



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
Nation Religion King



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

No. 2021/11/770

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and, with reference to the Special Rapporteurs' Joint Communication No. AL KHM 10/2021 dated 27 September 2021, has the honour to transmit to the latter herewith the response from Provincial Administration of Kandal of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

The Permanent Mission of Cambodia would appreciate it if the said information could be conveyed to its high destinations.

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 High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 1st December 2021



Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Geneva

**Reply of the Provincial Administration of Kandal to
the Joint Communication of the Special Rapporteurs**

No. AL KHM 10/2021 dated 27 September 2021

In response to the Joint Communication of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, Special Rapporteur on adequate housing, Special Rapporteur on minority issues, and Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, the Provincial Administration of Kandal of the Kingdom of Cambodia would like to offer clarifications as follows:

1. Since 27 June 2021, Vietnamese nationals moved their floating houses and boats along Mekong River from Phnom Penh and ended up temporarily residing in Reang Chuor village, Ka Am Samnor commune, Leuk Dek district, Kandal province. Below are some figures:
 - 63 fish cages, 50 of which are houses
 - 71 boats, 26 of which are houses
 - 65 families account for 291 people (145 female and 160 people aged above 18)
 - o 249 people (123 female) have received Covid-19 vaccines. 47 people are between 6 and 17 years old (26 female).
 - o 42 people did not receive the vaccines. 40 people are below 6 (20 female), 01 pregnant woman and 01 person with illness.
2. District authorities allowed fish cages, floating house, and boat from Phnom Penh to make temporary stop in Reang Chuor and Ka Am Samnor Leu villages, Ka Am Samnor commune, Leuk Dek district, Kandal province. Additionally, the authorities granted permissions and facilitation to them.
 - Vietnamese immigrants living on floating houses, fish cages, and floating boats remain in the shelters and engage in daily activities such as fishing and fish rearing.
 - At the same time, Leuk Dek district authorities provided them with Covid-19 vaccination, reaching 100% vaccination rate (except that the 40 unvaccinated people who are underage, one pregnant woman and one chronically sick person).
 - The relocation applies only to anarchic floating houses, fish cages on water surface, and illegal residents in some places which are harmful to security issues, orderliness, water passage, ecological system, and water currents—be it deep or shallow. Fish feeding, waste discharge, and open defecation in the river severely damage water biodiversity, degrade water quality, pollute environment and its aesthetics, especially detrimentally affect health of people consuming the toxicated water, thus seriously

contradictory to “Safe Village/Commune Policy” of the Royal Government of Cambodia.

- No eviction is enforced against Vietnamese immigrants staying on floating houses, fishing cages, and boats in Leuk Dek district. Instead, the authority has facilitated their temporary accommodations in appropriate, secured, and orderly manner.
- Vietnamese immigrants staying on floating houses, fishing cages, and boats have agreed to voluntarily relocate after their fishes are all harvested. Authorities and relevant officials have facilitated the transportation of their personal belongings to the mainland's location of their choice, depending on actual circumstances.
- Relevant competent authorities have facilitated the provision of temporary accommodation. Fish rearing businesses are allowed to continue until the harvest is over while fishing in the river is entitled as long as legal fishing tools are utilized in the fishing season.
