

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
Nation Religion King



The Constitutional Council

N° 018/13/2008 CC

**Your Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath
Norodom SIHAMONI, King of Cambodia**

Subject: Opinion of the Constitutional Council on the separate swearing-in of the newly elected candidates of Sam Rainsy Party and the Human Rights Party before taking office

Ref: Royal message dated September 5, 2008

Sire,

After having received the above-mentioned message of Your Majesty, the Constitutional Council held its session on September 9, 2008 and respectfully submitted its unanimous points of view to Your Majesty as follows:

1- Paragraph 1 of Article 82 (New) of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia stipulates that "The first session of the National Assembly shall open sixty days at the latest after the elections, upon the convening by the King." According to this paragraph, His Majesty the King shall convene all definitively elected candidates to be present at the National Assembly in order to receive the Royal messages, as scheduled.

2- Annex 5 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia allows the Members of the National Assembly, not the elected candidates, to take an oath before the King, the supreme leaders of both Buddhist orders and Tevada protecting the Throne.

3- Paragraph 3 of Article 7 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia stipulates that "The Person of the King shall be inviolable." No one can force the King to decide on their own desiderata.

4- The King shall incarnate the symbol of national unity and continuity. The King shall assume the role as supreme arbiter to ensure the regular execution of public powers.

In the past, **His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, the great King Father of independence, sovereignty and national unity** authorized the Members of the National Assembly to take an oath together, not separately.

Deign Your Majesty accept the humble expression of our most profound respect.

On behalf of the Constitutional Council

The President,

Signed and Sealed: **EK SAM OL**

Non-official translation