the debates and realised the importance that the European Union be present in this inter-parliamentary Forum.

It is therefore important, in my view, that this year in Hanoi the European Parliament is represented by a delegation of five Members, coming from 4 different Member States of the European Union and representing different political groupings.

We very much look forward to the opportunity of meeting our Asian colleagues in order to discuss matters that are important to ASEAN and to the European Union.

Ours is a long-standing relationship: the Union was one of ASEAN's first dialogue partners, and our links were institutionalised already in 1980, with the signing of the EU/ASEAN co-operation agreement; parliamentary links also have been intense and rewarding.

Europe looks with great interest at developments in East Asia: political stability and economic growth in your area are felt to be crucial for the future of security and prosperity at a global level.

Therefore, we strongly support regional integration within ASEAN, and we consider that our bilateral co-operation programmes can contribute in that direction.

EC/ASEAN co-operation, as you know, is quite active, and ongoing projects include initiatives such as:

- the ASEAN Regional Centre for Biodiversity Conservation in Malina
- the EC-ASEAN COGEN III (Energy Co-operation) Programme
- the EC-ASEAN Energy Facility
- the EU-ASEAN Intellectual Property Rights Programme

- the ASEAN-EU University Network Programme

while other projects are in active preparation. It is however clear, in our opinion, that the so-called "New Dynamic" in EU/ASEAN relations, launched in 1999, urgently needs to receive a new momentum.

The European Union itself is now approaching a very challenging period, in which internal constitutional reform and enlargement will have to be dealt with simultaneously and in parallel: we are therefore very sympathetic towards all initiatives aimed at deepening co-operation within ASEAN, and strengthening its institutional framework.

We know in particular that suggestions are made for creating an ASEAN Parliament, and we are honoured by the fact that our European Parliament seems to have given some inspiration in this direction.

We look favourably also towards the increased co-operation between ASEAN and its East Asian partners, in the framework of ASEAN + 3, and to the projects for an ASEAN-China Free Trade Area and an ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership.

I would like however to briefly elaborate on what should be, in my view, our central subjects for discussion: ASEAN/EU co-operation has still not reached a level which corresponds to the potentials of our regions. We need more trade, more investments, more exchanges at cultural and academic level, more people-to-people links.

We know the difficulties we had in the past in keeping momentum for co-operation, including the difficulties in convening Ministerial and Joint Co-operation Meetings. I trust that positive approaches have been found in order to overcome these difficulties, and in particular that it will be possible for the next EU-ASEAN Ministerial Meeting to take place in Europe as soon as possible in 2003.

Our regions need sustained economic growth in order to provide employment, to relaunch investments and to tackle social problems; in our view, democracy and respect for human rights are central elements ensuring balanced development of our societies and, in the end, the best guarantees for economic and social well-being.

Our experience in regional integration was built around those values and parliamentary democracy constitutes, in our view, an essential element of this development; for these reasons, also, we strongly value co-operation and dialogue between parliamentarians, such as this AIPO Assembly or the recent ASEP II meeting in Manila.

Dear Friends, I believe that in the next days we, as parliamentarians, will have the difficult task to try and give inspiration to our governments and public opinion on a wide series of subjects, ranging from global security issues to the fight against trafficking in people and drugs, to furthering sustainable development and economic and trade co-operation.

But, in particular, as representatives of the European Parliament and an observer Delegation to this meeting, we would like to assure our friends from ASEAN of our strongest support in their efforts for integration, and stress once again that EU-ASEAN co-operation should keep this element as a key priority in the elaboration of a programme for future activities.

May I extend therefore, in the name of the European Parliament, my best wishes of success for the 23<sup>rd</sup> AIPO General Assembly.

# AIPO

## ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ORGANIZATION

23rd General Assembly  
8-13 September 2002, Vietnam

### REPORT ON THE DIALOGUE WITH THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1. The AIPO dialogue with the delegation from the European Parliament held on 10 September 2002 was chaired by the undersigned and participated by the following delegates:

- |   |        |
|---|--------|
| 1. Hon. Nguyen Ngoc Tran                | Chair  |
| <b>European Parliament</b>              |        |
| 2. Hon. NASSAUER Hartmut                | Leader |
| 3. Hon. McKENNA Patricia                | Member |
| 4. Hon. RANDZIO-PLATH Christa           | Member |
| 5. Hon. BERENQUER FUSER Luis            | Member |
| 6. Hon. DOORN Bert                      | Member |
| 7. Hon. HUHNE Christopher               | Member |
| <b>Cambodia</b>                         |        |
| 8. Hon. Monh Siyon                      | Member |
| 9. Hon. Serei Kosal                     | Member |
| <b>Indonesia</b>                        |        |
| 10. Hon. Burhan Djabir Magenda, M. A.   | Member |
| 11. Hon. Ibrahim Ambong                 | Member |
| <b>Lao People's Democratic Republic</b> |        |
| 12. Hon. Khamphay RATHSAMMY             | Member |
| 13. Hon. Phonthep PHONSENA              | Member |
| <b>Malaysia</b>                         |        |
| 14. Hon. Ruhanie bin Ahmad, Datuk       | Member |
| 15. Hon. Ng Lip Yong                    | Member |
| <b>Philippines</b>                      |        |
| None attended.                          |        |
| <b>Singapore</b>                        |        |
| 16. Hon. Ho Geok Choo                   | Member |

**Thailand**

17. Hon. Poowanida KUNPALIN	Member
18. Hon. Wittaya MASAYNA	Member

**Viet Nam**

19. Hon. Nguyen Thi Hong Minh	Member
20. Hon. Truong Huu Tri	Member
21. Hon. Tran Dong A	Member
22. Hon. Tran Quoc Thuan	Member
23. Hon. Ton Nu Thi Ninh	Member

**Brunei Darussalam**

24. H.E. Awang Haji Jamsani Bin Haji Noordin	Member
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**Myanmar**

25. H.E. U Khin Aung	
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2. The dialogue was undertaken in a cordial and friendly manner and proceeded with ease and mutual understanding.
3. The European Parliament delegation (EP delegation) shared that the main focus of the European Union at the moment is the question of its enlargement. EU has become a comprehensive integration, covering all political and economic areas. The acceptance of the population over the EURO and question of terrorism have been emphasised.
4. The EP Delegation expressed their appreciation and willingness in expanding cooperation with AIPO and member countries.
5. A number of questions, such as how the EU harmonised the differences between member countries, particularly with the case of prospective members, and possibility that all EU countries adopt the EURO in the near future were discussed.
6. On the question of Iraq, the EP delegation members noted that there was no unanimity among EU member countries, and that the EU could take decisions in the fields of foreign and security policies only unanimously.
7. Delegation from Indonesia understood the concerns of the EP delegation on the domestic conflicts in Indonesia and expressed the fact that the conditions had improved and were not based on the prosecution of any religious, ethnic and racial groups.

8. With regard to trade protection in EU, delegates from Vietnam and Thailand shared the concern over the non-quantitative barriers of the EU for agricultural and fishery products from ASEAN countries (the case of shrimp products turned off by the EU according to hygienic requirements, which are considered by some ASEAN countries as exceptionally high compared to international standards). In response, the EP delegation expressed that they would check with the EU Commission on the substance of this issue.
9. Representative of Cambodia expressed thanks to the EU for sending observers to the 1998 General Election, wishing that EU would again send a larger number of observers to the pending general election in Cambodia. In response, the EP delegation wished to be able to discuss further with the Cambodian counterpart.
10. In terms of educational, cultural, scientific and technological cooperation, delegates from the EP and AIPO members expressed their wish for furthered and fostered exchanges, including joint research programmes, exchanges of students, development of people-to-people relations, and cultural projects.
11. For future meetings, the EP delegation stated that they would be in a better position to give productive responses to the questions of AIPO members if they were informed of the issues to be discussed one month in advance.
12. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the European Parliament delegation for its frank and positive response and suggestions on the various issues raised, and expressions of the wish that the close relationship between AIPO members and the European Parliament be further reinforced.

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE MEMBER STATES OF ASEAN, SOUTH-EAST ASIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

EP/AIPO interparliamentary meeting  
Hanoi, 10 September, 2002

### Draft agenda

1. Regional and Security issues
2. Fight against trafficking of people and drugs
3. Sustainable development after the Johannesburg Summit
4. Developing EU/Asean Cooperation
  - Economic and Trade Cooperation (including WTO)
  - Interparliamentary Cooperation

**DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE MEMBER STATES OF ASEAN,  
SOUTH-EAST ASIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

European Parliament-Cambodia interparliamentary meeting  
Phnom Penh, 11-14 September 2002

Meetings in Cambodia took place at a very high level; the Delegation was received by the acting Head of State, Chea Sim, President of the Senate, by Prime Minister Hun Sen, and met Members of both the Senate and the National Assembly, including representatives of the main political parties (majority and opposition).

The Commission Delegation in Phnom Penh was extremely helpful in organising meetings and assisting the EP Delegation; the Council Presidency and the Member States Ambassadors to Cambodia also assisted in briefing the Delegation.

Meeting with Prime Minister Hun Sen, 12 September, 9.30-10.30

The PM thanked the Delegation for its timely visit: Cambodia was grateful for the interest by the EU, and considered in fact that the last general elections, in 1998, had been possible only as a result of assistance by the EU and Japan. It was important that this assistance continue in view of the 2003 general election. PM Hun Sen then answered questions by the Delegation, in particular:

- on perspectives for the next elections: while in 1998 the Khmer Rouge were still present, and violence widespread, conditions were now much improved. Access to media in the run-up to general elections was regulated by law. The opposition was free to organise its activities, and international observers would be welcome.

- negotiations with the UN on the institution of a Tribunal for the Khmer Rouge: since 1979 the government had planned the institution of a special Tribunal. But the UN had unilaterally suspended negotiations. Certain problems had not been solved, including relationship between Cambodian law and international law, right of amnesty, levels of appeal. Furthermore, financing was a difficult issue.

- EU assistance was "on the right way"; particular attention should be given to the rural area, but also to reforming certain sectors such as the judiciary.

- fight against corruption: the PM gave information on contractual arrangements for the organisation of tourism in Angkor Wat, and concessions for flights to and from Siem Reap. A specific anti-corruption law would be in force by the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2003.

The Delegation confirmed the continuing support of the European Union to Cambodia's political and economic reform efforts.

Meeting with Vice-President of Senate, Sisowath Chivanmonirak, 12 September, 11.00-11.40

The Vice-President stressed the importance that Europe assist Cambodia not only financially, but also by sharing its experience and know-how. He expressed his confidence in the democratisation process in Cambodia, but much still had to be achieved, in particular at local level: democracy was still implemented "from above".

Following questions by the Delegation, the Vice-President considered that:

- education was the first priority for building a "new Cambodia" after 20 years of "dark days". Setting up a working judiciary system was however also an essential priority.
- the military was under control of the civilian government, and "did not run the country, except perhaps in certain areas".
- the national budget law was drawn up by government and had to be adopted by both Chambers of Parliament.
- European and other international observers were welcome for the next national elections; he felt sure that these would be "100% peaceful".

Meeting with Members of the National Assembly, 12 September, 11.50 - 12.30

The meeting with Members of the National Assembly centred on legislative procedures, electoral law and the next legislative elections.

The Cambodian side stressed the need for assistance to the National Assembly in the areas of "institution building, capacity building, training of MPs and staff". The WB, IPU and UNDP were involved in this effort. The present Assembly had already adopted 80 laws (as compared to 90 in the whole precedent legislature period), including the law on electoral reform. In evaluating this law, Members of the opposition voiced concerns, in particular with regard to

- insufficient control on financing and reporting on use of funds
- composition of the NEC (National Electoral Commission), which would be constituted by "independent personalities" appointed by the Minister of the Interior
- possible intimidation of the electorate, in particular in certain areas, and possible registration of non-citizens

All members stressed the role of electoral observers and welcomed the assistance and participation of the EU in this effort, which should include observation "in the far-flung regions".

The European side assured that it had taken good note of this invitation, and that it realised the crucial role of the next general elections for Cambodia's efforts for democratisation and economic and social progress.

Meeting with Mr Kem Sokha, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Protection of Human rights and reception of complaints, 12 September, 17.40-18.25

Chairman Kem Sokha introduced the discussion; he considered that the most serious problems in Cambodian society could be summarised as follows:

- uncertainty with regard to property rights, "land grabbing", corruption of the judiciary.
- political crime. Crimes against political opponents of the government were not being prosecuted. While it was true that political violence had decreased (100 victims at the time of the 1993 elections, 20 in 1998, 10 in 2002). It should be stressed that no one has been punished for these crimes. The outlook for the future was not positive.
- trafficking of women and children, especially in touristic areas. No initiative was taken by the government and by the judiciary in order to fight this phenomenon, which was in sharp increase.

Following questions by the Delegation, Mr Kem Sokha considered that the role of the National Electoral Commission would be crucial in view of the 2003 elections; it was however unlikely that it would be composed by independent personalities. NGOs and international observers would be essential in monitoring the electoral process.

With regard to asylum seekers from Vietnam, he considered that the Cambodian military and police were using this issue in order to generate fear among the population.

On trafficking, he considered that poverty and corruption of the judiciary both cooperated in aggravating the situation.

Meeting with opposition leader, Mr Sam Rainsy (SRP), 12 September, 18.30-19.30

Mr Rainsy introduced the discussion by focussing on three main issues:

- need to continue humanitarian assistance to Cambodia, in particular following the recent unprecedented floods. It was important, however, to check that assistance reached those who really were in need of it.
- need to fight corruption, threats to the environment (including deforestation) social problems such as unemployment, which was widely underestimated by official statistical data.
- need to put in place a democratic system, including free and fair electoral process.

Following questions from Members of the Delegation, Mr Rainsy considered that:

- the role of election observers was crucial; it should be considered, furthermore, that the registration phase was particularly important, including distribution of national identity cards;
- democratic evolution in Cambodia did include some positive aspects, but rule of law was not guaranteed.
- the "apparatchiks" who dominated rural areas were in the process of "grabbing the land" and accelerating deforestation. No land register was available, but land redistribution was nonetheless an important priority.
- participation of women in political life was hampered by the high illiteracy rate (80%, as compared to 50% for men).
- the recent expulsion from the National Assembly of Members who had changed party allegiance was a violation of the Constitution and should be strongly condemned, in particular by the IPU.

Meeting with acting Head of State, Samdech Chea Sim, President of the Senate

Samdech Chea Sim welcomed the Delegation, and expressed gratitude for the EU assistance, which was crucial in developing sectors such as health, education, tourism infrastructures.

In his answers to questions from the European Delegation, the President considered that:

- Cambodia should concentrate on raising the standard of living of its people and try to catch up on decades of lost growth
- past elections, including 1993 and 1998 legislative and 2002 local elections had been free and fair. International observers were essential so that elections be also widely perceived as free and fair.
- the electoral law ensured access to media and freedom of organisation for the opposition also
- Cambodian society was suffering from specific problems, such as the recent floods, but also from structural problems. Good governance needed to be implemented, and issues such as trafficking of drugs, people, poor education and health care were serious concerns on which Cambodia needed assistance from the international community; cooperation with ASEAN constituted also a useful approach for tackling these problems.
- the law instituting the Tribunal for prosecution of the Khmer Rouge was ready, but an agreement with the United Nations on certain open issues still had to be concluded.

The European side thanked the President for his explanations. It remarked that the Delegation had received useful and, sometimes, contradictory information on its subjects of interest. It confirmed the crucial importance that the international community assist Cambodia in view of the next legislative elections, through electoral monitoring missions and related assistance. It undertook to report back to the European Parliament on this subject, as well as on the importance of continuing support to democratisation and peaceful economic and social development in Cambodia.

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE MEMBER STATES OF ASEAN, SOUTH-EAST ASIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

### EP/Cambodia interparliamentary meeting

Phnom Penh, Angkor 11-14 September, 2002

### Draft agenda

#### I. DEVELOPMENTS IN CAMBODIA AND IN THE EU

##### 1. Developments in Cambodia

- Political developments (including electoral reform, Khmer Rouge Tribunal)
- Social issues and "governance" (including protection of human rights, fight against trafficking in drugs and human beings, situation of refugees, protection of the environment)

##### 2. Developments in the EU, in particular

- Enlargement and institutional reform.

#### II REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

##### 1. Asean and regional integration

##### 2. Security issues

#### III. EU/CAMBODIA RELATIONS

##### 1. Bilateral trade and development cooperation

##### 2. Interparliamentary cooperation

## **EP/CAMBODIA INTERPARLIAMENTARY MEETING**

**Phnom Penh, 12 September, 2002**

### **Members of the National Assembly**

Mrs Ky Lum Ang (FUNCINPEC)	Chairperson of the Commission on Economy-Planning Investment, Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment
Mr Samrith Pech (SRP)	Member of the Commission on Protection of Human Rights and Reception of Complaints
Princess Sisowath Santa (FUNCINPEC)	Member of Commission on Public Health, Social and Women's Affairs
Mr Sam Sundoeun (SRP)	Member of Commission on Legislation
Mr Ho Sry (CPP)	Member of Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Propaganda and Information
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Dr Kol Pheng	Secretary General

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## NEWS RELEASE

13th September 2002

**For Immediate Release**

**European Parliament Delegation concludes visit to Cambodia**

Members of the European Parliament Delegation for Relations with the Member States of ASEAN visited Cambodia from 11<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> September where they sought to strengthen links and enhance cooperation in a wide range of areas.

The group was led by Chairman of the Delegation for Relations with the Member States of ASEAN Mr Hartmut Nassauer (European People's Party - Germany). The other Members of the European Parliament in the party were Vice Chair Ms Patricia McKenna (GreenS/European Free Alliance - Ireland); Ms Christa Randzio-Plath (Party of European Socialists - Germany); Mr Luis Berenguer Fuster (Party of European Socialists - Spain); Mr Bert Doorn (European People's Party - Netherlands); and Mr Christopher Huhne (European Liberals, Democrats and Reform Party - UK).

During the four-day visit the delegation met the acting Head of State (in the absence of HM King Norodom Sihanouk) Samdech Chea Sim, President of the Senate; Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen; Secretary General of FUNCINPEC HRH Norodom Sirivudh; and opposition leader Mr Sam Rainsy.

Sessions were held with HRH Prince Sisowath Chivanmonirak in his capacity as Vice President of the Senate together with Senate Commissions. There were also meetings with Commissions of the National Assembly, representatives from local and international NGOs as well as international organisations.

Discussions covered a wide range of topics including political and economic developments in Cambodia and the European Union (EU). The delegation stressed its backing for the ongoing process of democratisation which the EU has supported through electoral monitoring missions and related assistance. The delegation indicated that it saw the continuation of this support for the next legislative elections as having an important role to play.

The Cambodian authorities were urged to continue with their efforts to implement judicial and legislative reform to ensure that people from all strata of society have access to adequate and reliable legal recourse.

Respect for human rights and protection of the environment featured highly in discussions. Education was also highlighted as a key priority with regard to the

development process. The delegation undertook to report back to the European Parliament on the situation in Cambodia in view of future EU budgetary decisions.

Directly elected by the citizens of the European Union, the European Parliament is one of the EU's major institutions. It plays an important role in expressing public opinion and shares decision-making responsibility with the European Council. More information of the European Parliament can be found at [www.europarl.eu.int](http://www.europarl.eu.int)

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE MEMBER STATES OF ASEAN, SOUTH-EAST ASIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

EP/Vietnam interparliamentary meeting  
AIPO General Assembly  
EP/Cambodia interparliamentary meeting

Hanoi and Phnom Penh

7 - 14 September 2002

### DRAFT PROGRAMME

#### Saturday 07 September

- morning/  
afternoon      Arrival of participants at Noibai airport in Hanoi and transfer to hotel:  
*Daewoo Hotel*  
*360 Kim Ma Street, Ba dinh district*  
*Tel. +84-4-831 5000*  
*Fax. +84-4-831 5588*
- 19.45            Depart hotel for
- 20.00            Briefing and dinner hosted by the European Parliament with Member  
State Ambassadors and Head of Commission Delegation  
*Melià Hotel*  
*44B Ly Thuong Kiet*  
*Tel. +84-4-9 343 343*  
*Fax. +84-4-9 343 344*

#### Sunday 08 September

- 09.45            Depart hotel for
- 10.00-12.00    Working session with the Vietnamese National Assembly's External  
Affairs Commission  
*International Relations Department*  
*National Assembly Office*  
*22 Ly Thuong Kiet street*

12.15	Return to hotel
Lunch	Free for own arrangements
13.45	Depart hotel for
14.00	Meeting with Mr Jordan Ryan, Resident Representative UNDP <i>UNDP office</i> <i>72 Ly Thuong Kiet street</i>
16h15	Return to the hotel
18.00-19.30	Welcome reception AIPO hosted by the leader of Vietnam Delegation, H.E. Mr. Truong Quang Duoc and Madam <i>Daewoo Hotel, Pool-side</i>

**Monday 09 September**

06.00-08.30	Breakfast <i>La Paix</i>
08.05	Departure Leaders of AIPO Member Delegations, Special Observer Delegation and Observer Delegations (Mr NASSAUER ONLY)
08.30-8.45	Courtesy call on H.E. Nguyen Van An, President of the National Assembly of S.R. Vietnam, President of AIPO <i>Ba Dinh Hall, International Meeting Room</i>
08.10	Departure of Delegation for <i>Ba Dinh Hall</i>
09.00-10.00	Inaugural Ceremony <i>Ba Dinh Hall</i>
10.30-12.30	First Plenary Session
12.30-13.30	Lunch <i>La Paix</i>
14-16.30	First Plenary Session (cont.) <i>Daewoo Hotel</i> <i>Grand Ballroom</i>
	Presentation of awards

- 17.50 Depart for Hilton Opera Hotel
- 18.00-19.30 Dinner in honour of AIPO Delegates hosted by the Chairman of the Hanoi People's Committee, H.E. Mr. Hoang Van Nghien and Madam  
*Hanoi Hilton Opera Hotel*
- 19.30 All Delegates proceed to the Opera House
- 20.00-22.00 Cultural performance - Gala Concert in celebration of 25th anniversary of AIPO foundation  
*Hanoi Municipal Theater*

**Tuesday 10 September**

- 07.45 Informal breakfast with Thai Delegation  
*La Paix*
- 08.30-12.30 Committee Meetings  
*Daewoo Hotel*
- Committee on Political Matters  
*IRIS*
- Committee on Economic Matters  
*Ballroom B*
- Committee on Social Matters  
*Ballroom C*
- Committee on Organisational Matters  
*Ballroom D*
- Meeting of women Parliamentarians of AIPO  
*Ballroom A*
- Dialogue with Observers  
LILAC
- 10.45 Departure Leaders of AIPO Member Delegations, Special Observer Delegation and Observer Delegations (Mr NASSAUER ONLY)
- 11.00-11.45 Courtesy call on H.E. Nong Duc Manh, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and Photo session (National Dress/Lounge suit)  
*Presidential Palace, International Conference Center*

- 12.00 Return to hotel
- 12.30-13.30 Lunch  
*La Paix*
- 13.30-15.30 AIPO dialogue with the European Parliament  
*Ballroom D*
- 16.00-18.00 Meeting with representatives of NGOs  
*Spanish Embassy meeting room*  
*15th Floor, Daeha Business Center (on the left-front of hotel)*
- 18.15 Departure Leaders of AIPO Member Delegations, Special Observer Delegation and Observer Delegations depart for International Conference Center (Mr NASSAUER ONLY)
- 18.45-19.00 Courtesy call on H.E. Tran Duc Luong, President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam
- 18.25 Departure of Delegation for International Conference Center
- 19.00-20.30 Reception hosted by H.E. Mr, Tran Duc Luong, President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (National Dress/Lounge suit)  
*Presidential Palace*

### **Wednesday 11 September**

- 06.30-08.30 Breakfast  
*La Paix*
- 08.30 Check-out of hotel
- 08.50 Depart for
- 09.00 Press meeting  
*Spanish Embassy meeting room*  
*15th Floor, Daeha Business Center (on the left-front of hotel)*
- 10.30 Depart for airport
- 11.50 Flight to Phnom Penh with Vietnam Airlines VN 841
- 15.35 Arrival at Pochentong International Airport in Phnom Penh

Welcoming reception by the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the EC Delegation and transfer to hotel

- 16.45 Check-in at  
*Hotel Le Royal*  
*92 Rukhak Vithei Daun Penh Sangkat Wat Phnom*  
*Tel +855-23-981 888*  
*Fax +855-23-981 168*
- 18.00-19.00 Briefing session with the Commission Delegation  
*Hotel Le Royal*
- 19.30 Briefing dinner hosted by the European Parliament with Member State Ambassadors  
*Hotel Le Royal*

**Thursday 12 September**

- 07.55 Departure for
- 08.00-09.00 Working breakfast with HRH Prince Norodom Sirivudh, Secretary General of the royalist party FUNCINPEC (Front Uni National pour un Cambodge Independent, Neutre, Pacifique Et Cooperatif)
- 09.30-10.30 Call on HE Samdech Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia  
*Council of Ministers*  
*38, Confederation de la Russie*  
*Tel +855-23-212708*  
*Fax +855-23-726127*
- 11.00-11.40 Meeting with the First Vice-President of the Senate, HRH Prince Sisowath Chivanmonirak  
*Senate*  
*Chamkarmon State building*  
*Preah Norodom Blvd*  
*Tel. +855-23-211441*  
*Fax +855-23-211446*
- 11.50-12.30 Meeting with the Chair of the Commission on Economy and other Members of the National Assembly  
*National Assembly*  
*Sothearos (St. 3), corner St. 240*  
*Tel +855-23-212535*  
*Fax +855-23- 217769*

- 12.30-14.30 Lunch hosted by the General Secretariat of the National Assembly  
*Intercontinental Hotel*  
*296 Blvd Mao Tse Toung (st. 245)*  
*Tel. +855-23- 424888*  
*Fax +855-23-424885*
- 15.00-15.50 Visit of the Royal Palace
- 15.50 Depart from Royal Palace for
- 16.00-16.30 Courtesy call to HE Mr Chea Sophara, the Governor of Phnom Penh  
*Municipality of Phnom Penh*  
*Monivong Blvd*  
*Tel. +855-23-426101*  
*Fax +855-23-21108*
- 16.50-17.30 Meeting with Mrs Margo Picken, Head of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights  
*Office of the UN High Commissioner Human Rights*  
*UN Cambodian Office HCHR*  
*16A Mao Tse Tuong Blvd*  
*Tel. +855-23-362797*  
*Fax +855-23-212579*
- 17.40-18.25 Meeting with Mr Khem Sokha, Chair of the Senate Commission for Human Rights  
*EC Delegation Office*  
*# 1, Street 21, Tonlé Bassac,*  
*Chamcarmon, Phnom Penh*  
*Tel. +855-23-216 996*  
*Fax. +855-23-216 997*
- 18.30-19.30 Meeting with Mr Sam Rainsy, leader of the Sam Rainsy Party  
*Headquarters of Sam Rainsy Party*  
*71, Sothearos Blvd*  
*Tel. +855-16-957733 (Mr Phi Thach – Chief of Cabinet)*  
*Fax +855-23-217452*
- 20.00 Cocktail with the European Technical Assistants of EC-supported projects and EC-supported European NGOs hosted by the EC Delegation  
*Friends Mith Samlanh Restaurant*  
*215, Street 13*  
*Tel. +855-12-802072 (Gustav Auer – Restaurant Manager)*

**Friday 13 September**

- 08.30-09.50 Meeting with the CCC and NGO Forum and with representatives of the environmentalist NGOs and other local NGOs, ADHOC (Cambodian Human Rights and Development Association); LICADHO (Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights); COMFREL (Committee for Free and Fair Election in Cambodia); NICFEC (National and Impartial Committee for Free and fair Election in Cambodia).  
*Hotel Royal*
- 10.00-10.50 Meeting with the acting Head of State, H.E. Samdech Chea Sim  
*Senate*  
Chamkarmon State building  
*Preah Norodom Blvd*  
*Tel. +855-23-211441*  
*Fax +855-23-211446*
- 12.00-12.30 Press meeting  
*Hotel Le Royal*  
*Empress Room*
- 12.30-15.00 Lunch free for own arrangements - Check-out from Hotel Le Royal
- 15.00-16.30 Visit of “Mith Samlanh”/Friends project site in Phnom Penh  
*Friends Mith Samlanh*  
*215, Street 13*  
*Tel. +855-12-802155 (Sebastien Marot – Project Manager)*
- 17.00 Departure to the airport
- 17.50 Departure to Siem Reap, by Siem Reap Airways FT 998
- 18.30 Arrival at Siem Reap Airport
- 19.00 Departure to the  
*Grand Hotel d’Angkor*  
*1 Vithei Charles de Gaulle*  
*Khum Svay Dang Kum*  
*Tel. +855-63-963 888*  
*Fax. +855-63 963 168*
- 20.00 Dinner with the Governor of Siem Reap and APSARA (Authority for Protection of the Site and the Management of Angkor) and the EU Member States Technical Assistants

**Saturday 14 September**

- 08.00-12.00 Visit of the Angkor Wat archaeological park, guided by APSARA
- 12.30-14.30 Lunch free for own arrangements
- 15.00-17.00 Continuation of the visit of the archaeological park or visit to the Artisans D'Angkor/Chantiers Ecole de Formation Professionnelle
- 17.30 Late check-out from the Grand Hotel d'Angkor and departure to the airport
- 19.00 Departure to Bangkok, by Bangkok Airways PG 939
- 20.00 Arrival at Bangkok airport
- Individual returns to Europe

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE MEMBER STATES OF ASEAN, SOUTH-EAST ASIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

EP/Vietnam interparliamentary meeting

AIPO

EP/Cambodia interparliamentary meeting

Hanoi and Phnom Penh

7 - 14 September 2002

List of Participants (11)

<u>Members (6)</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Country</u>
Mr NASSAUER Hartmut, Chair	PPE-DE	Germany
Ms McKENNA Patricia, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair	Verts/ALE	Ireland
Ms RANDZIO-PLATH Christa	PSE	Germany
Mr BERENGUER FUSTER Luis	PSE	Spain
Mr DOORN Bert	PPE-DE	Netherlands
Mr HUHNE Christopher	ELDR	United Kingdom

### Secretariat, Interparliamentary Delegations (2)

Mr CHICCO Carlo	Principal Administrator
Ms SCHWENDENWEIN Claudia	Administrative Assistant

### Interpreters (3)

Mr LESSEIGNE Michel	French booth, Head of Interpreters
Mr CARBIENER Bernard	French booth
Mr SHAW Chris	English booth

PPE-DE	Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) and European Democrats
PSE	Group of the Party of European Socialists
ELDR	Group of the European Liberal, Democrat and Reform Party
Verts/ALE	Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance