



No. 1002/1237

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Sri Ayudhya Road,
Bangkok 10400.

7 August B.E. 2569 (2026)

Dear *High Commissioner,*

I wish to refer to the End of Mission Statement issued by Mr. Tom Andrews, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Cambodia dated 31 July 2026, following his official visit to Cambodia from 20 to 31 July 2026, and to convey the following:

1. Thailand is aware that the Special Rapporteur's End of Mission Statement is a part of the Special Procedures' working methods. However, we are deeply disappointed about the credibility and accountability of the report, which made many allegations against Thailand, even though it should have focused on the situation of human rights in Cambodia.

We consider that this goes beyond the mandate entrusted by the Human Rights Council. We also regret that the Special Rapporteur did not provide ample opportunity and time for Thailand to present the facts and provide perspectives prior to publishing the statement and organising the press conference, which contained much distorted information without thorough verification.

It is also against the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate-holders of the Human Rights Council, which stipulates that the mandate-holders shall exercise their functions in accordance with their mandate, through ethical behaviour, professional conduct, constructive dialogue and impartial assessment of facts based on internationally recognised human rights standards.

/In fact, ...

Mr. Volker Türk,

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,

GENEVA.

In fact, Thailand has consistently provided relevant facts available to OHCHR through established channels, including correspondence with your Office, statements before the Human Rights Council, and its response to the joint communication in June 2026.

By failing to comprehensively take into account facts and perspectives from all relevant stakeholders, the report has departed from the principles of neutrality, impartiality and objectivity as well as the mandate of the Special Procedures. It is even more concerning that the report has been sensationalised for political gains by the party involved.

2. As you may recall in our meetings in Geneva, I have expressed that the conflict between Thailand and Cambodia, and its consequences, was not initiated by Thailand. Rather, it began with Cambodia's unprovoked and indiscriminate attacks against civilian targets and hospitals in Thailand on 24 July 2025. These attacks resulted in tragic loss of life and injuries among Thai civilians. They have also forced hundreds of thousands of civilians to evacuate their homes.

These issues were not reflected in the statement, which instead provides many distorted facts and figures. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand has already issued a statement on this matter, which is enclosed herewith for your information.

3. Since the beginning of the Thailand - Cambodia conflict, Thailand has consistently cooperated with the Special Procedures and mandate holders of the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC). We expect that this gesture would be reciprocated by the Special Procedures.

Regrettably, the working methods of this Special Procedure leave much to be desired in terms of professionalism and impartiality, failing to take due account of the relevant facts and perspectives of all concerned parties in a comprehensive and balanced manner prior to making public statements. Such actions do not accord due respect to Thailand as the country concerned and risk allowing the mandate to be exploited for political purposes.

/ As a member of ...

As a member of the Human Rights Council, Thailand remains committed to extending our cooperation with your Office and the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Phuangketkeow', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**(Sihasak Phuangketkeow)
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Kingdom of Thailand**

Statement: Regarding the Statement by Mr. Tom Andrews, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Cambodia

Following media reports concerning the End of Mission Statement issued at the conclusion of the visit to Cambodia by Mr. Tom Andrews, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Cambodia, during 20–31 July 2026, which references Thailand in the context of the Thailand–Cambodia situation, Thailand would like to make the following clarifications:

1. Thailand notes the aforementioned Statement and wishes to reiterate that the conflict between the two countries, resulting in various impacts, was not initiated by Thailand, but resulted from indiscriminate attacks by the Cambodian side targeting civilian areas in Thailand.
2. Regarding the Special Rapporteur's reference to the alleged 650,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Cambodia, the fact remains that a portion of the figure were Cambodians residing in areas Thailand previously opened up as temporary shelters in the late 1970s as part of its humanitarian assistance. However, following improvements to their situation, these individuals did not return to Cambodia despite repeated protests formally lodged by the Thai side with the Cambodian side. Therefore, they constitute individuals who had encroached on Thai territory and do not fall within the definition of an IDP.
3. Thailand is of the view that the right of return should not be exploited for political purposes or propaganda, but upheld alongside genuine humanitarian concerns and principles. In this regard, the Cambodian Government has the responsibility to care for and protect its citizens affected by conflict resulting in internal displacement within Cambodia, particularly concerning their right to life and safety. Cambodia also has an obligation to ensure that such individuals, especially the vulnerable ones, have access to adequate shelter, standard of living, food, clean water, sanitation and essential public health services.

4. With regard to Cambodian migrant workers returning from Thailand, which the Special Rapporteur alleged that the number amounted to 900,000 persons, in fact, the Cambodian workers who returned home included both legally employed workers and those who had entered and worked in Thailand illegally. These workers returned to Cambodia voluntarily following calls made by the Cambodian Government itself. The Thai Government has always stated its commitment to ensuring the safety of Cambodian migrant workers in Thailand and has never had a policy to expel these migrant workers from the country.
5. Thailand reaffirms its commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights, as well as respect for international humanitarian law. Thailand has consistently cooperated with the Special Procedures under the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC) and has already provided relevant explanations to the said mechanism, which have been officially recorded. This reflects Thailand's commitment to promoting transparency, accountability and the protection of human rights in accordance with its international obligations.
6. Thailand is of the view that the Special Procedures under the United Nations Human Rights Council should uphold the principles of independence, impartiality and objectivity, while taking into consideration information from credible and verifiable sources, as well as facts and perspectives from all sides in a comprehensive and fair manner. This is essential to ensuring that human rights assessments are balanced and consistent with the mandates of the Special Procedures.
7. Thailand is ready to look forward and rebuild relations with Cambodia. However, such efforts require genuine and sincere cooperation from Cambodia. Both parties should work together to create a conducive environment through the strict implementation of the Joint Statement of 27 December 2025, including the reduction of tensions and refraining from actions or allegations that may be provocative, create misunderstandings, or undermine mutual trust. This would pave the way for addressing issues relating to border security through peaceful means and continued engagement through bilateral mechanisms.