



**Remarks by**  
**Excellency Vongsey Vissoth**  
Permanent Deputy Prime Minister,  
Minister in Charge of the Office of the Council of Ministers

**At the Opening Ceremony of the 2026 Global Poverty Reduction and Development Forum**  
**Under the Theme: “Uniting Global Efforts to Advance Poverty Reduction”**  
**Beijing, China | 27 May 2026 (5 Minutes)**

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- *Excellency Liu Guozhong, Vice Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China;*
- *Excellency Mariano Assanami Sabino, the Deputy Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste;*
- *Excellency Zhang Zhu, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China;*
- *Excellency Stephen Jackson, the UN Resident Coordinator in China;*
- *Excellencies, Distinguished Heads of Delegations;*
- *Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen!*

It is my great honor, on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, to join you at **the 2026 Global Poverty Reduction and Development Forum**. Cambodia extends its sincere appreciation to the **Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China** and to the **International Poverty Reduction Center in China** for convening this important gathering.

This Forum takes place at a decisive moment. As the world moves closer to 2030, poverty reduction must remain at the heart of the global sustainable development agenda. Conflict, climate change, food and energy insecurity, high living costs and rapid technological change are placing new pressures on many societies, especially poor and vulnerable households. In the end, development must be judged by whether people can live with dignity, security and hope.

Cambodia warmly welcomes the **Global Partnership for Poverty Alleviation and Development (GPPAD)** as a timely platform for solidarity, mutual learning and practical cooperation. Holding this Forum in China gives it special meaning. Through visionary leadership, people-centered development policies, and sustained efforts, China has lifted eight hundreds of millions of people out of poverty over the past four decades. China's poverty reduction journey is one of the most remarkable development of modern times. Thus, it shows that poverty can be reduced at scale when clear vision, national ownership, broad-based growth, rural development, infrastructure, job creation and targeted public support work together. **For Cambodia, the values of these experiences lie not in copying any model, but in learning from the spirit behind them.**

*- Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen!*

From Cambodia's own journey, one truth stands out clearly: poverty reduction begins with peace, but it cannot stop over there. After decades of conflict, Cambodia had to rebuild institutions, infrastructure, markets, human capital and public trust. Under the leadership of **Samdech Techo HUN SEN, Former Prime Minister and now President of the Senate**, Cambodia restored peace, opened the economy and connected the country to the region and to the world. Peace gave us confidence that tomorrow could be better than yesterday.

Our experience has also shown that growth must touch people's real lives. Agriculture, infrastructure, jobs, education, healthcare and social protection have each played an important role in helping families move out of poverty and withstand shocks. Cambodia does not come to this Forum to present a perfect model. We come to share a national journey: from conflict to peace, from recovery to growth, and from growth toward more inclusive and resilient development.

Today, under the leadership of **Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei HUN MANET, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia**, the Royal Government is advancing the Pentagonal Strategy-Phase I, with people at the center. Our next task is to make growth more meaningful for daily life: raising rural incomes, creating better jobs, investing in human capital, strengthening social protection and building partnerships that deliver results on the ground.

Partnership remains central to this effort. Cambodia's socio-economic development over the past two decades cannot be separated from the significant role, cooperation, and support of China under our Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, for which we are really grateful. These efforts have been carried out in coordinated partnership with other development partners and civil society organizations. Moving forward, we firmly believe that the new phase of Cambodia-China partnership under the Diamond Cooperation Framework will be even stronger and more dynamic, delivering fruitful outcomes and making significant contributions to boosting poverty reduction and development in Cambodia, as well as to building an All-Weather Cambodia-China Community with a Shared Future in the New Era.

*- Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen!*

Poverty reduction also requires an open and cooperative international environment. No country can solve today's challenges alone. Developing countries need stable markets, investment, technology, resilient supply chains and fair opportunities to grow. In this regard, free trade, fair and inclusive globalization and effective multilateralism remain essential. They give developing economies the space and confidence to connect to markets, attract investment, share technology and build a better future for their people. All these require a stronger world order. In this context, we highly value and appreciate China's important role in international development, especially under the Belt and Road Initiative and the Global Development Initiative and others.

All these are the reasons why GPPAD is timely and relevant. Cambodia looks forward to cooperation that turns shared experience into practical progress, particularly in the areas of rural revitalization, climate-resilient agriculture, poverty data, social protection, digital public services, agro-processing and local capacity building, especially for farmers, and local producer communities.

Cambodia comes to this Forum with a firm conviction: poverty reduction is possible when peace is protected, development is people-centered, human capital is strengthened, and countries work together through genuine partnership.

Finally, I wish the **2026 Global Poverty Reduction and Development Forum** great success. I look forward to fruitful discussions and practical cooperation that will uplift the lives of people, especially the poor and vulnerable, in Cambodia and around the world. May I wish Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, good health, happiness, prosperity and success in all your endeavors.

*Thank You Very Much!*