

Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations at Geneva

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URGENT

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations at Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and, with reference to the Office's communication No. UA KHM 5/2020 dated 15 July 2020, has the honour to transmit herewith to the Office of the OHCHR additional details from the Minstry of Interor as to the alleged abduction and enforced disappearance in Cambodia of Mr. Wanchalearm Satsaksit.

The Permanent Mission of Cambodia would be much grateful if the said information could be forwarded to its high destination.

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) the assurances of its highest consideration.

ugust 2020

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner

Geneva

for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Additional details from the Ministry of Interior (MoI) of the Kingdom of Cambodia as to the alleged abduction and enforced disappearance in Cambodia of

Mr. Wanchalearm Satsaksit

1. Background

- ➤ On 5 June 2020, Cambodian authorities received information from unknown sources about abduction of a Thai man named **Wanchalearm Satsaksit** in the east of Mekong River in Phnom Penh.
- The unknown sources had identified a blue car, Toyota Highlander, with a plate number
- Based on the information, authorities of MoI namely General Commissariat of National Police, General Department of Immigration and Police Commissariat of Phnom Penh launched an immediate investigation.

2. Process and Results of the Preliminary Investigation

- ➤ According to immigration documents, the Thai man last entered Cambodia on 19 October 2015 through the gate of Phnom Penh International Airport and obtained a temporary residence visa valid until 31 December 2017. After his visa expired, Wanchalearm Satsaksit did not have it renewed.
- The authorities of the MoI have carried out an investigation into a location with the alleged abduction and whereabouts of the Thai citizen. As a result, Wanchalearm Satsaksit was not found in the accommodation list of the site provided. Meanwhile, the authorities have tried to find evidence through security cameras where the incident reportedly took place, but had no clue.
- Regarding the blue Toyota Highlander with a plate number the authorities have cooperated with the Ministry of Public Works and Transport to define the identity. However, this vehicle was not in the management list of the Ministry of Public Works and Transport.
- ➤ Based on testimony of three witnesses (living around the location of the alleged incident), they confirmed that there were no reports of abduction in the said area.

3. Next steps

- ➤ The authorities will continue to gather further information in the country and abroad by cooperating with relevant authorities, especially with Thai authorities:
 - o To find out the truth about the alleged incident
 - To find out if there was a real abduction case and if it had really happened in Cambodia.

4. Suggestion

The authorities of MoI suggest that all relevant parties in the country and abroad, including witnesses to this incident offer further cooperation and specific information and evidence to assist the Cambodian authorities in carrying out investigations, and that they refrain from making any inaccurate evaluation which may affect the investigation process of the authorities.
