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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
GENEVA

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Review of Cambodia
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Statement of the Republic of Korea

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Republic of Korea warmly welcomes the delegation of the Royal Government of Cambodia and appreciates the government's efforts to submit its national report to this Working Group.

My delegation acknowledges that the Royal Government of Cambodia has continued to improve the basic living condition of people by successfully maintaining peace and achieving socio-economic development over the past two decades.

We also believe that the Cambodian Government has been putting forward its sincere efforts to guarantee fundamental freedom and rights including political freedom and freedom of activities of civil society in close cooperation with the international community.

However, according to our experience, socio-economic development inevitably entails higher expectations for people seeking enhanced freedom and rights. The Cambodian Government may need to continuously strengthen its policies in accordance with its people's expectations. Also, it is regrettable that the recent violent measures taken by security forces to crackdown garment protesters have led to the loss of life. We hope that a peaceful settlement will be reached shortly.

With this in mind, my delegation would like to make the following two recommendations.

First, we recommend the Cambodian Government to accelerate its judicial reform process to strengthen and guarantee the independence of the judiciary and to address corruption issues within the judiciary system by adopting relevant laws of reform.

Second, we recommend the Cambodian Government to develop and implement alternate strategies to assist those being displaced as a result of the taking of land and ensure that those persons have adequate housing and access to basic services, healthcare and employment.

Thank you, Mr. President. /End/