Document on the loss of maritime borders between Cambodia and Vietnam

I think that all the NGO's and opposition parties should get together to sign a declaration that rejects any border agreements past, present or future based on these old agreements.

These border agreements were secret agreements imposed upon the country, by an occupying army, and a ruling communist party and governments put in place since 1975 under the barrel of the gun, from the same party, without interruption.

It should have been invalidated by the 1991 PPA.

We should also bring up the fact that since these borders were opposed by the US and Singapore at the UN, this is far from being a settled issue .

We will make sure that all countries and their ministers of defense get a copy of our declaration. Nicole

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Legal documents on Vietnam-Cambodia border demarcation, marker planting take effect

Vietnam and Cambodia on December 22 exchanged the documents ratifying the "Supplementary Treaty to the 1985 Treaty on the Delimitation of National Boundaries and the 2005 Supplementary Treaty", also known as the 2019 Supplementary Treaty, and the protocol on land border demarcation and marker planting.

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Cambodia's King Signs Controversial Treaty Defining Border With Vietnam

Critics say the treaty is unconstitutional because it draws upon agreements made under Vietnamese occupation.



A Cambodian army officer, left, and a Vietnamese army officer stand in front of a newly launched border mark (on Cambodian side) in between Gia Lai province of Vietnam and Rattanakiri of Cambodia on Saturday, Dec. 26, 2015. AP

Cambodia's King Norodom Sihamoni has put into effect a treaty that would complete the demarcation line between Cambodia and neighboring Vietnam, drawing criticism from opponents of Prime Minister Hun Sen who say the move violates the country's sovereignty.

The supplementary treaty of 2019 on border posts was signed by Hun Sen and his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Xuan Phuc in early October. It recognizes the legality of two documents, a 1985 supplemental protocol and a 2005 agreement on border demarcation, thereby solidifying the demarcation of 84% of the border.

The promulgation of the treaty was made through a royal decree on December 5, 2019, and the law was published Friday. The king signed the treaty at the request of Hun Sen.

The national assembly and the senate maintained that the new complementary treaty was necessary to demarcate the border with Vietnam and that this treaty solving the border issue with a neighboring country was an unprecedented achievement.

Officials of the opposition Cambodian National Rescue Party (CNRP) and Cambodian border watchers, however, say that the treaty is not constitutional and it is a breach of Cambodia's sovereign territory.

Um Sam An, a former CNRP lawmaker, who was in the past convicted for his criticism over the border issue, said the king only signed because of pressure from Hun Sen. He also said that as the treaty is based partially on the 1985 treaty, it should be considered illegal.

"The 2019 treaty is illegal because it is based on the treaty made in 1985, [during the Cambodian-Vietnamese War] because that treaty was signed when Vietnamese troops were occupying Cambodia," he said.

"The treaty runs contrary to Articles two and 55 of the constitution, and it is also contrary to the [1991] Paris Peace Agreements [which ended the war and] nullified all treaties [between the two countries]," said Um, adding that the 2019 treaty causes more loss of Cambodian territory to Vietnam.

He condemned Hun Sen for engaging with Vietnam on this treaty, saying that it gives away too much.

"Hun Sen is trying to give land over to Vietnam in return for [their protection] as they have kept him in power since the 1980s," said Um.

He said that once Cambodia has a new government, every border agreement made by the government under Hun Sen will be abolished.

"We are Khmer and once there is a patriotic government, we will revisit the border demarcation issue and we will cancel the 2019 treaty when there is a government and a parliament that does not kowtow to Vietnam like the government today," he added.

Rong Chhun, representative of the Cambodian Watchdog Council, raised the same concerns, that the treaty is unconstitutional because it goes against the 1991 Paris Peace Agreements.

He added that the new treaty should never have been drafter or promulgated because the country has not yet achieved national unity, and Vietnam and Cambodia have not finalized the demarcation along the entire border.

Because the treaty will have to be amended when the demarcation is complete, or when a new government takes power, Rong thinks the government should have waited.

"The government and the Cambodian border committee must review every boundary pole installation," he said.

"[They] should follow the limits of the constitution and we should use the [border] that we used to use in the French-era. Our Cambodian country will not be lost if we follow [only] the 2005 Treaty," he said.

By July 2019, the Hun Sen government had completed the installation of 315 of the necessary 375 the border demarcation poles in cooperation with Hanoi, representing 84% of the border. The government will need to ratify a new treaty when the final 60 poles are installed.

However, National Assembly spokesman Leng Penglong said that if an opposition party takes control of the government by winning a future election, they will have the right to revise treaties that the current government signed with other countries.

Reported by RFA's Khmer Service. Translated by Samean Yun. Written in English by Eugene Whong.

https://m.hanoitimes.vn/vietnam-and-cambodia-agree-to-complete-border-demarcation-319610.html

Vietnam and Cambodia agree to complete border demarcation

MINH VU 18:24, 2021/12/22

Reaching 84% of the demarcation work costs great efforts of both sides as the 1,270-km border spans 10 provinces through mountains, jungles, and rivers.



Vietnam and Cambodia have agreed to finalize a plan for the remaining 16% of the un-demarcated land boundary during the ongoing visit by Vietnamese President Nguyen Xuan Phuc.



Vietnam's President Nguyen Xuan Phuc (L) and Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen in Phnom Penh on Dec 21. Photos: VNA

The two sides reached a consensus at the meeting on December 21 between State President Nguyen Xuan Phuc and Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen who agreed to solve arising problems in the spirit of solidarity and friendship, to turn the Vietnam-Cambodia border into one of peace, stability, and cooperation.

Vietnam and Cambodia have completed 84% of the demarcation work so far.

In 2019, the two countries signed the Supplementary Treaty to the 1985 Treaty on the Delimitation of the National Boundaries and the 2005 Supplementary Treaty between Vietnam and Cambodia, and the Protocol on the Demarcation and Marker Planting of the Land Boundary between Vietnam and Cambodia.

The two countries have been demarcating the 1,270-kilometre border since 2006.

Between 2006 and 2019, both countries built 2,047 border markers at 1,553 locations along a 1,045-km borderline, according to Vietnam's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Local experts said that completing 84% of the Vietnam-Cambodia demarcation work is a "feat for both countries" as the borderline spans across 10 Vietnamese provinces and 9 Cambodian provinces, through mountains, jungles, and rivers. The work, though it costs great efforts, demonstrates good cooperation and friendship between the two nations.

The demarcation contributes to the political stability and economic development of both countries and the region as well as smooths cross-border trade.



The two sides at a meeting on Dec 21.

Broader cooperation

During the visit, the Vietnamese president also paid courtesy visits to Buddhist Great Supreme Patriarch Tep Vong, Buddhist Supreme Patriarch of Dhamma Mahanikaya of Cambodia, and Samdech Preah Abhisiri Sugandha Mohasangharajah Dhipati Bour Kry, Great Supreme Buddhist Supreme Patriarch of Dhammayuttikanikaya of Cambodia.

Phuc and Hun Sen agreed to boost economic ties that cover legal and judicial affairs, labor and social affairs, information and communication technology (ICT), culture, sports, tourism, aviation, banking and finance, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, and cooperation between border areas of both countries.

On this occasion, Vietnam and Cambodia issued a joint statement, the ninth of its kind, after the ones signed in 1999, 2005, 2009, 2011, 2014, 2016, 2017, and 2019, emphasizing the importance of advancing the bilateral relations in the spirit of "good neighborliness, traditional friendship, comprehensive cooperation, and long-term stability".

In terms of economics, the two sides agreed to expedite the completion of the Master Plan on Viet Nam – Cambodia Economic Connectivity 2030 by the end of 2022. They agreed to promote the implementation of the Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement and the Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation, facilitate the development of border trade by accelerating the signing of the Border Trade Agreement, developing border trade infrastructure with new border markets and building Special Economic Zones in bordering provinces.

Regarding the post-pandemic cooperation, they will accelerate discussions towards mutual recognition of vaccine passports/certificates, facilitation of travel for citizens of both countries, timely resumption of direct flights in a safe manner. President Phúc reaffirmed Viet Nam's continued provision of health care and treatment for Cambodian patients in Ho Chi Minh City-based hospitals similar to Vietnamese patients and in accordance with Viet Nam's payment scheme for uninsured patients.

The two countries signed seven agreements, namely 2022 Cooperation Plan between the Ministry of Interior of Cambodia and the Ministry of Public Security of Viet Nam; Annual Cooperation Plan for the year 2022 between the two Ministries of Defense; Agreed Minutes of the 19th Meeting of the Cambodia - Viet Nam Joint Commission on Economic, Cultural, Scientific and Technological Cooperation; Agreed Minutes of the meeting between two Chairmen of the Cambodia - Viet Nam Joint Border Commission; Memorandum of Agreement on Education Cooperation for 2021-2025; Memorandum of Understanding on the Conclusion of the Border Trade Agreement between Cambodia and Viet Nam; Work Plan for 2022-2023 between the two Ministries of Justice. In addition, the two countries' businesses also signed a number of business contracts and cooperation agreements.

On regional issues, Vietnam reaffirmed its commitment to lend its utmost support to Cambodia during the Chairmanship of ASEAN in 2022.

Meanwhile, the two sides reiterated ASEAN's common position on the importance of maintaining peace, security, stability, safety, and freedom of navigation in and overflight above the South China Sea.

The two leaders agreed to promote dialogues and trust-building, exercising self-restraint, upholding international law, resolving disputes through peaceful means in accordance with international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), to effectively implement the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and work towards the conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC).



Vietnam's President Nguyen Xuan Phuc and high-ranking Vietnamese officials paid courtesy visit to Buddhist Great Supreme Patriarch Tep Vong on Dec 22.

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