

**Oral Statement of H.E Dr. Mao Havannall, Minister in charge of the State
Secretariat of Civil Aviation of Cambodia, at ICAO Facilitation Conference
14-17 April 2025, Doha, Qatar**

- *H.E. Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulla bin Mohammed Al Thani, Minister of Transport, Qatar*
- *Honorable Salvatore Sciacchitano, President of ICAO Council,*
- *Honorable Juan Carlos Salazar Gómez, Secretary General of ICAO,*
- *Excellencies, Honorable Ministers*
- *Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen!*

Today, it is my great honor to give an oral statement at this high-level Ministerial Segment.

I would like to taking this opportunity to express my profound thank to the Civil Aviation authority and Government of Qatar for the very warm welcome and hospitality as well as the excellent organization of the Facilitation Conference 2025 on the theme "Facilitating the future of air transport: collaboration, efficiency, and inclusivity".

As the Minister in charge of Civil Aviation of Cambodia, I am pleased to share some comments regarding the implementation of facilitation measures in Cambodia.

Facilitation has emerged as a cornerstone of global aviation, recognized by ICAO as a critical factor, just as safety and security, and therefore I fully support the “Ministerial Declaration” on this facilitation matter, which is just presented by Honorable Juan Carlos Salazar Gómez, Secretary General of ICAO

As ICAO member and pursuant to the requirements of Chicago Convention and its Annex 9 and especially during COVID-19 period as required **by ICAO CART recommendation analysis**, Cambodia has done its best effort to facilitate at all international airports by cooperation among relevant Ministries and institutions. Now we have already established the National Air Transport Facilitation Programme (NATFP), the National Air Transport Facilitation Committee (NATFC) dated 14 September 2022 and sub-decree No. 228 dated 28 October 2022 on the Organization and Functioning of the National Air Transport Facilitation Committee (NATFC). The NATFC is a collaborative platform that brings together multiple government agencies, aviation stakeholders, and industry partners to streamline procedures and improve compliance with ICAO Annex 9. The NATFC serves as a vehicle for coordination between aviation and other critical sectors.

In Cambodia, our NATFC includes representatives from the Office of the Council of Ministers, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Ministry of Health, State Secretariat of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of

Transport, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Agriculture, Anti-Drug Authority, National Committee for Disaster, Immigration Police, Identification Police, relevant Governors of Provinces and agencies fostering a collaborative environment for problem solving and policy alignment, and the effective facilitation depends on the active participation of all stakeholders within their roles and the active sharing of relevant information:

- **Civil Aviation Authority:** Oversees compliance with ICAO standards and ensures national coordination amongst various agencies.
- **Immigration & Customs:** Manage border controls, ensuring efficient processing while maintaining security. Issuance of Machine-readable passports
- **Security Agencies:** handle threat assessments and the protection of risks.
- **Health and agriculture Authorities:** play a crucial role in monitoring public health, especially during pandemics.
- **Airlines and Airport Operators** ensure operational efficiency and passenger and cargo service quality.

These partnerships in Cambodia have fostered strong collaboration, leading to synchronized operations, shared responsibilities, and collective problem-solving.

In addition, Cambodia also works closely with airport stakeholders, both public and private agencies, on both short term and long term projects targeted at leveraging new technologies and processes to improve efficiency, security and facilitation in both passenger and cargo operations in our airports. As evidence, Cambodia has just introduced and implemented the electronic departure/arrival card for passengers to fill in required information without using paper.

Apart from physical enhancements, the Civil Aviation Authority of Cambodia in cooperation with Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, will submit application forms to ICAO for joining in ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD) so as to enable all Electronic Machine Readable Travel Documents - eMRTDs are readable at Cambodian border checkpoints and Cambodian passports are readable at foreign border checkpoints.

Having said as above there are still some key challenges initially including the understanding and importance of NATFC amongst key stakeholders outside of the aviation space, due to differing agency priorities, which led to a need for continuous engagements and capacity building. Moreover, regular communication, political support and shared accountability have proven essential in overcoming these barriers.

In conclusion, enhancing regional collaboration and national coordination is vital for ensuring efficient, secure, and passenger friendly air transport systems.

Moving forward, Cambodia strives to ensure that Cambodia continues to enhance its level of AVSEC and FAL, and adopt new and practical measures that are in line with international standards and in support of its air hub development.

Cambodia remains committed to strengthening its NATFC and supporting regional and global partnerships that contribute to ICAO's vision of safe, seamless, efficient and inclusive global air travel.

I wish the conference a complete success!

Thank you all!