



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

# THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR

INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST (UNESCO)  
SINCE 2008



Edited  
by the Office  
of the Council  
of Ministers

PHNOM PENH  
MAY 2010







## ON THE SUCCESSFUL INSCRIPTION OF THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

(07 July 2008, Quebec, Canada during the 32<sup>nd</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee)

*"This is a new sense of pride for the people of our Kingdom, as well as for all the people in the region and the world that the Temple of Preah Vihear was recognized by ICOMOS as an outstanding masterpiece of Khmer architecture with an outstanding universal value, and was inscribed on the World Heritage List."*

*"The inscription of the Temple of Preah Vihear requires the international community as a whole to protect and preserve this world heritage for the benefits of future generations."*

Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo **HUN SEN**

Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, 08 July 2008

*"In fact, the Decision of the 31<sup>st</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee in Christchurch, New Zealand, July 2007 contains 3 conditions. First, it is essential that Cambodia strengthens the conservation of the Temple; second, Cambodia must develop an appropriate management plan and submit it to the World Heritage Centre by 01 February 2008, because the review process would take up many months until July, to see whether or not our management plan is appropriate; and third, Cambodia and Thailand should develop a close cooperation in support of the inscription. If Cambodia fulfills these three conditions, then in 2008 the inscription will be automatic. Since then we have prepared ourselves meticulously; we have done our home-works diligently; we have fulfilled more than the requirements contained in those 3 conditions."*



His Excellency Dr. **SOK AN**

Deputy Prime Minister,  
Minister in Charge of the Office  
of the Council of Ministers, 14 July 2008





**14 July 2008 celebration at the National Olympic Stadium, Phnom Penh for the successful inscription of the Temple of Preah Vihear on the World Heritage List, 07 July 2008 in Quebec, Canada Photo Samreth Socheat OCM/RGC**





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# 2010 BRASILIA, BRAZIL

## 2009 Seville, Spain

Theme: State of conservation

Decision 33 COM 7B.65: The World Heritage Committee notes the developments that have occurred at the property since its inscription on the World Heritage List, the information contained in the State Party report and the preliminary findings of the Reinforced Monitoring Mission.

## 2008 Quebec, Canada

Theme: Inscription under criterion (i)

Decision 32 COM 8B.102: The World Heritage Committee inscribes the Temple of Preah Vihear, Cambodia, on the World Heritage List under criterion (i); Criterion (i): Preah Vihear is an outstanding masterpiece of Khmer architecture. It is very 'pure' both in plan and in the detail of its decoration.

## 2007 Christchurch, New Zealand

Theme: The process for inscription is in progress

Decision 31 COM 8B.24: The World Heritage Committee recognizes that the Sacred Site of the Temple of Preah Vihear is of great international significance and has Outstanding Universal Value on the basis of criteria (i), (ii), and (iv), agrees in principle that it should be inscribed on the World Heritage List and notes that the process for inscription is in progress.



WORLD HERITAGE





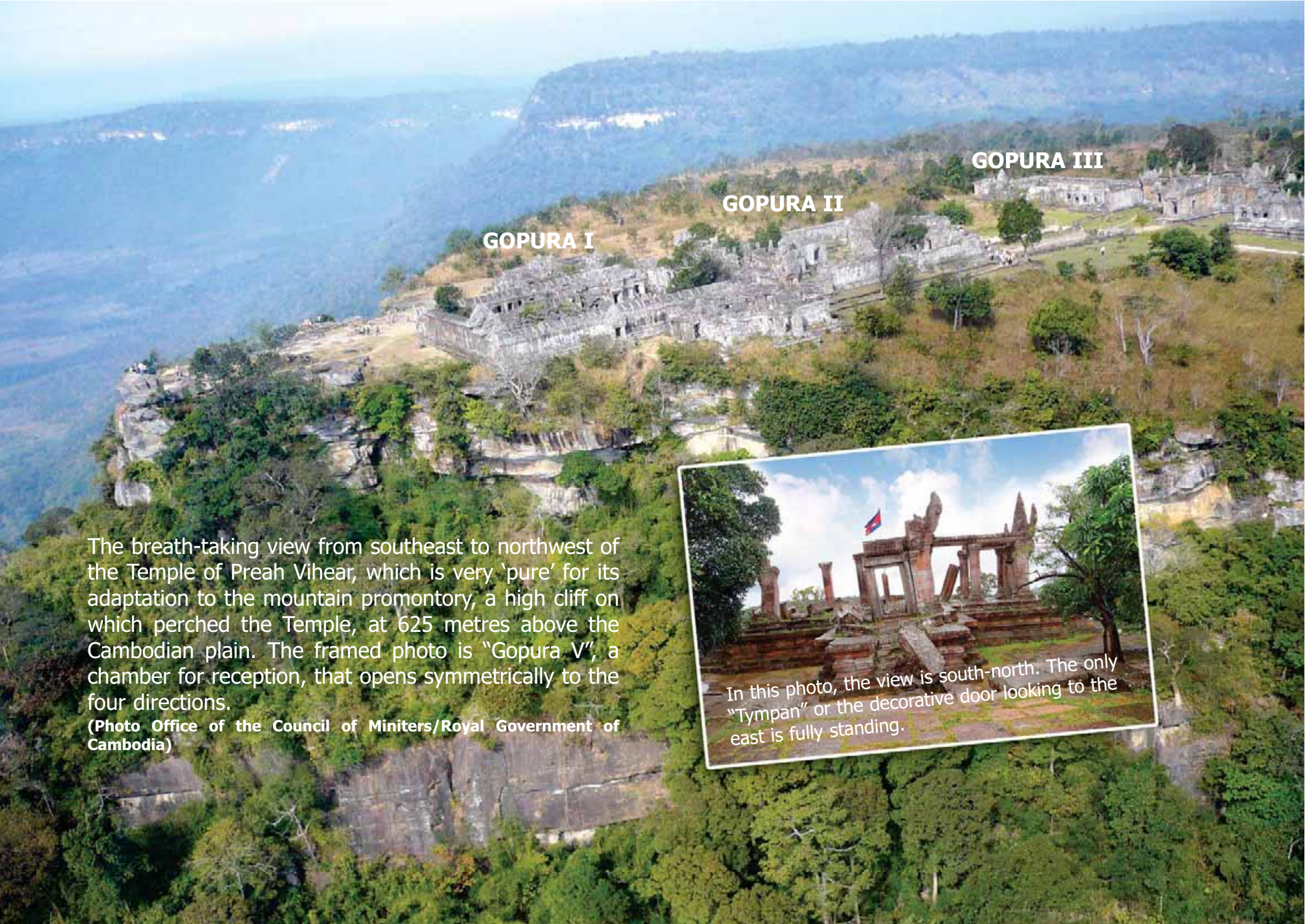
**GOPURA III**

**GOPURA II**

**GOPURA I**

**PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR, FROM SOUTHWEST TO NORTHEAST;  
THE PHOTO CAPTURES ONLY "GOPURA I" "GOPURA II" AND "GOPURA III"**  
(Photo Office of the Council of Ministers / Royal Government of Cambodia)





**GOPURA I**

**GOPURA II**

**GOPURA III**

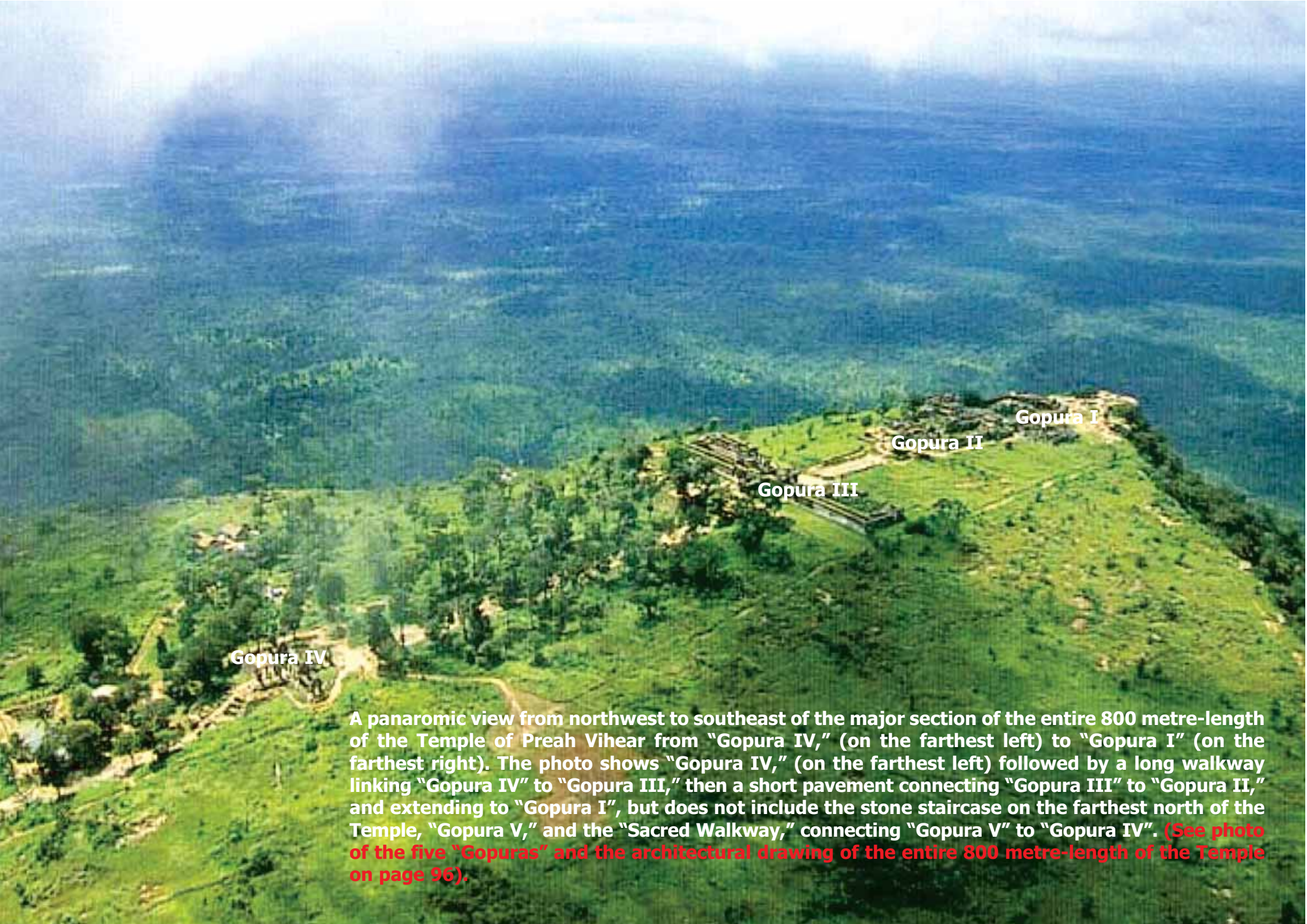
The breath-taking view from southeast to northwest of the Temple of Preah Vihear, which is very 'pure' for its adaptation to the mountain promontory, a high cliff on which perched the Temple, at 625 metres above the Cambodian plain. The framed photo is "Gopura V", a chamber for reception, that opens symmetrically to the four directions.

(Photo Office of the Council of Ministers/Royal Government of Cambodia)



In this photo, the view is south-north. The only "Tympan" or the decorative door looking to the east is fully standing.





Gopura IV

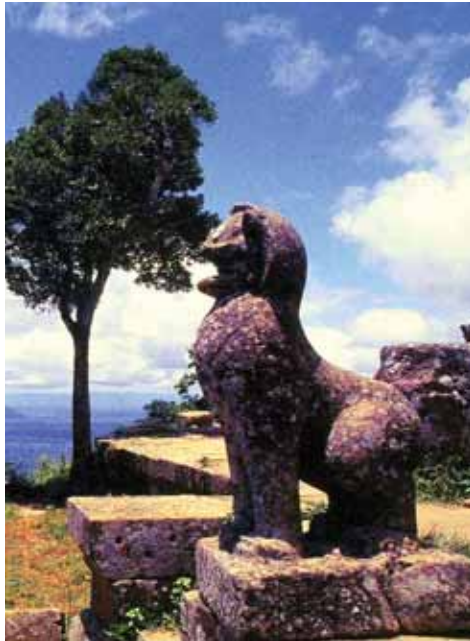
Gopura III

Gopura II

Gopura I

A panoramic view from northwest to southeast of the major section of the entire 800 metre-length of the Temple of Preah Vihear from "Gopura IV," (on the farthest left) to "Gopura I" (on the farthest right). The photo shows "Gopura IV," (on the farthest left) followed by a long walkway linking "Gopura IV" to "Gopura III," then a short pavement connecting "Gopura III" to "Gopura II," and extending to "Gopura I", but does not include the stone staircase on the farthest north of the Temple, "Gopura V," and the "Sacred Walkway," connecting "Gopura V" to "Gopura IV". (See photo of the five "Gopuras" and the architectural drawing of the entire 800 metre-length of the Temple on page 96).





The lion is king of the mountain and the jungle, and the naga is king of the water and the plain in Cambodian mythology. They are guardians of the Temple of Preah Vihear. At the center, the uniqueness and rare beauty of the sculptures at the Temple of Preah Vihear

(Photo Office of the Council of Ministers / Royal Government of Cambodia)





MAN-MADE BLOCS OF STONE

CARVED NATURAL MOUNTAIN ROCK

The "Sacred Walkway" between "Gopura IV" to the south and "Gopura V" to the north; A combination of the natural mountain rock, cut and leveled into a portion of pavement and man-made blocs of stone has kept the Temple of Preah Vihear standing over 10 centuries until now, a proof of Khmer ingenuity. Conservation and restoration works are needed to preserve the Temple for humanity and future generations.

Photo Chhon, ANPV





MAN-MADE BLOCS OF STONE

CARVED NATURAL MOUNTAIN ROCK

The Historical East Staircase; A combination of natural mountain rock cut into stone steps and man-made blocs of stone kept some portions of Historical East Staircase stand undisturbed over 10 centuries until now. The Historical East Staircase is 1.4 km long, slowly climbing up to a height of 650 metres, another proof of Khmer ingenuity

Photo Chhon, ANPV

**Recall ICOMOS evaluation criterion IV (21 January 2007): "Stairs and historical access surviving for over a thousand years show a sophisticated technological understanding."**





**Conservation efforts are seen all over the Temple area**

Photo Nin, Puthikar, Sambath, National Task Forces for Conservation and Development of Preah Vihear (NTEPV)



## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

ANPV	National Authority for the Protection and Development of the Preah Vihear Natural and Cultural Site
ICCROM	International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites
NTFPV	National Task Forces for Conservation and Development of Preah Vihear
OCM	Office of the Council of Ministers
RGC	Royal Government of Cambodia
RGPP	Revised Graphic Plan of the Property
SCNC	Supreme Council on National Culture
STEV	Samdech Techo Eco-Village
WHC	World Heritage Committee



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## THE LOCATION OF THE TEMPLE

The Temple of Preah Vihear is an Angkorian era monument located in the northern province of Preah Vihear, 400 km north of Phnom Penh and 140 km northeast of Angkor, in immediate proximity to Cambodia's border with the Kingdom of Thailand.

The Temple is perched on the southern end of a 625 metre high rock promontory of the "Dangrek" mountain range. From the top of this steep escarpment, it looks to the south over a vast plain stretching out below on the Cambodian side. Beyond the plateau to the north, the terrain extends in a gentle slope towards Thailand.



Drawing by Samreth Soheat OCM/RGC







## **THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR IS UNDER THE SOVEREIGNTY OF CAMBODIA** **(Judgment of the International Court of Justice – 15 June 1962)**

Through its petition submitted to the International Court of Justice (the Court) on 6 October 1959, the Cambodian Government requested that the Court rule on a dispute over territorial sovereignty. In its judgment of 26 May 1961 the Court “upheld its jurisdiction to adjudicate upon the dispute” which it described in the following terms:

“In the present case, Cambodia alleges a violation on the part of Thailand of Cambodia’s territorial sovereignty over the region of the Temple of Preah Vihear and its precincts. Thailand replies by affirming that the area in question lies on the Thai side of the common frontier between the two countries, and is under the sovereignty of Thailand. This is a dispute about territorial sovereignty.”

“The court can only give a decision as to the sovereignty over the Temple area after having examined what the frontier line is”.

Maps were submitted to the Court and various considerations were brought to bear on this subject. The Court found therein the reasons for the Decision that it would render to resolve the dispute.

The Court first noted that:

- The “Dangrek” mountain range wherein the Temple of Preah Vihear stands on a promontory, is in a general way the **border** between the two countries in this region—Cambodia to the south and Thailand to the north;
- The **border** in this area of the “Dangrek” was subject to the relevant provisions of the **13 February 1904 Convention** between FRANCE (as the protectorate power of CAMBODIA within French Indochina) and SIAM (as THAILAND was then known);
- **The exact delineation of this border** was to be determined by a Franco-Siamese Mixed Commission.

The Court then pointed out that:

- A new **Border Treaty** had been signed **on 23 March 1907** between Siam and France;
- A second **Mixed Border Delimitation Commission** had then been established;

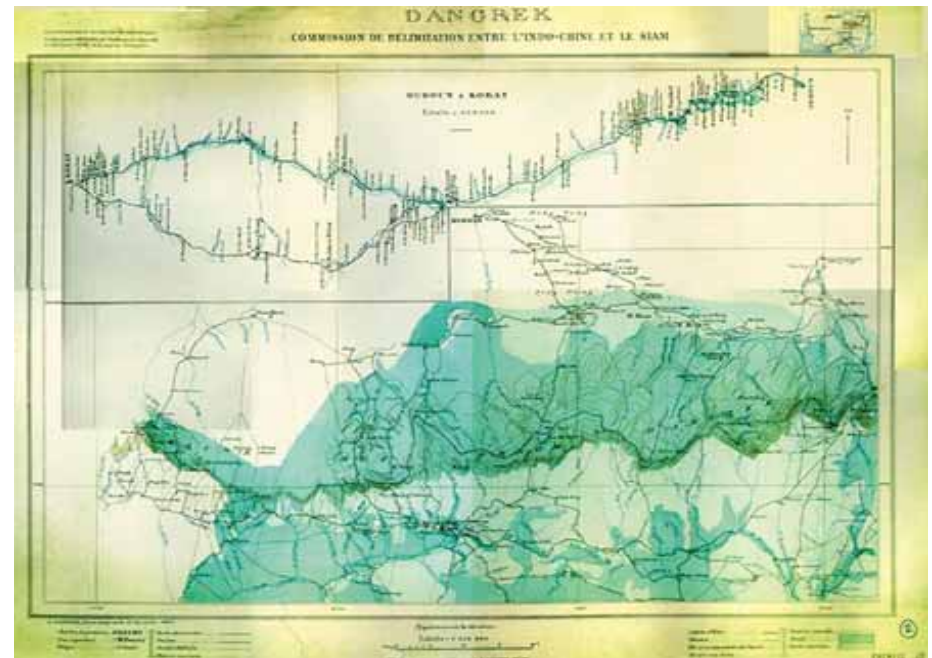


- A **Map** (referred to by the Court as Annex I Map) shows the delineation of the border as the result of delimitation work and locates **THE ENTIRE PROMONTORY OF PREAH VIHEAR, INCLUDING THE TEMPLE ZONE, WITHIN CAMBODIAN TERRITORY.**

"Thailand denies this so far as she is concerned, representing herself as having adopted a merely passive attitude in what ensued. She maintains also that a course of conduct, involving at most a failure to object, cannot suffice to render her a consenting party to a departure at Preah Vihear from the watershed line specified by Article I of the Treaty of 1904, so great as to affect the sovereignty of the Temple area."

"The Court sees the matter differently" because:

- "The maps were given wide publicity in all technically interested quarters by being also communicated to the leading geographical societies in important countries; to the Siamese legations accredited to the British, German, Russian and United States Governments; and to all the members of the Mixed Commission, French and Siamese;"



Map designated by the International Court of Justice as the Annex I map representing the frontier line (Ref. maps in details on pages 7 – 8)



- “The Court cannot accept these contentions either on the facts or the law”, which Thailand “suggested during the oral proceedings that no one in Siam at that time knew anything about the Temple or would be troubling about it.”
- “It is an established rule of law that the plea of error cannot be allowed as an element of vitiating consent if the party advancing it contributed by its own conduct to the error.”

The Court raised the question:

“THE REAL QUESTION, THEREFORE, WHICH IS THE ESSENTIAL ONE IN THIS CASE, IS WHETHER THE PARTIES DID ADOPT THE ANNEX I MAP, AND THE LINE INDICATED ON IT, AS REPRESENTING THE OUTCOME OF THE WORK OF DELIMITATION OF THE FRONTIER IN THE REGION OF PREAH VIHEAR, THEREBY CONFERRING ON IT A BINDING CHARACTER” (p.22, par.3 Reports of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders, International Court of Justice - Case Concerning the Temple of Preah Vihear - Judgment of 15 June 1962);

The Court answered:

1. **“THE COURT HOWEVER CONSIDERS THAT THAILAND IN 1908 -1909 DID ACCEPT THE ANNEX I MAP AS REPRESENTING THE OUTCOME OF THE WORK OF DELIMITATION, AND HENCE RECOGNIZED THE LINE ON THAT MAP AS BEING THE FRONTIER LINE, THE EFFECT OF WHICH IS TO SITUATE PREAH VIHEAR IN CAMBODIAN TERRITORY”** (p.32, par.5 of the same Report of Judgment, Advisory Opinions and Orders mentioned above).
2. **“BOTH PARTIES, BY THEIR CONDUCT, RECOGNIZED THE LINE AND THEREBY IN EFFECT AGREED TO REGARD IT AS BEING THE FRONTIER LINE”** (p.33, par.1 of the same Report of Judgment, Advisory Opinions and Orders mentioned above).
3. **“THE COURT CONSIDERS THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE ANNEX I MAP BY THE PARTIES CAUSED THE MAP TO ENTER THE TREATY SETTLEMENT AND TO BECOME AN INTEGRAL PART OF IT”** (p.33, par.4 of the same Report of Judgment, Advisory Opinions and Orders mentioned above).
4. **“THE COURT, THEREFORE, FEELS BOUND, AS A MATTER OF TREATY INTERPRETATION, TO PRONOUNCE IN FAVOR OF THE LINE AS MAPPED IN THE DISPUTED AREA”** (p.35, par.3 of the same Report of Judgment, Advisory Opinions and Orders mentioned above).



**INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
J U D G M E N T of 15 June 1962**



"FOR THESE REASONS,

**THE COURT,**

By nine votes to three,

**FINDS THAT THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR IS SITUATED IN TERRITORY UNDER THE SOVEREIGNTY OF CAMBODIA."**

**Remarks:**

The above text basically summarizes the judgment that the International Court of Justice published in its "**Reports of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders,**" under the heading **CASE CONCERNING THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR (CAMBODIA vs THAILAND)** – Merits – Judgment of 15 June 1962 – ICJ. Case report, p. 6-37.

**The United Nations Charter** signed in San Francisco on 26 June 1945, under the provisions respecting the **STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE, stipulates the following:**

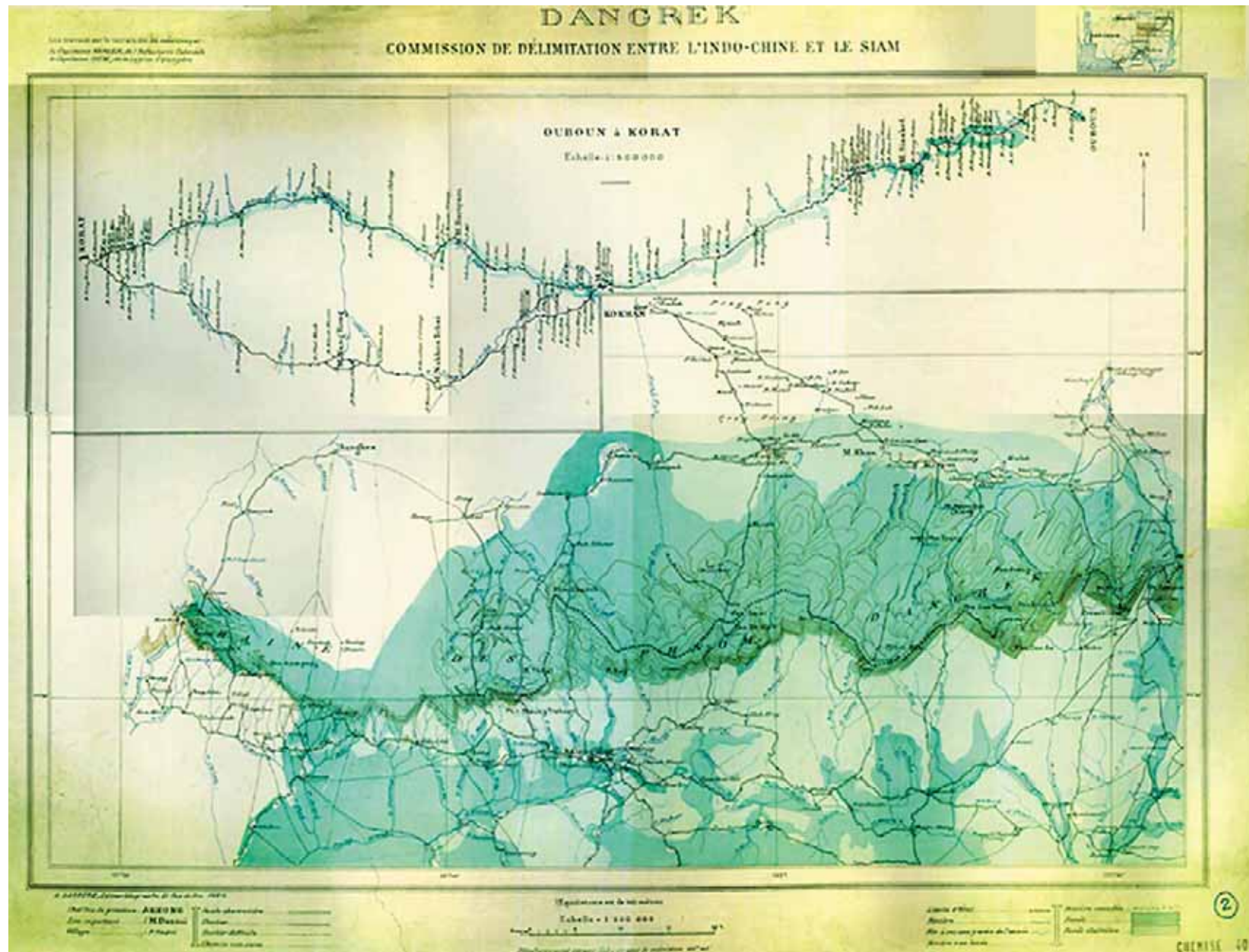
Article 60:

**The judgment is final and without appeal.**

Article 61, paragraph 5:

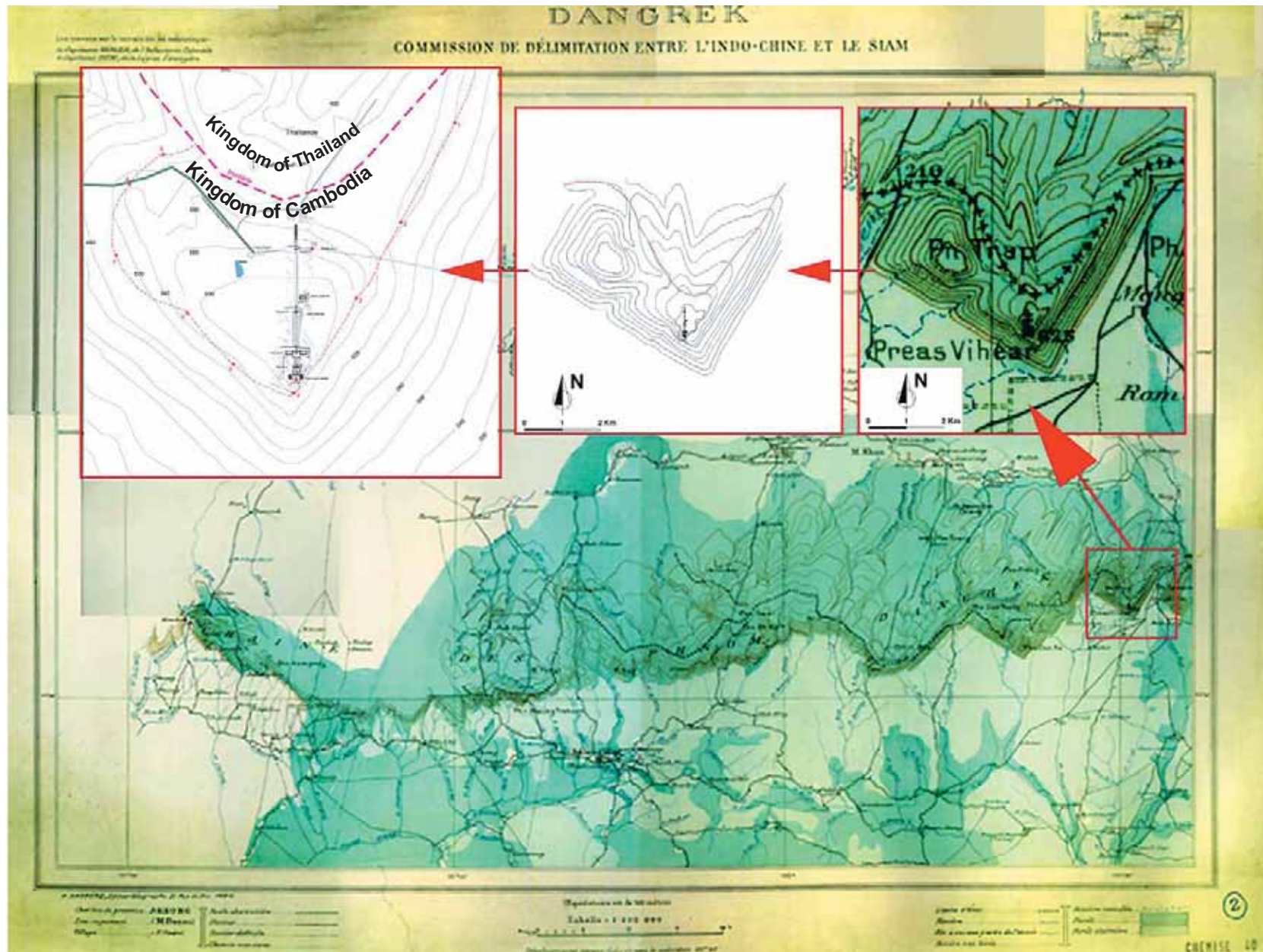
**No application for revision may be made after the LAPSE OF TEN YEARS from the date of the judgment.**





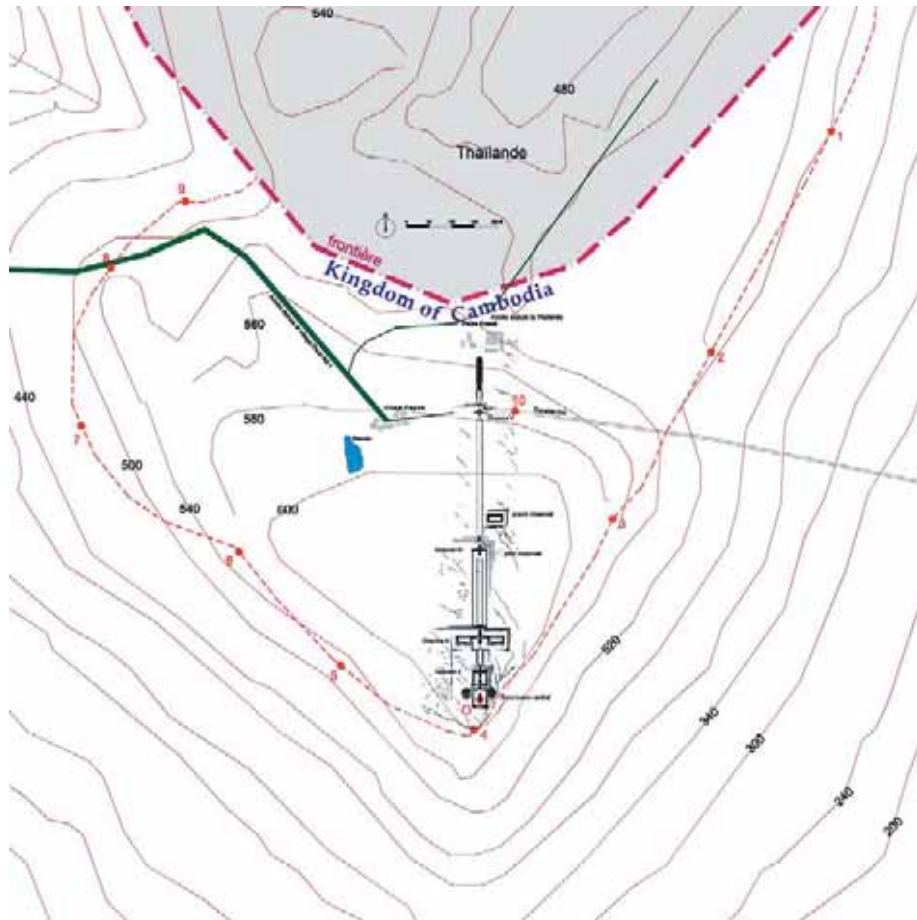
Map designated by the International Court of Justice as the Annex I map showing the frontier line



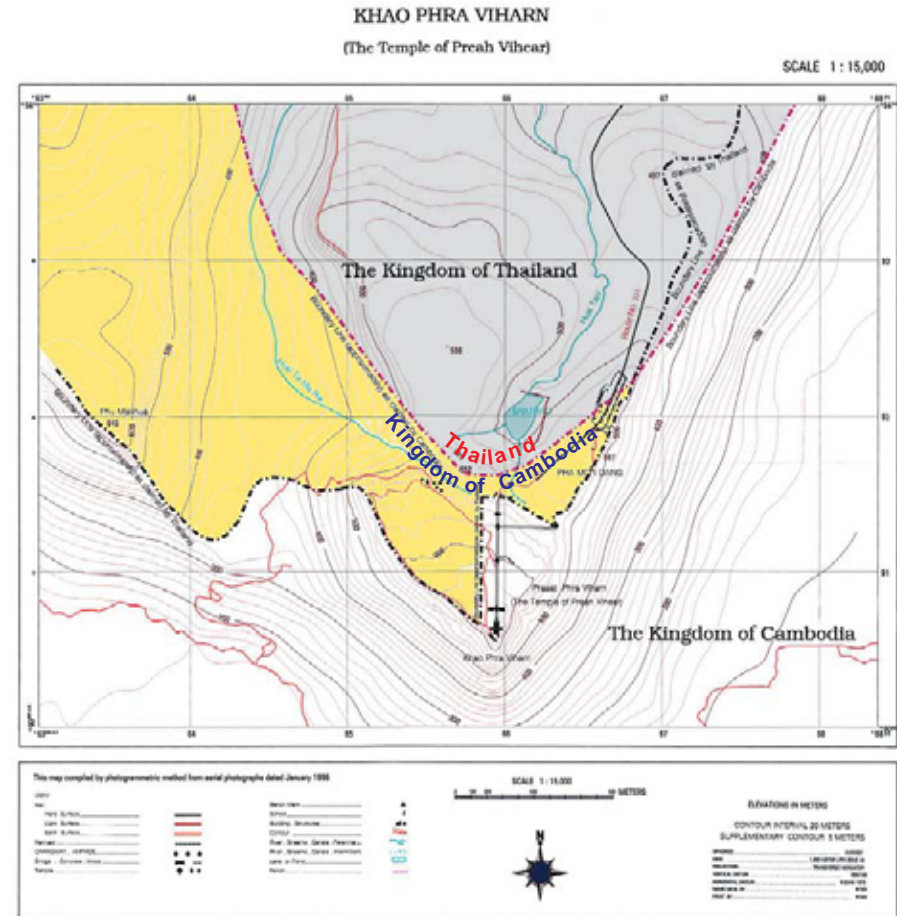


Area of the Temple of Preah Vihear in the Dangrek range of mountains (extrapolation from the map recognized by the International Court of Justice, 15 June 1962)





Map used by the Kingdom of Cambodia based on the Map recognized by the ICJ as **an integral part** of the treaty settlement in its judgment of 15 June 1962



Recent map for the same area **unilaterally** prepared and presented by the Kingdom of Thailand in Christchurch, NZ during the 31<sup>st</sup> session of the WHC (2007). The yellow colored area indicates the claim by Thailand.





## THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA PROPOSES THAT THE SACRED SITE OF THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR BE INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

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As State Party to the *Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage* (commonly referred to as the 1972 Convention or World Heritage Convention) since November 1991, the Kingdom of Cambodia presented to UNESCO to inscribe the **SACRED SITE OF THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR** on the World Heritage List.

In a letter dated 10 October 2001, His Excellency the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, informed the Director General of UNESCO, His Excellency Mr Koïchiro MATSUURA, of the Royal Government's decision to propose this inscription.

Subsequently, a complete portfolio in compliance with the *Operational Guidelines of the Kingdom of Cambodia for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* was prepared by the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, with the technical advice and active assistance of UNESCO (Cultural Section and Office in Phnom Penh).

This portfolio was submitted to the World Heritage Centre (UNESCO-Paris) on 30 January 2006.







## 4 MEANING AND SCOPE OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

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As noted by the members of the World Heritage Committee in the “*Budapest Declaration*” adopted on 28 June 2002, during the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage and on the thirtieth anniversary of the 1972 Convention:

“The **properties** on the World Heritage List are **assets** held in trust to pass on to generations of the future as their rightful **inheritance**;”

“The 1972 World Heritage Convention is an **instrument for the sustainable development** of all societies through DIALOGUE and MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING.”

This Convention adopted by the UNESCO General Conference in Paris on 16 November 1972, states in:

- Article 6, that **property inscribed** constitutes a **world heritage**, for whose protection it is the duty of the international community as a whole to co-operate;
- Article 7, that **international protection** of the world heritage shall be understood to mean the establishment of a system of **international co-operation and assistance** designed to CONSERVE AND IDENTIFY THAT HERITAGE.
- Article 27, that the States Parties shall endeavor by all appropriate means to strengthen **APPRECIATION** and **RESPECT** of the **HERITAGE** by their peoples.





## THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION RESPECTS THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE STATES AND THEIR RIGHTS

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Article 6, the Convention states that States Parties **fully respect the sovereignty of the State** in whose territory the heritage is situated.

Article 11, paragraph 3 of the Convention is an essential provision to avoid conflicts and contestations:

**“The inclusion of a property situated in a territory, sovereignty or jurisdiction over which is claimed by more than one State, shall in no way prejudice the rights of the parties to the dispute.”**

Paragraph 106 of the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention:

**“Where no buffer zone is proposed, the nomination should include a statement as to why a buffer zone is not required”.**





## 6 THE SACRED SITE OF THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR IS OF OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE

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A non-governmental advisory organization associated with the World Heritage Committee, the **International Council on Monuments and Sites** (ICOMOS) is in charge of evaluating proposals for the inscription of cultural property.

In accordance with the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*, ICOMOS performs "evaluations that are **OBJECTIVE, RIGOROUS and SCIENTIFIC, with a consistent level of professionalism.**"

Pursuant to a technical mission carried out on the sacred site of the Temple of Preah Vihear by the ICOMOS representative from 23 to 29 October 2006, and to additional information requested by ICOMOS and submitted by Cambodia, on 3 January 2007, ICOMOS **approved** as of 21 **January 2007**, the following evaluation:

**ICOMOS considers that the site's OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE HAS BEEN DEMONSTRATED.**

And that the property is in keeping with criteria (i), (ii) and (iv),

### **Criterion (i)**

"Preah Vihear is an outstanding masterpiece of Khmer architecture. It is very 'pure' both in plan and in the detail of its decoration"

### **Criterion (ii)**

"Preah Vihear demonstrates an important interchange in human values and developments in art, architecture, planning and landscape design"



### Criterion (iv)

"The architectural ensemble is exceptional in its representation of Buddhist geometry. The position of the Temple on a cliff edge site is particularly impressive. Stairs and historical access surviving for over a thousand years show a sophisticated technological understanding. The whole historic structure demonstrates the highpoint of a significant state in human history."

Consequently, **ICOMOS recommends that the Sacred Site of the Temple of Preah Vihear (Cambodia) be included on the World Heritage List.**











## THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE EXPRESSES ITS SUPPORT TO INSCRIBE THE SACRED SITE OF THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR IN 2008

(31<sup>st</sup> session of the Committee - Christchurch, New Zealand - July 2007, Decision No 31 COM 8B.24)

During its 31<sup>st</sup> regular session held in Christchurch, New Zealand, from 23 June to 2 July 2007, the World Heritage Committee examined all the documents relating to the proposal to inscribe the Sacred Site of the Temple of Preah Vihear on the World Heritage List.

The Committee first of all took note of the following statement made by the Chairman of the World Heritage Committee, approved by the delegation from Cambodia and the delegation from Thailand:

*"The State Party of Cambodia and the State Party of Thailand are in full agreement that the Sacred Site of the Temple of Preah Vihear **has Outstanding Universal Value** and **must be inscribed on the World Heritage List** as soon as possible. Accordingly, Cambodia and Thailand agree that Cambodia will propose the site for **formal inscription** on the World Heritage List at the 32<sup>nd</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee **in 2008 with the active support of Thailand.**"*

The Committee then recognized:

*"That the **Sacred Site of the Temple of Preah Vihear** is of great international significance and **has Outstanding Universal Value** under **criteria (i), (ii) and (iv)**" and agreed "in principle that it should be inscribed on the World Heritage List and noted that **the process for inscription is in progress.**"*

The Committee concluded by requesting the State Party of Cambodia:

*"To strengthen **conservation** and **management at the site** by making progress in developing an appropriate management plan, which progress will enable its formal inscription by the Committee at its 32<sup>nd</sup> session in 2008;" and "to **submit a progress report** to the World Heritage Centre, **by 1 February 2008.**"*

**Activities of the delegation of the Royal Government at the 31<sup>st</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee in Christchurch, New Zealand led by His Excellency Dr. Sok An Deputy Prime Minister, Minister in Charge of the Office of the Council of Ministers**





UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND  
CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF  
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE  
Thirty-First Session  
Christchurch, New Zealand  
23 June – 2 July 2007

### Decision: 31 COM 8B.24

#### TEXT

1. *The World Heritage Committee, Having examined documents WHC-07/31.COM/8B and WHC-07/31.COM/NF.8B.1,*
2. *Having taken note of the following statement by the Chair of the World Heritage Committee which has been agreed to by the Delegation of Cambodia and the Delegation of Thailand:*

"The State Party of Cambodia and the State Party of Thailand are in full agreement that the Sacred Site of the Temple of Preah Vihear has Outstanding Universal Value and must be inscribed on the World Heritage List as soon as possible. Accordingly, Cambodia and Thailand agree that Cambodia will propose the site for formal inscription on the World Heritage List at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session of the World Heritage Committee in 2008 with the active support of Thailand.

They also agree that the site is in need of urgent attention and requires international financial and technical assistance and close cooperation between them.

They further agree that it is essential to strengthen conservation and management at the site including by the development of an appropriate management plan, as required under paragraph 108 of the Operational Guidelines, that will ensure the future protection of this property.

They understand, following consultation with the World Heritage Centre, that financial and technical assistance for the development of a management plan will be available through the World Heritage Centre's International Assistance programme."

3. *Recognizes that the Sacred Site of the Temple of Preah Vihear is of great international significance and has Outstanding Universal Value on the basis of criteria (i), (ii) and (iv), agrees in principle that it should be inscribed on the World Heritage List and notes that the process for inscription is in progress;*
4. *Requests the State Party of Cambodia to strengthen conservation and management plan, which progress in developing an appropriate management plan, which progress will enable its formal inscription by the Committee at its 32<sup>nd</sup> Session in 2008;*
5. *Further requests the State Party of Cambodia to submit a progress report to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2008.*

Decision report (Christchurch, 2007)

HWC-07/31.COM/24, p.53, 54

#### Chairperson statement at the 31<sup>st</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee Christchurch, New Zealand

This decision means that the committee has agreed that this Sacred Site deserves to be included in the World Heritage List and that its formal listing will take place at its next session in 2008, and I request that my remarks are included in the final report of this meeting along with the decision.



**Mr. Tumu Te Heuheu**  
Chairman of the World Heritage  
Committee



## 8 THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA IMPLEMENTS DECISION 31 COM 8B.24 OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

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The Royal Government of Cambodia created a public institution, the National Authority for the Protection and Development of the Preah Vihear Natural and Cultural Site (*Autorité Nationale pour la Protection et le Développement du site culturel et naturel de Preah Vihear - ANPV*) and has provided it with the human and financial resources as well as the legal and statutory capacity to:

Reinforce **CONSERVATION OF THE SITE** and move forward in developing an appropriate **MANAGEMENT PLAN** for this site.

In order to implement the aforementioned decision of the Committee in the best possible conditions, the ANPV conducted a number of appraisal and technical analysis missions on the Preah Vihear site from September 2007 to January 2008. These high-level missions were made possible due to the kind commitment and generous contribution of Belgium, the United States of America, France and India, whose distinguished experts also benefited from valuable input by colleagues from China, Japan and Thailand, as well as the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM).

The missions resulted in the preparation of a **PROGRESS REPORT** forwarded to the World Heritage Centre (UNESCO) on 28 January 2008.

This document was complemented by a SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT following up on the “Meeting of experts regarding conservation and management procedures for the Sacred Site of the Temple of Preah Vihear,” held at UNESCO Headquarters on 25 and 26 March 2008, at the invitation of the Deputy Director for Culture, Her Excellency Ms. Françoise RIVIÈRE.

This latter report was forwarded to the Centre on May 13, 2008.



## ROYAUME DU CAMBODGE

### SITE SACRÉ DU TEMPLE DE PRÉAH VIHÉAR



DOSSIER RELATIF  
A LA MISE EN ŒUVRE DE LA DÉCISION  
31 COM 8.24 Rev  
DU COMITÉ DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL  
(31<sup>ème</sup> session – 2007 – Christchurch, Nouvelle Zélande)  
PHNOM PENH / JANVIER 2008

## ROYAUME DU CAMBODGE

### LE SITE SACRÉ DU TEMPLE DE PRÉAH VIHÉAR

Mise en œuvre de  
la décision 31 COM 8.24 Rev  
du COMITÉ DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL



### CONSERVATION ET GESTION

#### RAPPORT COMPLÉMENTAIRE

ÉTABLI SUR LA BASE DU RAPPORT D'ÉTAPE REMIS LE 28 JANVIER 2008  
AU CENTRE DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL (UNESCO)

PHNOM PENH / MAI 2008



## THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY INSCRIBES THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

(32<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Committee – Quebec, Canada – 7 July 2008, Decision 32 COM 8B.102)

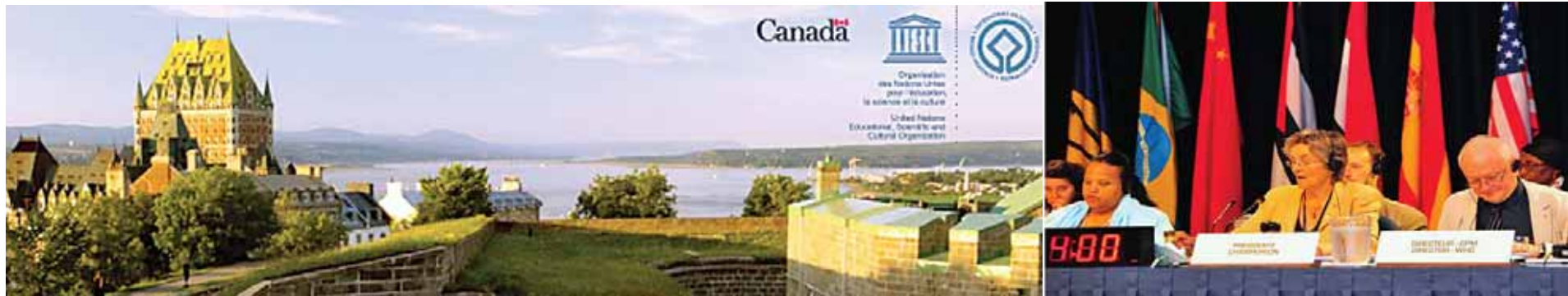


Photo UNESCO

On 7 July, 2008, in Quebec City, Canada the 32<sup>nd</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee unanimously inscribed the Temple of Preah Vihear, the Angkor era Khmer monument perched on the southern end of a 625 metre high rock promontory of the “Dangrek” mountain range, on the World Heritage List under criterion (i)

**Criterion (i): Preah Vihear is an outstanding masterpiece of Khmer architecture. It is very ‘pure’ both in plan and in the detail of its decoration.**







## 10 THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA IMPLEMENTS DECISION 32 COM 8B.102 OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

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### **Recall of the Legislative Protection**

The site of Preah Vihear now inscribed as a World Heritage site (UNESCO) is nationally protected by the Royal Decree on the Establishment of Preah Vihear Temple Site (NS/RKM/0303/115 dated 11<sup>th</sup> March 2003). This is now supported by Sub-Decree concerning the application of the Royal Decree on the Establishment of the National Authority for the Protection and Development of the Preah Vihear Natural and Cultural Site (ANPV) .

Also most of the buffer zone is protected under the Sub-Decree on the Establishment of Protected Forest for Conservation of Plant and Animal Genetics, "Preah Vihear".

Apart from the sites under specific Decree and Sub-Decrees, all archaeological / cultural remains in Cambodia are protected under the Law for Protection of Cultural Heritage dated January 1996 and Natural Heritage by the Royal Decree on Environmental Protection and Natural Resource Management dated Dec 1996.

The boundaries of such protected sites are defined by Royal Decree at the proposal of the Supreme Council on National Culture (SCNC). The SCNC is responsible for policy formulation in the domain of national cultural properties, while the Ministry of Culture and Fine arts is responsible for policy implementation.

All of these statutes contain provisions for prosecutions and penalties for transgressions that adversely impact archaeological sites and ruins, historic buildings, artifacts, etc and for unauthorized development projects in protected areas.

### **The implementation of the decision of the World Heritage Committee**

The National Authority for the Protection and Development of the Preah Vihear Natural and Cultural Site (ANPV) outlined the implementation of the decision of the World Heritage Committee in a publication of the "Dossier Related to the implementation of the Decision 32 COM 8B.102," in April 2009. The dossier consists of:

- a) a provisional map providing additional details of the inscribed property and a map delineating the buffer zone identified in the RGPP;
- b) an updated nomination dossier to reflect the changes made to the perimeter of the property
- c) a confirmation that the management zone for the property will include the inscribed property and buffer zone identified in the RGPP;
- d) a progress report on the preparation of the Management Plan;

The Kingdom of Cambodia submits the dossier to the World Heritage Centre on May 2009.







## 11 THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA SUBMITS A PORTFOLIO COMPRISED OF 4 DOCUMENTS

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In conformity with paragraph 15 of the Decision 32 COM 8B.102, the Kingdom of Cambodia submitted 4 (four) enumerated following documents to the World Heritage Centre in May 2009, on an exceptional basis beyond the deadline established in the paragraph 148 of the *Operational Guidelines*, including:

- a) A provisional map providing additional details of the inscribed property and a map delineating the buffer zone identified in the RGPP (Revised Graphic Plan of the Property);
- b) an updated nomination dossier to reflect the changes made to the perimeter of the property;
- c) a confirmation that the management zone for the property will include the inscribed property and buffer zone identified in the RGPP;
- d) a progress report on the preparation of the Management Plan.

These documents have been requested by the World Heritage Centre, with the application of its **Decision 32 COM 8B.102** (Quebec, Canada, 7 July 2008). Taking into account the new state of the maps and the zoning (provisional state,) it is important to recall that it is to the request of the honorable members of the Committee and in the spirit of the effort of conciliation to facilitate the inscription that the Kingdom of Cambodia has consented to give up the advantages gained by virtue of the **Decision 31 COM 8B.24**. (Christchurch, New Zealand, July 2007, which

- “*Recognizes* that the **Sacred Site of the Temple of Preah Vihear** is of great international significance and has Outstanding Universal Value on the basis of criteria (i), (ii) and (iv);”
- “*agrees in principle* that it should be inscribed on the World Heritage List;”
- “and *notes* that the process for inscription is in progress...”

Consequently, as it was inscribed at the 32<sup>nd</sup> session of the Committee, “**the Temple of Peah Vihear**” has a perimeter which covers **11 (eleven) hectares**, but the Decision of the Committee at its 31<sup>st</sup> session, announcing the process for inscription in progress, was based on the proposition of the inscription of the “**Sacred Site of the Temple of Preah Vihear**” covering **154.70 ha (one hundred fifty four hectares and seventy ares)**.

In the same way, the initial buffer zone covered **2,642.50 ha (two thousand six hundred forty two hectares and fifty ares)**, but the buffer zone identified in the RGPP (Revised Graphic Plan of the Property) as what has been accepted by the Committee at its 32<sup>nd</sup> session covers only **644.113 ha (six hundred forty four hectares and one hundred thirteen ares)**, seeing that the proposed property for inscription has been reduced and that the perimeter of the proposed zone for inscription has been revised.

In this regards, it is important to point out, again, that the followings have been **TEMPORARILY** excluded from the zoning:

- a. the zone situated between the ascendancy of the historical staircase conducting to the temple in the east and the border line between Cambodia and Thailand, in the north of the temple;
- b. and the zone in the west of the temple, claimed by Thailand. This is the area which stretches from the border line true to the map “**being integral part of the Judgment**” of the international Court of Justice The Hague, 15 June 1962) and the line indicated in the map **unilaterally made by the Kingdom of Thailand** and presented only at the 31<sup>st</sup> session of the Committee in Christchurch, New Zealand, 23 June-02 July 2007 (see maps and drawings on pages 6,7 and 8).



The Committee at its 31<sup>st</sup> session (2007) recognized the validity of the criteria (i) (ii) and (iv) for the inscription on the World Heritage List, in conformity with the evaluation performed by ICOMOS. The same Committee, however, at its 32<sup>nd</sup> session (2008) inscribed the Temple of Preah Vihear on the List on the basis of criteria (i) alone.

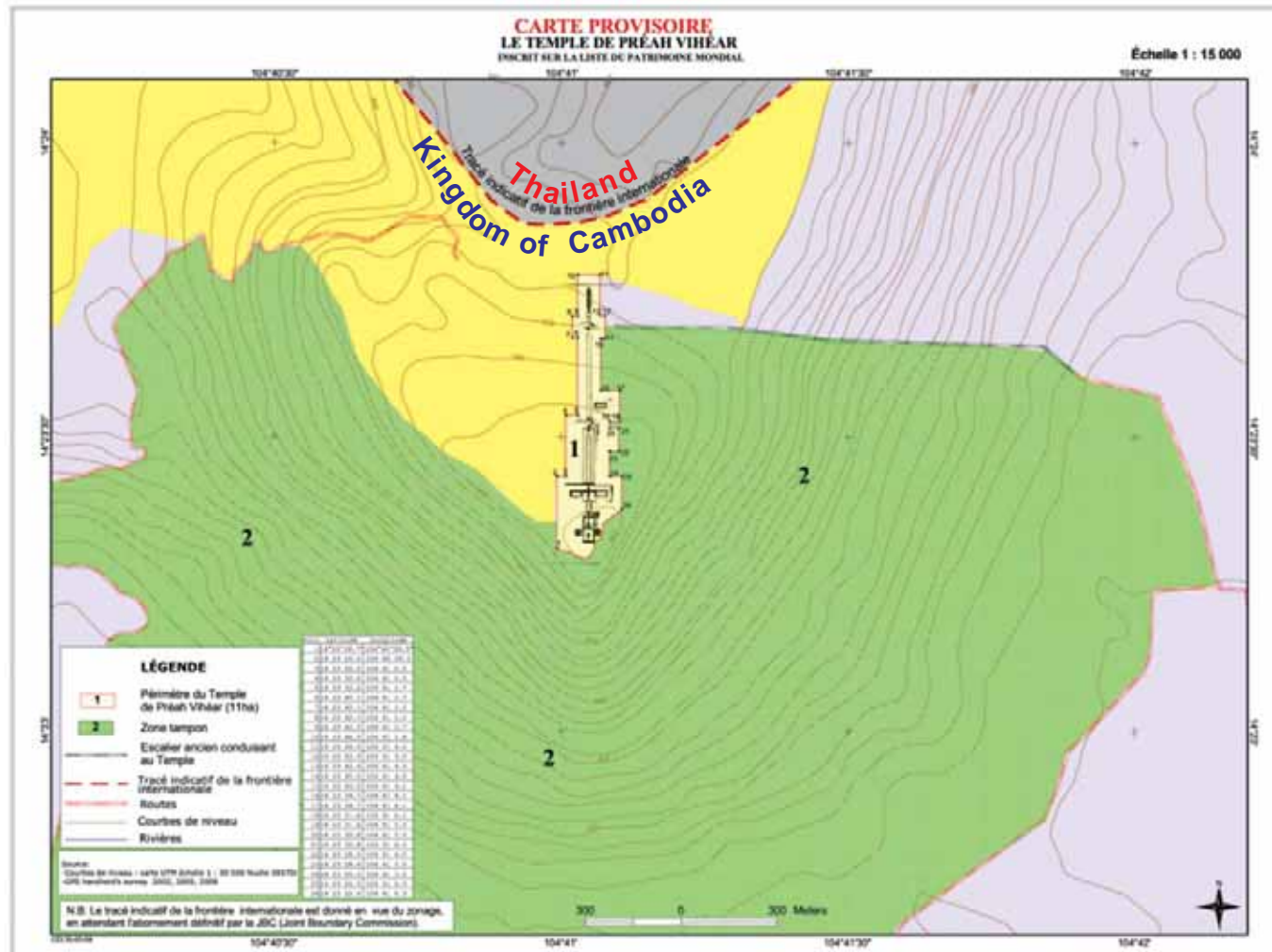
But the Decision 32 COM 8B.102 indicates in its paragraph 11 that the Committee “**agrees that** it would be desirable in the future to reflect its full value (= full value of the property) and landscape setting through a possible additional inscription to the World Heritage List that could capture criteria (iii) and (iv), which had been recognized by the Committee in its Decision **31 COM 8B.24**”





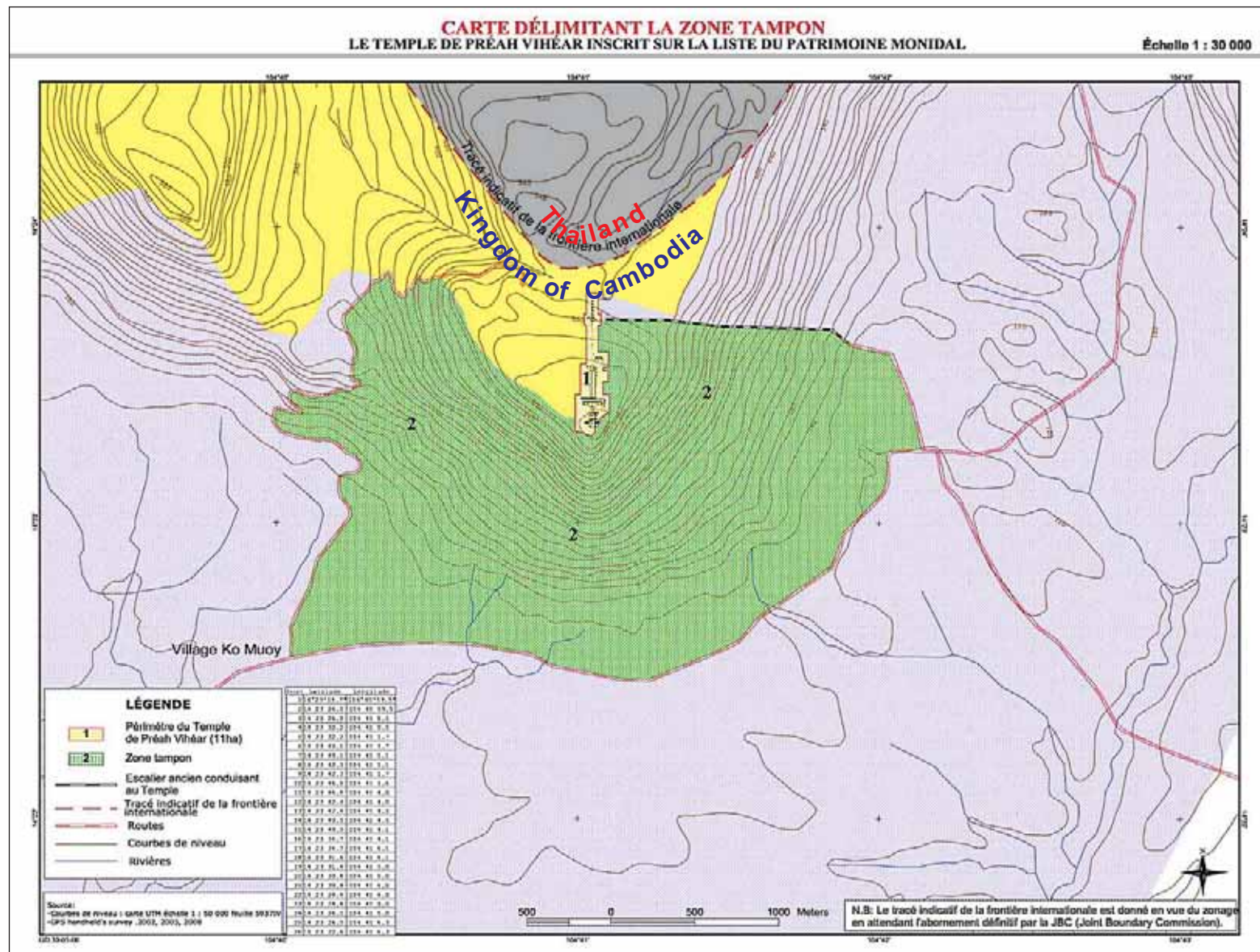
## 12 THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA UPDATES A PROVISIONAL MAP FOR NOMINATION AND A MAP PROVIDING THE BUFFER ZONE IDENTIFIED IN THE RGPP (Revised Graphic Plan of the Property)

The provisional map of the property (identified 1) inscribed on the World Heritage List.





The map of the buffer zone (identified 2) of the property inscribed on the World Heritage List





## 13 THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA UPDATES THE NOMINATION DOSSIER TO REFLECT THE CHANGES MADE TO THE PERIMETER OF THE PROPERTY

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The nomination file, evaluated by ICOMOS and examined by the World Heritage Committee at its 31<sup>st</sup> session (Christchurch, New Zealand, 2007), was related to

### THE SACRED SITE OF THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR

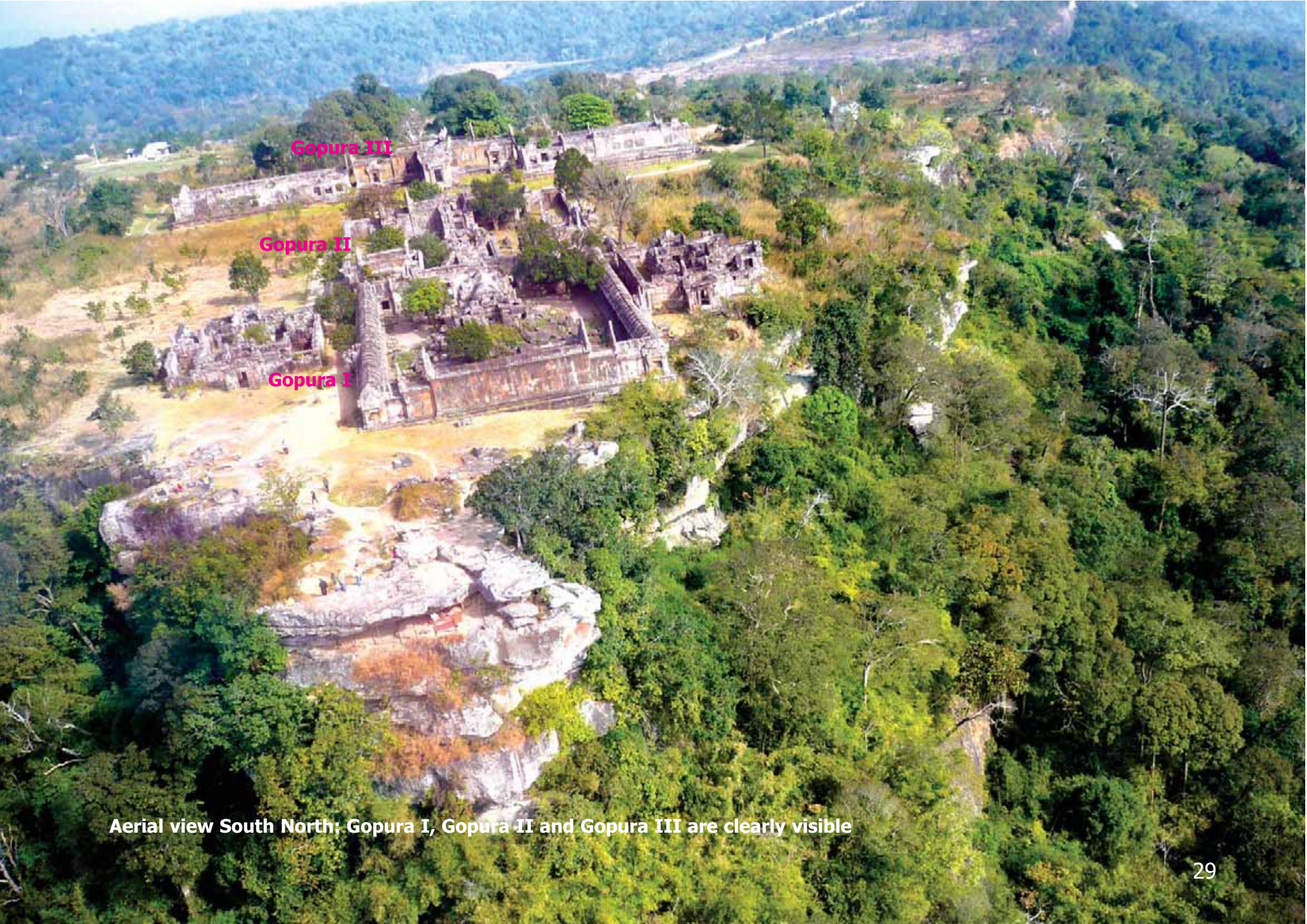
The ***updated property proposed*** for inscription has been reduced and that the ***perimeter of the proposed zone for inscription*** has been revised.

The updated dossier presented ***this property (zone 1)*** covering **11** (eleven) hectares only, but the Decision of the Committee at its 31<sup>st</sup> session, announcing the process for inscription in progress, was based on the proposition of the inscription of the “**Sacred Site of the Temple of Preah Vihear**” covering **154.70 ha (one hundred fifty four hectares and seventy ares)**.

The ***buffer zone (zone 2)*** identified in the RGPP (Revised Graphic Plan of the Property) as what has been accepted by the Committee at its 32<sup>nd</sup> session covers only **644.113 ha (six hundred forty four hectares and one hundred thirteen ares)**, instead of the initial buffer zone covering **2,642.50 ha (two thousand six hundred forty two hectares and fifty ares)**, when the World Heritage Committee made the Decision announcing the process for inscription in progress.

During the 32<sup>nd</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee, the conciliation efforts, conducted in cooperation with the Secretariat by the honorable members of the World Heritage Committee (firstly the Representative of the U.S.A), resulted in the inscription of the property entitled ‘**THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR**’, on the basis of the **Decision 32 COM 8B.102** (Quebec, Canada, July 2008).





**Aerial view South North: Gopura I, Gopura II and Gopura III are clearly visible**



In the same spirit of conciliation, the Cambodian Delegation accepted to reduce the surface of the nominated property which **covers only the Temple of PREAH VIHEAR** and not the wider promontory with its cliffs and caves.

**Explanatory Note  
on the zoning presented in the provisional Map**

In conformity with the policy of peace and good neighbourliness led by His Excellency the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, and in the spirit of conciliation, at the 32<sup>nd</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee (Quebec, Canada, 2008), the delegation of the Royal Government of Cambodia consented to accept the proposition made by the Committee during the preliminary work for the Decision 32 COM 8B. 102.

Consequently, the area figured in yellow in the present map is PROVISIONALLY out of the zoning.

This area stretches from the border line true to the map “being integral part of the Judgment” of the international Court of Justice (15 June 1962, please see **NB.** hereafter) and the line indicated in the map unilaterally made by the Kingdom of Thailand and presented only at the 31<sup>st</sup> session of the Committee (Christchurch, New Zealand, 23 June-02 July 2007).

The final zoning will be fixed according to the result of the work on the border demarcation of the Joint Boundary Commission between Cambodia and Thailand.

**NB.:** in the Judgment of 15 June 1962 (See the International Court of Justice, Reports of Judgments, Case concerning the Temple of Preah Vihear, Judgment of 15 June 1962, page 32, paragraph 5), it is said:

*“The court however considers that Thailand in 1908-1909 did accept the annex I map as representing the outcome of the work of delimitation, and hence recognizes the line on that map as being the frontier line, the effect of which is to situate Preah Vihear in Cambodian territory”.*



## THE INSCRIBED PROPERTY

**The inscribed property** lies on a higher part of the plateau located above 250 metres. The perimeter of the property is composed of the linear monument and its immediate surrounding.

It excludes the monumental staircase leading to the monument on the east side as well as its landscape setting.

In the same manner, it excludes temporarily:

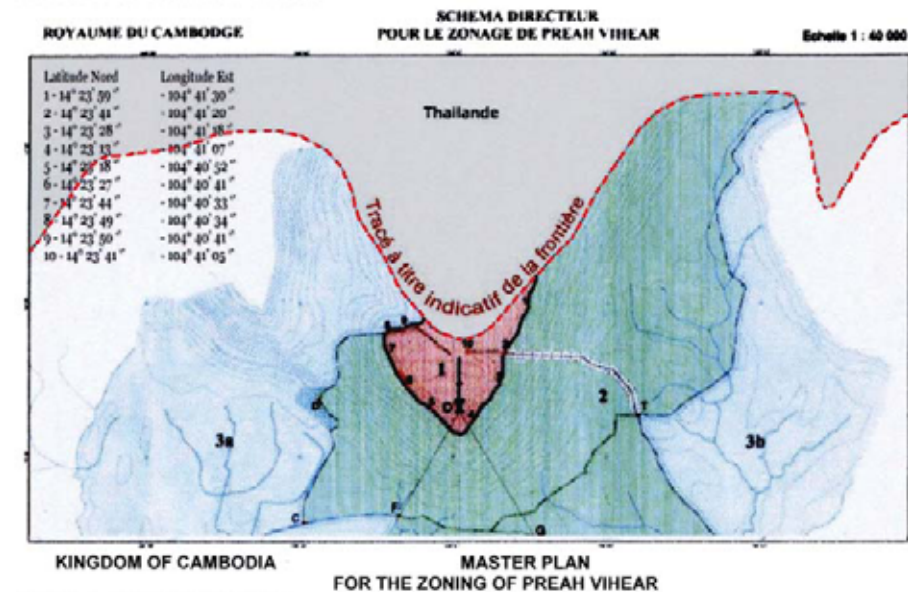
- ⇒ On one side, the zone which, beyond the area of the historical staircase on the east, is extended to the north up to the line indicated on the '**Schéma directeur pour le zonage de Preah Vihear**' under the title TRACÉ À TITRE INDICATIF DE LA FRONTIÈRE, e.g. the border line true to the map being integral part of the Judgment of the International Court of Justice (Judgment of 15 June 1962); and
- ⇒ The zone extending to the west of the Temple, starting from the promontory to the TRACÉ À TITRE INDICATIF DE LA FRONTIÈRE as here above clarified. This zone is claimed by Thailand **on the basis of a map unilaterally made** and submitted only, for the first time, at the 31<sup>st</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee (Christchurch, New Zealand, 23 June to 2 July 2007) [see maps and drawings on page 6, 7 and 8].

The **buffer zone**, indicated as zone No 2, covers at the east, the south and the west of the Temple, an area of 644.113 ha (six hundred forty four hectares and hundred thirteen).

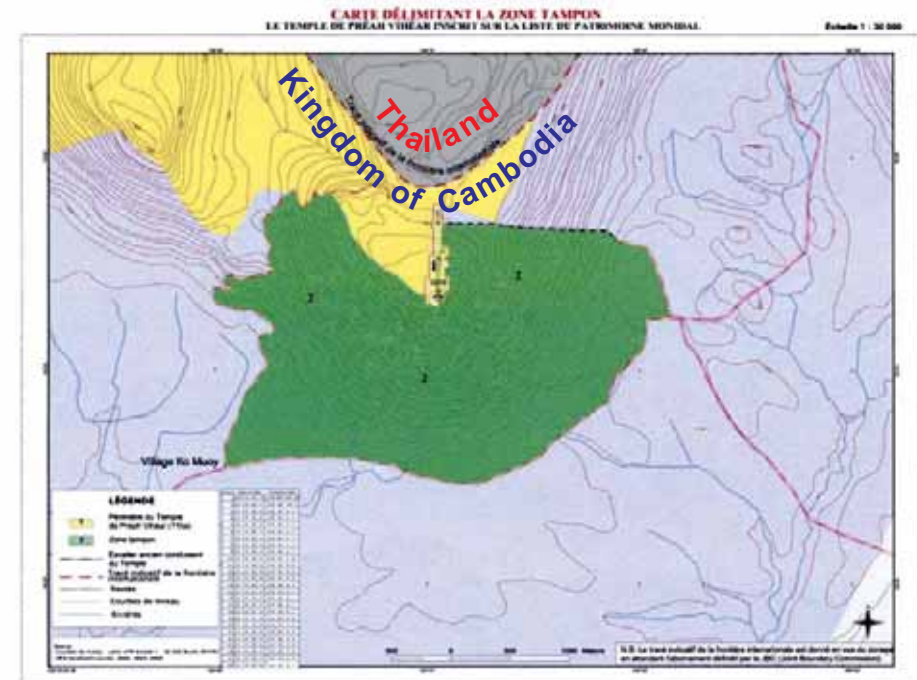
This zone, consisting essentially of landscape comprising cliff, forest and vegetation, is bounded by:

- ⇒ the area set for the historic monumental staircase at the east;
- ⇒ the lay-out of the new access road to the Temple (road in construction, starting from the east to the south and leading to the traditional village Ko Muoy, allowing the access to the promontory, at the west to the Temple of Preah Vihear (see the map on page 33)).

## CARTE 1: NOMINATION



## MAP 1: NOMINATION

**MAP 2: INSCRIPTION 2008**

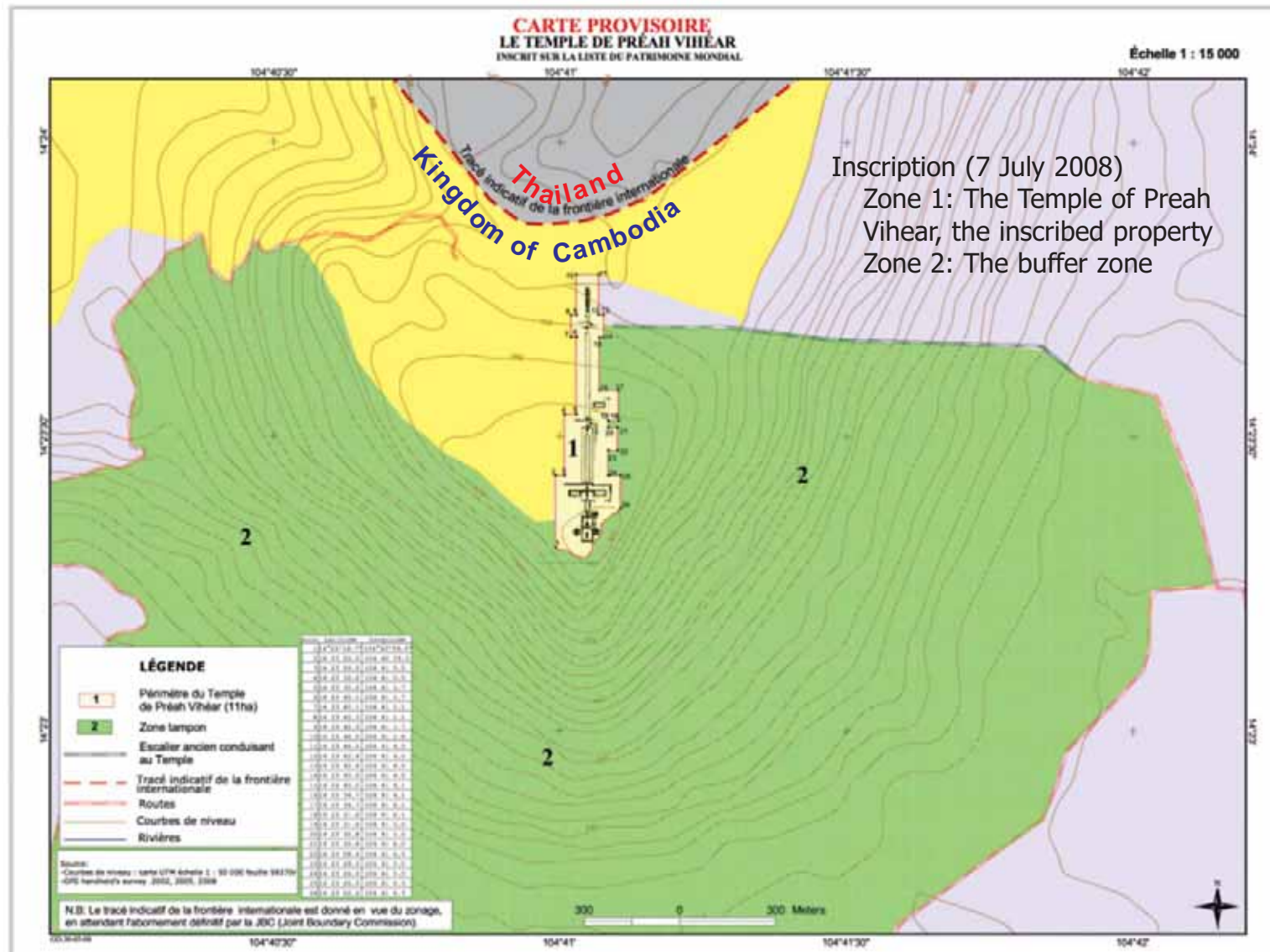
Map delineating the buffer zone  
for the Temple of Preah Vihear inscribed on the World Heritage List

Tracé à titre indicatif de la frontière: This is indicative of the frontier line based on “ANNEX I MAP”, used by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) for its judgment in 1962, which was drawn in 1908 as a result of the demarcation work of the Commission of Delimitation of the boundary between Indo-China and Siam set up on the basis of the Convention of 1904 and the Treaty of 1907 between France and Siam and was accepted by the Kingdom of Siam. In its reasoning, the ICJ very clearly demonstrated the legal validity of the border line as shown in the “ANNEX I MAP”.





34





In its evaluation No 1224, ICOMOS notes that the documentation provided by the Kingdom of Cambodia, as State Party, indicates that a new enlarged boundary might be considered, in the future, for management reasons to encompass these specific landscape relationships and meets the full cultural, natural, and historic values of the site.

The National Authority for the Protection and Development of Preah Vihear Natural and Cultural Site (ANPV) with the support of a team of experts from Belgium, France, India and U.S.A as well as the participation of Cambodian experts, who have pursued the study of a wide range of aspect of the site and its management challenges are conducting complementary studies needed to delineate precisely this zone.





## 15 THE MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR IS BEING UPDATED

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Divay Gupta

(Conservation Architect, India)

January 2009

### ***At the request of:***

The National Authority for the Protection and Development of the Preah Vihear Natural and Cultural Site (ANPV) .

### ***Supported by:***

National Commission for UNESCO, Royal Government of Cambodia, and  
UNESCO Phnom Penh office in Cambodia

### **Project limitations**

This proposed draft management plan is based on a strategy plan done earlier. It established the various criteria, objectives and guidelines based on which this management plan has been created. It was based primarily on the various missions, including:

- The one for evaluating it as World Heritage Site in October 2006 undertaken for ICOMOS, and
- The other in November 2007 for the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, and
- The third undertaken for ANPV.

The management plan borrows heavily from various other reports undertaken by many international experts on various aspects of the site compiled as the "Progress Report" by the Royal Government of Cambodia in January 2008, in which:



- *The strategy for community participation* was dealt by Ms. Tara Sharma,
- *The presentation of the report and architectural section of the report* were undertaken by Mr. Huzoor Choudhry, and
- *The project research and report preparation* was done by Ms. Akhila Agrawal.

## **The Management Plan Strategy**

The proposed management plan aims to provide a framework to conserve the cultural heritage assets of the inscribed World Heritage Site. This will include protection and conservation of the architectural, archeological, landscape, natural and sacred assets, and their geological settings, improving the understanding of the site, its interpretation and most importantly ensuring and supporting local community in its cultural, social and economic vitality.



This plan attempts to outline all the key issues and challenges confronting the site. These issues will identify the vulnerability and threats, gaps in present management and opportunities to benefit the site.



The plan also sets out objectives, which arise in response to the identified issues and are designed to achieve comprehensive management of the site. The implementation of these objectives would be achieved through a series of actions and programs in a phased manner as per an agreed priority.

However it should be kept in mind that the proposed management plan is not prescriptive or binding, but rather ***aims to set a framework for coordinated management and development of partnerships***. In this way the plan intends to build upon the nomination dossier and enhance the existing statutory tools like the Royal Decrees and will serve to inform and guide the future management requirements and documentation for the site.

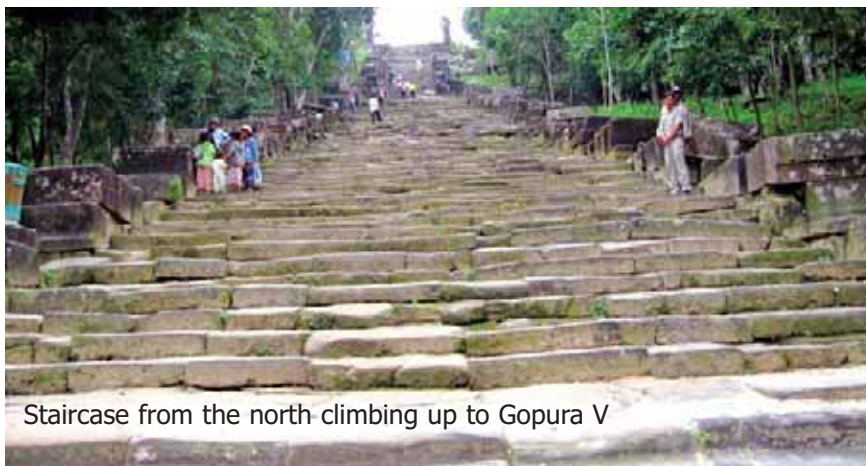
## **The Management Approach**

The site can be perceived, experienced and interpreted from many different perspectives- ecological, historical, political, cultural etc. These are multiple ways to “read” the site, illustrating the challenges in the management of such a complex site.





Thus the main approach for the preparation of this document has been of '***Integrated Heritage Landscape Management Approach***'. This approach is based upon a comprehensive assessment of all the above factors like Archeological, historical, environmental and living traditions and cultural resources. It focuses on the connections and interrelationships between historic sites within their wider context, both physical and symbolic, for example,



Staircase from the north climbing up to Gopura V

historic settlement, visual experiences, environmental systems and associated cultural linkages and values. Thus this approach relates the site with its immediate landscape, buffer and broader geographic surroundings. This helps define the '**sense of place**', which is also unique to each site and needs special conservation and management. It may be said here that contributing factors to the '**sense of place**' may differ from person to person, which is depending upon their background, purpose or experiences.



This assemblage of sacred architecture in Cambodia dates back to the 9<sup>th</sup> century and represents an outstanding example of human endeavor. The temple and its immediate surroundings remain substantially intact, and represent **a unique cultural landscape in Cambodia and the world.**

The site of Preah Vihear has long been recognized as containing significant historical and cultural resources. For centuries this has been a sanctuary and a landmark for Khmer people and has provided them with a sense of history. Because of its unique properties the site has been decreed a National Monument through Royal Government of Cambodia. Based upon the recommendations of the Supreme Council on National Culture of Cambodia (SCNC), the site was nominated to UNESCO for a World Heritage status in 2006 and was inscribed in July 2008.

With this in mind, this management plan will promote a holistic and guided approach for the conservation and management of the archeological, architectural and cultural heritage of the site. It will provide a forum for documentation and interpretation of the cultural and natural heritage of the site. Since it is a designated monument and sacred site it requires sensitive conservation. However the challenge is to incorporate new changes to make it a vibrant place especially for heritage and eco-tourism promotion.

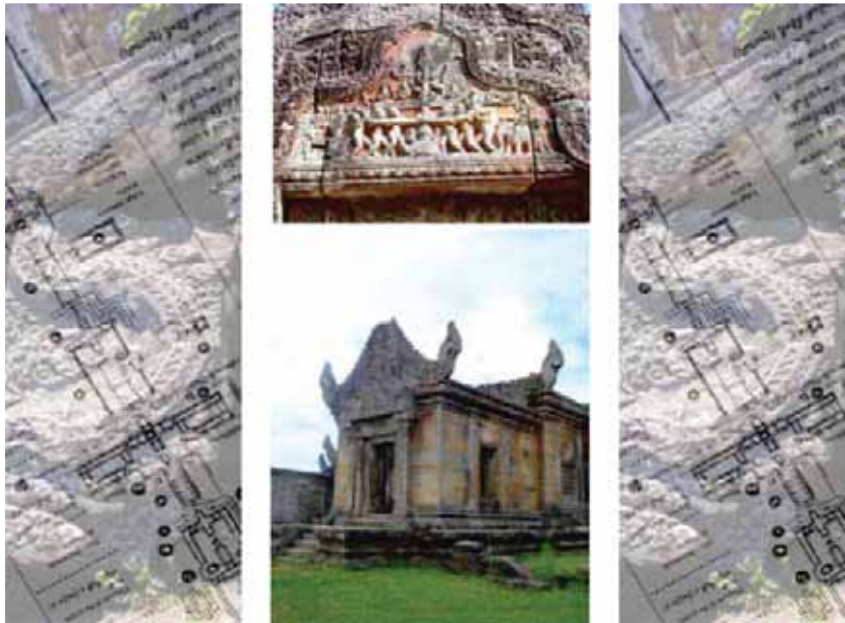
The plan will also promote the ecological aspects of the site, which have been created by the surrounding natural setting. This in turn can provide for interactive natural educational opportunities for the visitors and local communities alike.

(The full text of the updated management plan could be found in publication: TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR Inscribed on the World Heritage List - Dossier related to the implementation of the Decision 32 COM 8B.102 OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (32<sup>nd</sup> Session – 2008, Quebec, Canada) p.27 – 60



## **KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**

### **THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR inscribed on the World Heritage List**



**Dossier related to the implementation of the Decision  
32 COM 8B.102**

OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE  
(32<sup>nd</sup> Session – 2008, Quebec, Canada)

Phnom Penh, April 2009

This 74 page publication of the "Dossier related to the Implementation of the Decision 32 COM 8B.102 " consists of 4 documents:

- A provisional map;
- An updated nomination;
- A confirmation of the management zone
- A progress report on the preparation of the management plan, from page 27 to page 74, by Divay Gupta (Conservation Architect, India)



## THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, FOR THE FIRST TIME, WAS ELECTED MEMBER OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE AT THE 1<sup>st</sup> ROUND, TAKING THE 2<sup>nd</sup> POSITION AFTER SWITZERLAND

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The Kingdom of Cambodia was elected, for the first time a member of the World Heritage Committee (WHC) in October 2009, at the 17th General Assembly of States Parties to the 1972 Convention, at the UNESCO headquarters, Paris, France.

Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia stated:

"It is a new pride for our country that becomes fully permanent member of the World Heritage Committee. It will promote the image and prestige of the Kingdom of Cambodia on the world arena;"

"Cambodia will carry on her mission with high responsibility and will strengthen the cooperation with other countries;"

"Cambodia will do more to serve the common purposes in the WHC that has been working on conservation, culture and heritage development; we have to enhance more international cooperation to move forward on conservation, preservation and sustainable development of World heritage sites."

The Kingdom of Cambodia is rich in history and cultural properties, two of which were inscribed on the World Heritage List, namely Angkor (1992) and the Temple of Preah Vihear (2008). Angkor is one of the most important archaeological sites in South-East Asia. Stretching over some 400 km<sup>2</sup>, including forested area, Angkor Archaeological Park contains the magnificent remains of the different capitals of the Khmer Empire, from the 9<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> century. UNESCO has set up a wide-ranging programme to safeguard this symbolic site and its



surroundings, thus contributing largely to the enrichment of her experiences in promoting and improving friendly cooperation among nations and experts of different nationalities within the International Coordination Committee on the Safeguarding and Development of the Historic Site of Angkor (ICC) since December 1993.

Nationwide, there are more than 700 ancient temples and many hundreds potential archeological sites. They are under the process of registration and protection by the Royal Government.

The Kingdom of Cambodia is in the position to advance the cause of the World Heritage Committee.







Bayon





Bayon





Chao Say Tevoda



Preah Khan



Banteay Srei



Banteay Kdei



The Kingdom of Cambodia will effectively serve humanity and future generations by:

- Working expeditiously to fulfill the requirements for many more inscriptions of her own cultural and natural heritage sites,
- Bringing her knowledge, experiences, and her heart to the World Heritage Committee,
- Bridging States Parties that wish to inscribe their cultural and natural sites to the Committee for decision, and
- Promoting cooperation among nations to protect heritages around the world.











**His Excellency Dr. Sok An Deputy Prime Minister, Minister in Charge of the Office of the Council of Ministers head of the Cambodian delegation speaking at the 02 June 2008 meeting of the International Coordination Committee on the Safeguarding and Development of the Historic Site of Angkor (ICC)**

**Photo: Office of the Council of Ministers-Royal Government of Cambodia**





**The 02 June 2008 ICC Meeting**







## 17 THE THEME OF THE 33<sup>RD</sup> SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE IS THE STATE OF CONSERVATION OF THE PROPERTY (- DECISION 33 COM 7B.65 – TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR, CAMBODIA, SEVILLE, SPAIN, JULY 2009)

At the 33<sup>rd</sup> session of WHC, 2009 in Seville, Spain, as far as the Temple of Preah Vihear is concerned, ***the theme of the decision 33 COM 7B.65 - Temple of Preah Vihear (Cambodia) (C 1224 rev) is the State of Conservation of the property.***

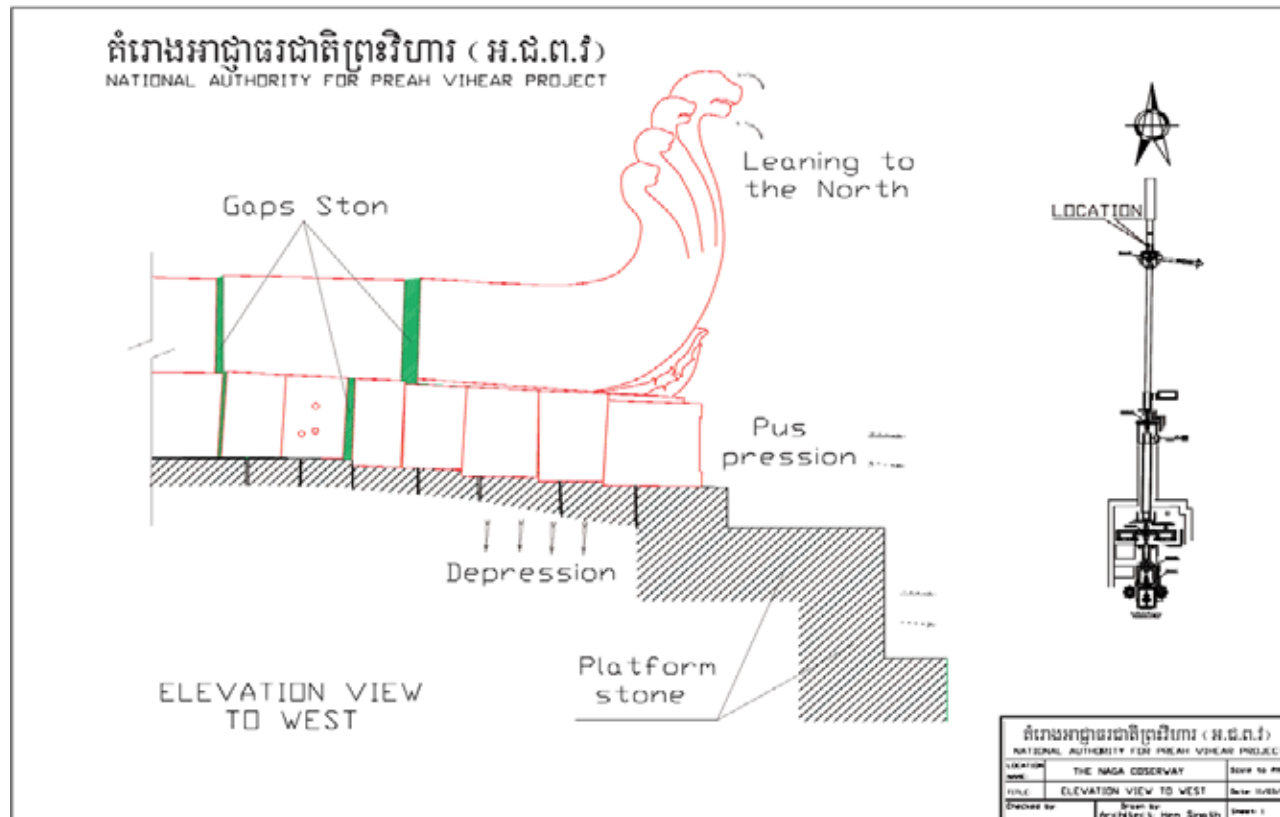


33<sup>rd</sup> session of WHC Seville, Spain 2009

Photo UNESCO

The last major conservation work on site was carried out in 1929; thereafter some conservation and repairs were carried out in 1960's once the site was handed over to Cambodian authorities by Thailand. However urgent conservation and emergency measures are required at the site to stabilize many of its historic structures. Restoration and stabilization works have been carried out throughout the monument.

ANPV, with the assistance of International experts and UNESCO, has undertaken emergency conservation works at Gopura V, Gopura IV and Gopura III. The Naga heads at the northern tip of "Gopura V" guarding the staircase have been reset to a straight position. Wooden steps have been built to facilitate visitors' access and wooden supports have been installed to stabilize the temple's structure.











During 2009 five different expert missions visited the Temple of Preah Vihear and the area under protection for current and future development to assess the local situation and to assist ANPV with a broad range of tasks and activities from emergency stabilization of the temple structure up to the overall development of the Temple of Preah Vihear area.













## 18 THE WORKS TO SAFEGUARD THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR BY ANPV CONTINUE WITH INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS TECHNICAL ASISSTANCE AND UNESCO

### Missions to the Temple of Preah Vihear

An international expert mission to the Temple of Preah Vihear was carried out 28 March - 06 April 2009 to evaluate and follow up on the conservation works and management plan in progress on-site. The experts involved in the mission were Mr. Michel Verrot (Architect/France), Mr. Antoine Brugerolle (Architect/France) and Mr. Eric Llopis (Archaeologist/ France), Prof. Koen Van Balen (engineer/Belgium), Mr. Divay Gupta (heritage management specialist/India) and Mr. Richard Sussman (landscaping specialist/USA). The expert missions decided upon the following recommendations:

Recommendations of the international expert meeting, Preah Vihear  
02 April 2009

1. A proposed revised protected green, forested, environmental and cultural area is outlined in addition to the existing Royal Decree on the general management plan (attached) to be defined further by appropriate national legislation. The area is composed of man made structures and natural elements where biodiversity ought to be respected and the balance in the ecosystem should be reestablished.
2. The village of Saem will be the entrance to the proposed protected area. All tourist services for the site, such as eco-friendly shuttles to the site, general tourist services such as restaurants, coffee shops, souvenir shops, interpretation center and conservation center (this conservation center may operate at the national, regional and international level) should be concentrated in the appropriate management zones.



3. The new road to the east side of the Temple of Preah Vihear should be brought back to a width of 7-9m and should be reforested so that the environmental panorama will be restored. The visit to the temple area via the historical staircase may commence at the newly constructed visitors center. The actual location of the visitors center needs to be reviewed to integrate into the natural environment.
4. The visit from the east side could further continue by crossing the restored stream and NOT from the bottom of the historical staircase. A small bridge for pedestrians needs to be constructed over the stream to access the historical staircase, and should be adapted to accommodate an emergency vehicle.
5. The conservation, restoration and eventual restitution of the historical staircase, including the provisional staircase should be started as soon as possible. Furthermore, the forest at the base and vicinity of the historical staircase should be restored and protected. The study leading to the proposal for the works on the provisional staircase should be finalized between April and the end of 2009.
6. The Royal Government of Cambodia, which has sufficient human resources, should urgently constitute an inter-disciplinary team within the ANPV consisting of archaeologists, architects, engineers, hydrologists, environmentalists and demining services, including a permanent core technical team. This team should immediately start working on the process to restore the historical staircase. This effort should not infringe on the spiritual value of the site, meaning to retain the historic character of the east access to the temple area.





7. All available information should be collected to create an appropriate database for scientific interpretation of the site and to guide the heritage management process. Wherever possible, modern technologies such as aerial photography, satellite imaging and 3D-laserscanning should be used within the framework of an integrated documentation system.
8. Problems with water drainage on all Gopuras of the temple are causing major structural problems at different parts of the monument. It is thus very important that these problems are addressed immediately. They are particularly urgent at Gopura V. As there is no foreseen immediate national or international support, it is proposed that visitors are kept at a safe distance while a possible partial dismantling could be investigated.
9. Experts observed that an old structural situation at the eastern side of Gopura III is aggravating the stability of the temple. To ensure safety on site and to restore the structural stability of the monument it is suggested that civil and military presence be moved to a safer location, the holes should be filled and concrete basins removed. An archaeological diagnosis should also be continued at the western side in view of conservation, chronology and eventual reuse of the ancient pond. A monitoring system should be installed to observe the evolution of the monument. A signal system should also be put in place on site to avoid any use of heavy equipment.
10. Urgent attention should be paid to the pollution and waste management at the site and its larger surroundings.



11. The Forestry Department of ANPV should pay special attention to the cutting and the planting of the trees and decide on the species to be used with relation to the stability of the monument, the drainage of water on the site, the observation points for visitors, and taking into account local belief systems with relation to the sacredness of certain plants and trees.
12. As indicated in 2008 progress report to the WHC part of the structural problems on-site are caused by the existing drainage system. There is the specific problem of the cleaning of the area around the temple and the cleaning of the causeways. While the cleaning is good for drainage, erasing or total removal however can cause erosion. Removal of the ground cover and the use of heavy equipment should be avoided as it contributes to erosion.
13. Water retention has become a serious issue because of the permanent presence of people on site. However the problem could be solved after measuring the quantities of water that can be contained in existing reservoirs and studying the topography. In more general terms, the authenticity of the water drainage system which includes the West Baray at the bottom of the promontory should be restored.

A "Reinforced Reactive Monitoring" mission was carried out 28 March-06 April 2009 by Mr. Janos Jelen (ICOMOS) and Mr. Philippe Delanghe (UNESCO Phnom Penh Office) at the request of the Director-General of UNESCO, and within the framework of the "Reinforced Reactive Monitoring Mechanism) adopted at the 33<sup>rd</sup> World Heritage Committee meeting. A final report will be submitted to the World Heritage Committee at the 34<sup>th</sup> session.

A follow-up evaluation mission was organized by the UNESCO Phnom Penh Office, 11 May 2009. Mr. Michel Verrot (FSP/France), Mr. Eric Llopis (INRAP/France) and Mr. Philippe Delanghe (UNESCO) participated in the exercise and gave guidelines as to reinforce the execution of the recommendations made during the 28 March - 06 April expert mission.











From 22-28 November 2009 Mr. Divay Gupta, accompanied by Mr. Philippe Delanghe, carried out an expert mission to the Temple of Preah Vihear and its surroundings to assist the National Authority of Preah Vihear with the finalizing of the Management Plan, to be submitted to the World Heritage Centre before the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010. Visits were also organized to the eco-village near Saem village and the Preah Vihear Museum, both under construction at 20 km south of the Temple. These initiatives are an entire part of the management plan of the site.

To further assist the Royal Government of Cambodia with the development of the Preah Vihear Museum, and within the framework of the joint MDG-F Culture Industry support Project, two expert-missions were respectively organized, 13 and 16-17 December 2009. The first one was a joint UNESCO-ILO-ICCROM mission to assess the local situation in order to provide overall technical assistance regarding the conceptualization and management of the future Preah Vihear Museum and the promotion of linkages with local tourism and enterprise development through community participation (especially involving the population of the new “eco-village” that is being created nearby Saem village).

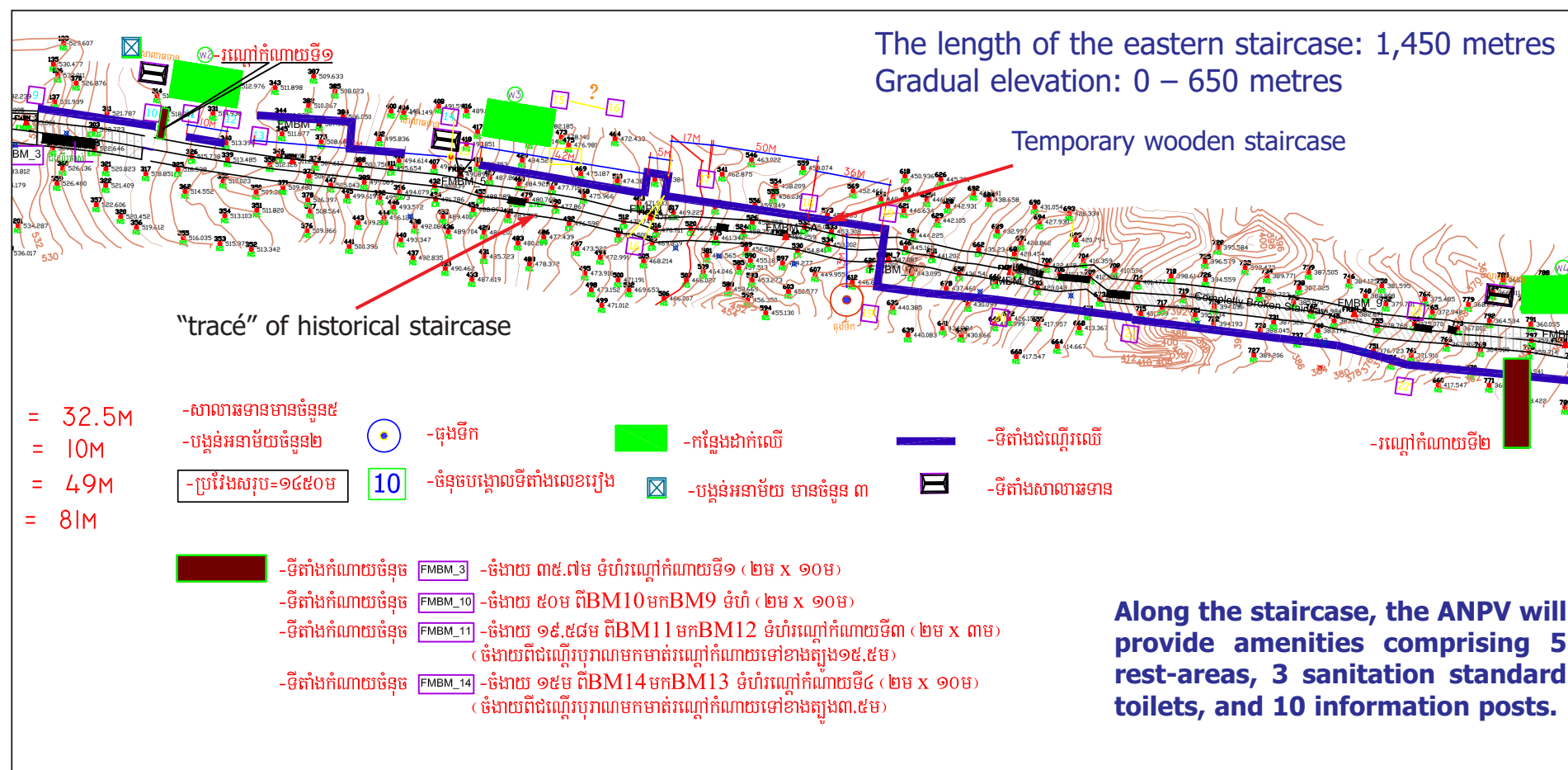
The second mission was joined by expert Madam Christiane Garnero Morena (ICOMOS) especially to assist with the conceptualization of the future Preah Vihear museum and its immediate surroundings. A report will be submitted to the UNESCO Phnom Penh Office by mid January 2010.





# 19 THE TEMPORARY ACCESS TO THE TEMPLE BY THE HISTORICAL STAIRCASE FROM THE EAST IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION PENDING THE REHABILITATION OF THE HISTORICAL STAIRCASE

After months of survey, documentation, study, and planning a wooden staircase is being built wherever necessary, parallel to the eastern historical rock and stone staircase to facilitate a secure and safe eastern entrance to the monument and allow visitors to admire the old monumental structure. The drawings indicate the “tracé” of parts of the wooden staircase alongside the original walkway.







**The conservation of the surrounding vegetation and the historical rock and stone staircase has been seriously taken into account and constantly observed, monitored and supervised by ANPV.**

Photo Chhon ANPV, December 2009





A section of wooden staircase providing access to the Temple from the east; the flora is being preserved. Photo Chhon ANPV, December 2009





**Section of temporary wooden staircase is being built without hampering the historical stone staircase. This will provide access to the Temple from the east.**

Photo Chhon ANPV, December 2009





## 20 DEVELOPMENT

- Recognizing that the true custodians of the site are the local communities protecting and safeguarding it for many centuries without any formal protection, their full participation and involvement in the conservation and management of the site are very important;
- Identifying and implementing positive measures for the enhancement and appropriate development of the site to improve the quality of life of its local communities through improving physical conditions, infrastructure, and developing the site to generate cultural and economic opportunities for them;
- Ensuring that the site enriches the cultural, social and economic activities of the local community and encouraging many other surrounding communities to engage with the site by raising awareness of its values, vulnerabilities, limitations and opportunities offered especially since it is the world heritage site,

### **THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF CAMBODIA HAS EMBARKED ON THE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT INCLUDING:**

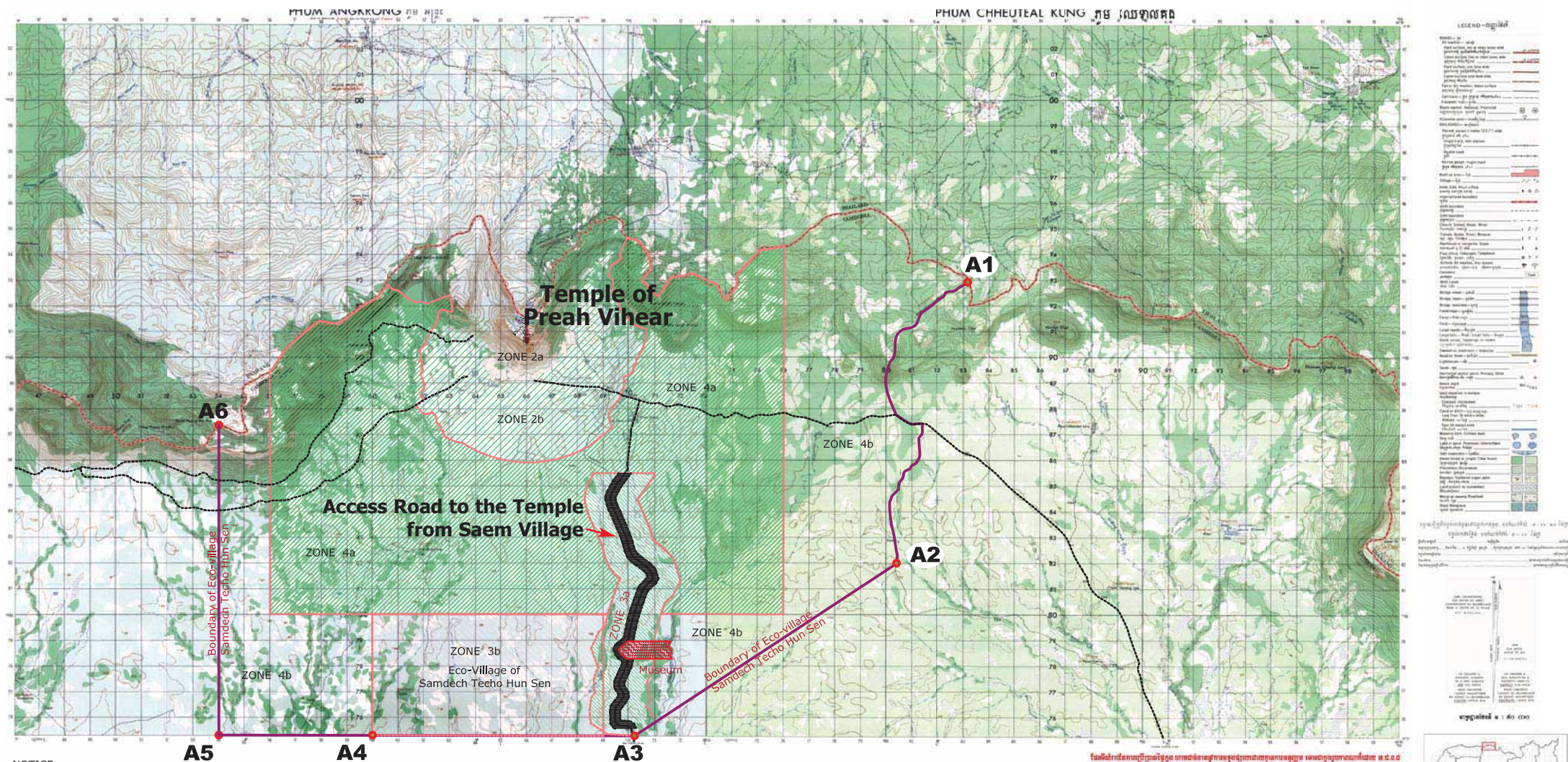
#### **The Construction of Access Roads to the Area of the Temple**

The construction of better roads linking Preah Vihear to Siemreap and other major towns is under way. The construction of the access road to the site from the nearby village of Saem is on going.

The construction of the temporary wooden staircase providing access to the site from the east, for such construction does not impede the conservation and future restoration of the historical stone staircase, is also under way. ANPV will develop this access into a historic path with heritage walks.



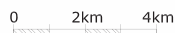
MAP DELIMITING THE PROVISIONAL PROTECTED AREAS SURROUNDING THE TEMPLE OF PREAH  
VIHEAR SITE FROM A1 TO A2, A3, A4, A5 and A6



NOTICE:

- Zone 1 : Core Zone
- Zone 2a : Original Buffer Zone
- Zone 2b : Enlargement Buffer Zone
- Zone 3a : Strategic access for Zone
- Zone 3b : Residential of Eco-village
- Zone 4a : Protected Zone for Natural and Landscape
- Zone 4b : Agriculture Zone

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| Zone 1a: | Core Zone: The Temple of Preah Vihear           |
| Zone 2a: | Original Buffer Zone                            |
| Zone 2b: | Enlargement of the Buffer Zone                  |
| Zone 3a: | Access Corridor to the Temple from Saem village |
| Zone 3b: | Eco-Village                                     |
| Zone 4a: | Protected Zone: Biodiversity and Eco-System     |
| Zone 4b: | Agricultural Development Zone                   |







The layout of the development of Samdech Techo Eco-village for an active people participation, and for the integration of the closest community to the Temple of Preah Vihear in the program for conservation, protection, and sustainable development of the World Heritage property, in conformity with UNESCO and WHC standards. It includes (1) the people living area, the school, and the health centre, (2) the Eco-global museum, (3) the living area for families of military, police and CMAC personnel, and (4) an area reserved for business investments. (Drawing, NTFPV, May 2010)





Building access road to the Temple of Preah Vihear from the village of Saem. In the background is the “Dangrek” mountain range.  
Photo Chhon ANPV, December 2009



Construction of access road to Preah Vihear from the village of Saem is completed. In the background is the range of mountains, “Dangrek”  
Photo NTFPV, May 2010



Access road linking Preah Vihear to other provinces at its completion stage. Photo NTFPV, May 2010



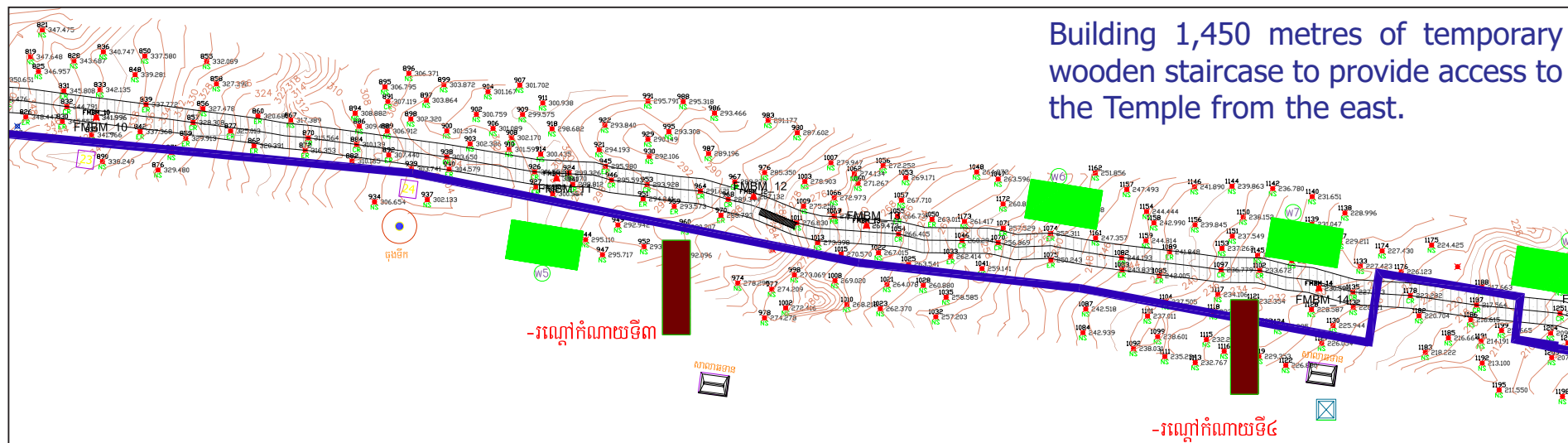
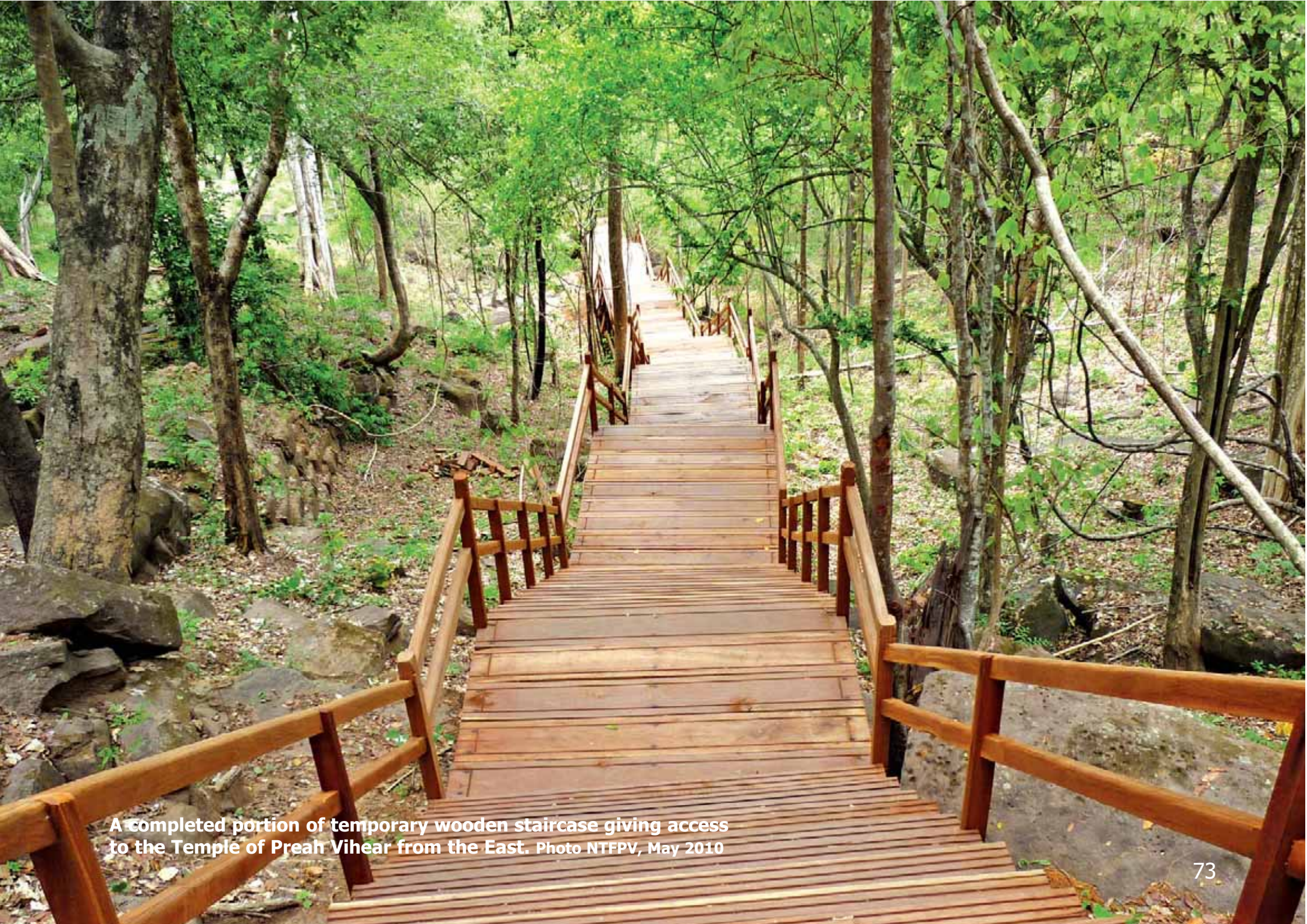


Photo Chhon ANPV, December 2009







**A completed portion of temporary wooden staircase giving access to the Temple of Preah Vihear from the East. Photo NTFPV, May 2010**



## **The Improvement of the Living Conditions with the Integration of Eco-village to the Development Zone**

The Royal Government of Cambodia issued an executive order (EO No590) for the establishment of an eco-village, named Samdech Techo Hun Sen Eco-village (STEV) with a dual purpose of improving the living conditions of 319 families displaced by the total destruction of their village by Thai rockets firing, 02 and 03 April 2009, and an additional 475 families relocated from the village Ko Muoy in conformity with the management plan of the whole Temple of Preah Vihear area. Each family receives a plot of 50 metres by 100 metres, 6 cubic metres of lumber and enough corrugated iron sheets to roof a 5 by 10 metres house.





For those villagers who are incapable to build their houses on their own with the building materials given, the government would build for them for free. In 5 months (mid-December 2009 through around mid-May 2010), around 600 families among a total of 794 families have registered for the resettlement at the STEV, and a total of 320 houses have been built and occupied. Around 300 more houses are under different stages of construction and many are soon to be completed. A school and a health center are being built, and will be open soon; 3 communal water reservoirs, many water wells and individual household water reservoirs will ensure adequate provision of water to the village. On the other hand STEV which covers an area of 43,977 hectares and a half will be integrated into Preah Vihear's conservation and sustainable development, becoming a vibrant working community, and inclusive for the successful and meaningful management of the Temple of Preah Vihear.



The health center at the eco-village of Samdech Techo Hun Sen, under construction  
Photo Chhon, ANPV, December 2009





The newly built health center at the eco-village of Samdech Techo Hun Sen. It is now in full operation. Photo NTFPV, May 2010



A pediatricist at work. A scale to weight baby. Photo NTFPV May 2010





A primary school (from grade 1 to grade 6) under construction, Photo Chhon, ANPV, December 2009



Schoolchildren line-up to salute the National Color and sing the National Anthem before day school starts. Photo NTFPV May 2010



The newly built school at the eco-village of Samdech Techo Hun Sen is open. Photo NTFPV, May 2010





They are ready to hoist the National Color. In the background, are the newly built houses at the eco-village of Samdech Techo Hun Sen. Photo NTFPV, May 2010



Teacher and schoolchildren greet visitors. Photo NTFPV, May 2010



In-classroom activities. Photo NTFPV, May 2010





Water reservoirs, privately funded by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia and Lok Chumteav, Dr. Bun Rany Hun Sen



Experts under UNESCO mission are examining ancient water reservoir (East side of the Temple of Preah Vihear) for future restoration. Photo Chhon, ANPV December 2009



## **The Project of the Eco-global Museum of Preah Vihear**

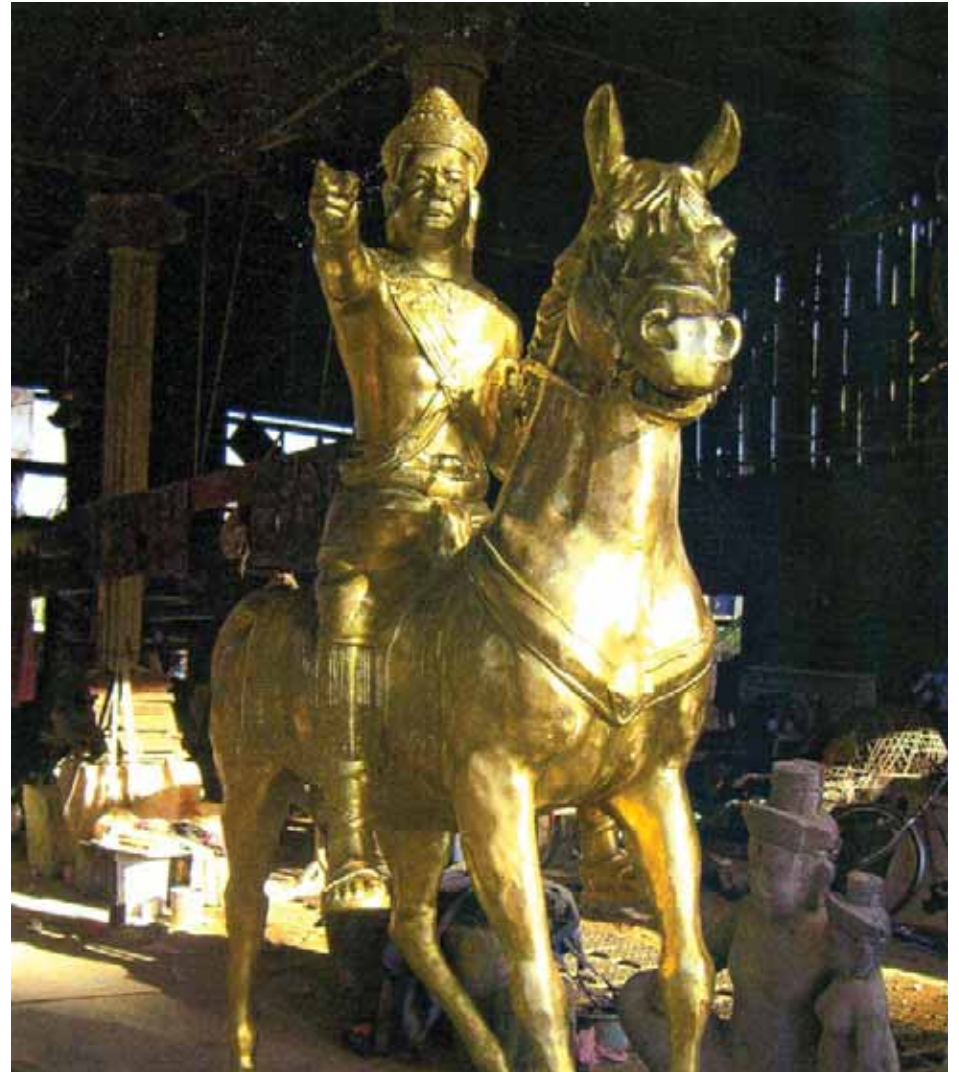
The Royal Government of Cambodia dedicates 177 hectares of land for erecting the eco-global museum. At the end of December 2009, 70% of the building has been completed. The main aisle connects a series of many parallel buildings through their middles creating distinctive chambers where artifacts, statues, national cultural objects of arts, traditional costumes, collection of national history books and documents will be displayed separately. Garden for spice plants, medicinal plants, special local mountain plants and nurseries add the values of heritage and rural eco-tourism to the museum.



Master plan of the eco-global museum of Preah Vihear. Design, NTFPV May 2010



The sight of the legendary warrior, LOKTA DY statue at the entrance raises the urge to appreciate the history of Temple of Preah Vihear area.



The mausoleum (on the left) to house the statue of LOKTA DY (on the right) at the entrance gate of the **eco-global museum of Preah Vihear**.  
Photo Nin/Puthikar/Sambat, December 2009





The statue of the legendary warrior LOKTA DY who had devoted his entire life protecting the Temple of Preah Vihear and all the areas under Cambodian sovereignty is finally erected under the mausoleum at the entrance of the ecological museum of Preah Vihear. Photo NTFPV, May 2010



His Excellency Dr. Sok An Deputy Prime Minister, Minister in Charge of the Office of the Council of Ministers organized a traditional ceremony asking for peace and protection from the spirit of the legendary warrior, LOKTA DY. Photo OCM/RGC February 2010





**The entrance of the eco-global museum of Preah Vihear at its completion stage of construction. Rows of buildings connected by roofed walkways  
Photo Nin/Puthikar/Sambat, December 2009**





The eco-global museum of Preah Vihear under construction  
Photo Nin/Puthikar/Sambat, December 2009





The eco-global museum of Preah Vihear after construction. Photo NTFPV, May 2010



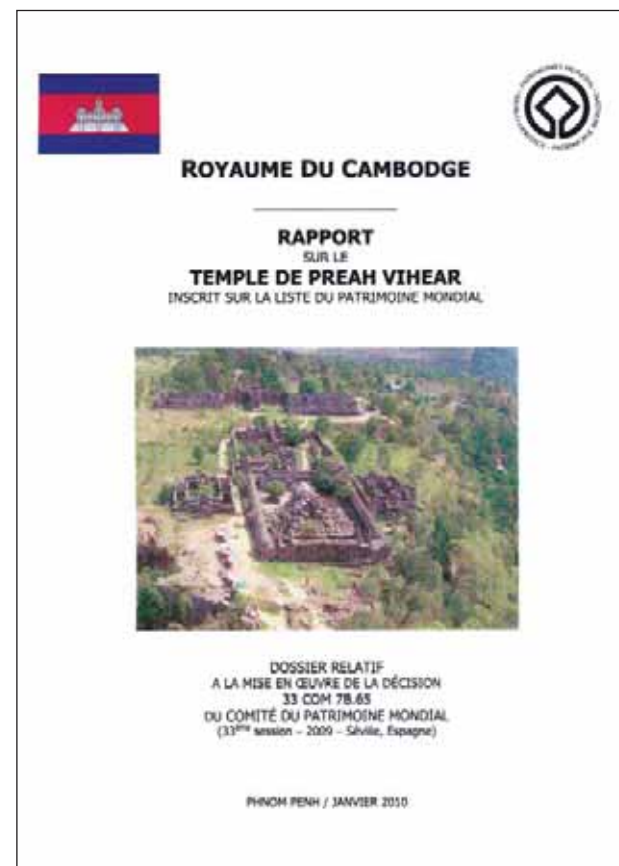
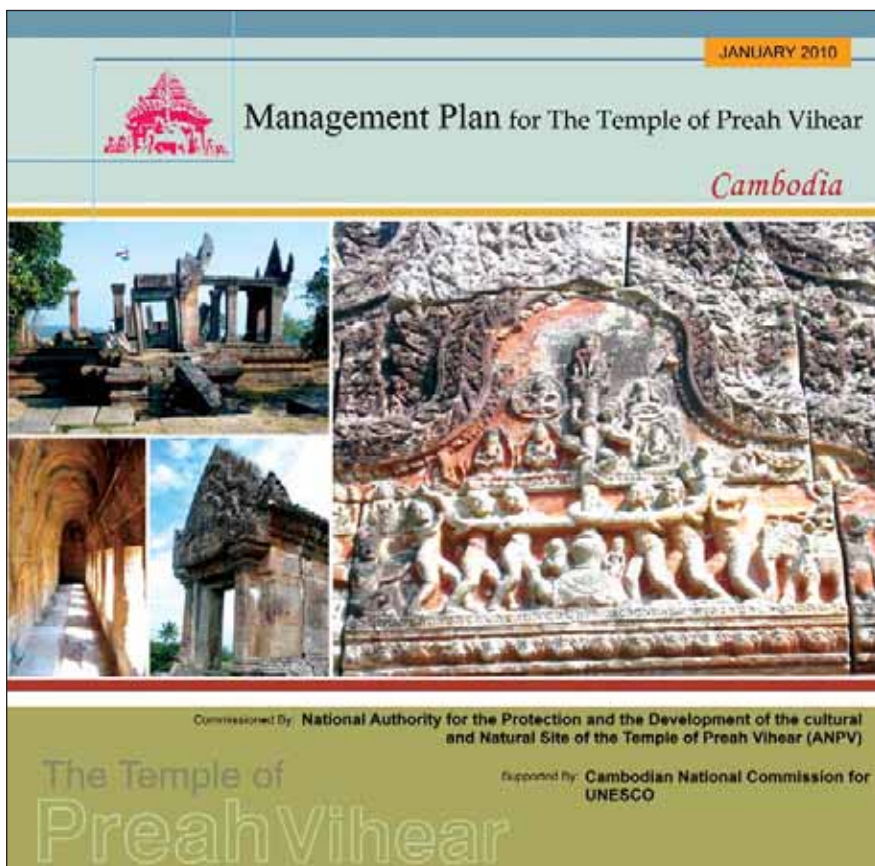
Inside the eco-global museum of Peah Vihear: His Excellency Dr. Sok An Deputy Prime Minister, Minister in Charge of the Office of the Council of Ministers reviewed the setting up of interior display, ready for inauguration and open to tourists and the public. Photo OCM/RGC February 2010





## 21 THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA IMPLEMENTS THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE IN ITS DECISION 32 COM 8B.102, PARAGRAPH 16 AND DECISION 33 COM 7B.65

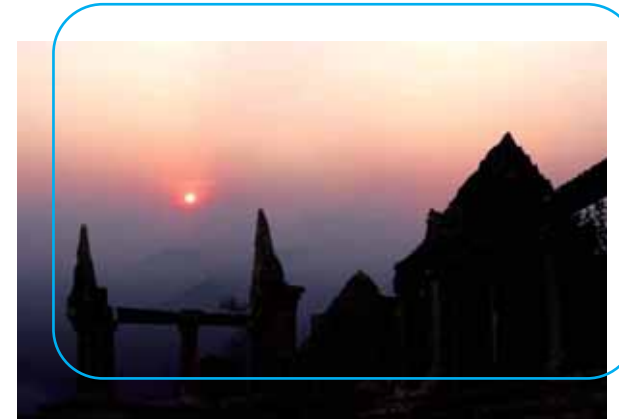
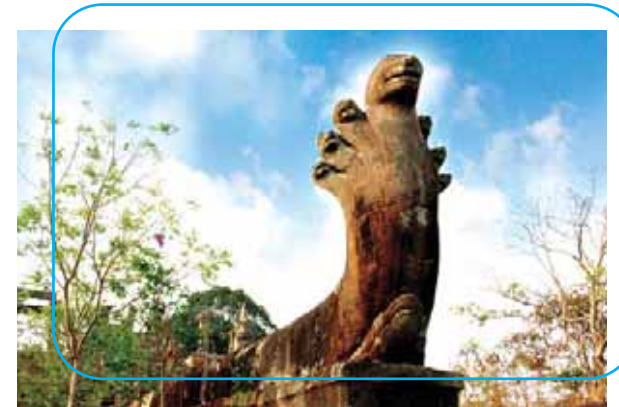
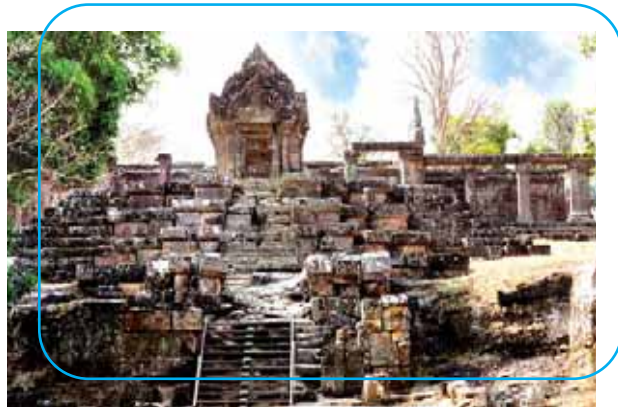
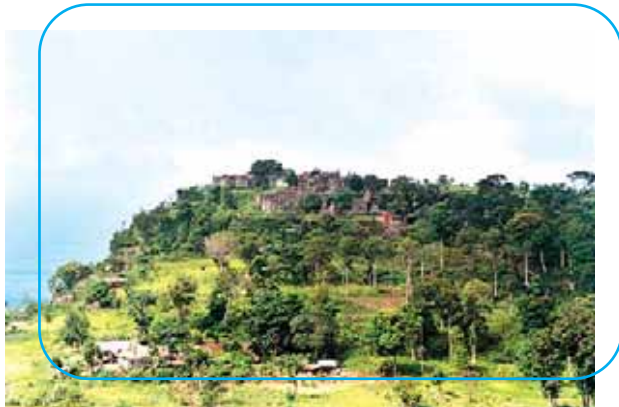
In conformity with the recommendations by the Committee in its Decision 32 COM 8B.102, Paragraph 16 and Decision 33 COM 7B.65 the Kingdom of Cambodia submitted to the World Heritage Centre in January 2010, for submission to the World Heritage Committee at its 34<sup>th</sup> session in 2010 a full Management Plan for the inscribed property (on the left), and a report on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations by the Committee (on the right).





# THE DESCRIPTION OF THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR

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**MONUMENT AT GOPURA V**





**MONUMENT AT GOPURA IV**





**MONUMENT AT GOPURA III**





**MONUMENT AT GOPURA II**





**MONUMENT AT GOPURA I**



## THE NATURAL SITE

## THE FOUNDATION

### FOUNDATION ACT

The history of the founding of the temple of Preah Vihear is known thanks for the five inscriptions. The first found at Angkor and the four others on the site of the Temple of Preah Vihear.

Inscription K583 (found at Angkor) teaches us that at the beginning of the ninth century, Indrayudha received the god Çiva order to bring to the site of Preah Vihear a “linga”, extracted from the large stone “linga” on the mountain Vat Phu (Indrapura).

This linga was named Çikhareçvara,  
“Lord of the SUMMIT”.

Inscription K380 affirm that “Çri Bhadreçvara of Lingapura (Wat Phu) has been reborn at Çri Çikhareçvara (Preah Vihear) ... to show its power in a visible fashion, so that the world can admire”.



The site of Wat Phu from where comes “The Lord of the Summit”





## THE NATURAL SITE

## AN OPEN LANDSCAPE

### AN OPEN LANDSCAPE OF VAST PLAINS

The temple of Preah Vihear is built on a promontory that extends to the south. The shrine opens to the sky and stands at the apex of a triangular piece of high ground jutting out into the plain it “dominates”.

### A VIEW OF THREE SUMMITS

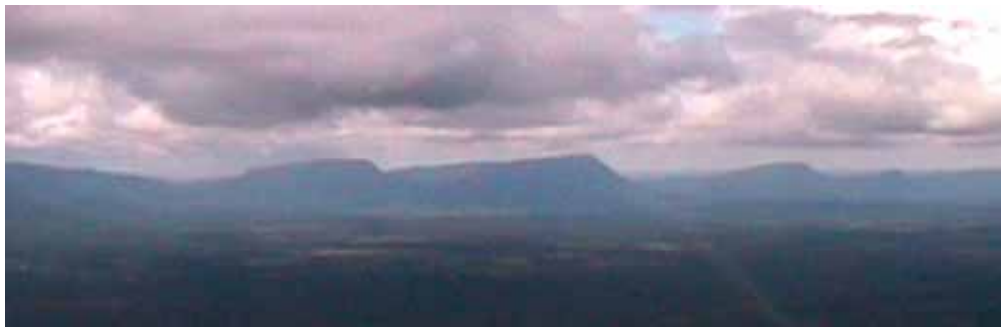
A promontory framed by two ranges of mountains at each side presents a spectacle of three majestic peaks.

### THE THREE SUMMITS: A SYMBOLIC MEANING

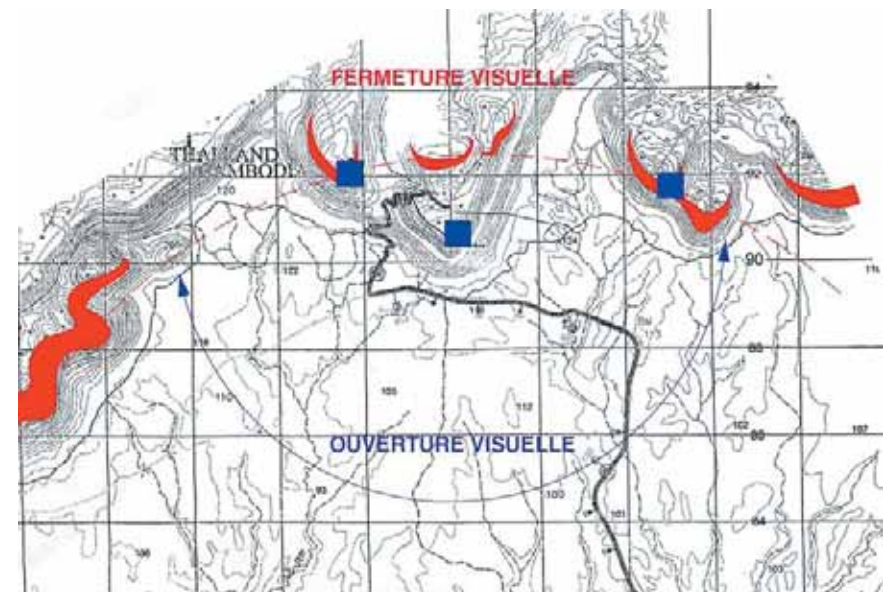
The natural and spectacular setting of the three summits six hundred metres above of and overlooking the plain was - according to some experts – an invocation of the spirit of the founders of the Devine Trinity in Hinduism:

## VISHNU - SHIVA - BRAHMA

The symbolic value of the site revealed by the inscriptions takes in its full meaning.



Distant view of successive summits: the promontory on which stands the Temple of Preah Vihear, is in the middle.





## LANDSCAPE

### VISUAL LIMITS

A panoramic view of Preah Vihear opens to the south, towards the plain.

From the site, the panorama opens to the horizon offering a discovery of the plain as a whole.

The panoramic view is limited to the east and the west by the massive ranges of mountains.

The panoramic composition of the site, extending the visual boundaries from the monument to the plain, provided a particular meaning to the entire scenery.

### A LANDSCAPE OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL HIGH VALUE

The discovery of the majestic site of the Temple of Preah Vihear from the plain by arriving from the South was a rare experience.

The plain set between the massive ranges of mountains constitutes a breathtaking landscape of high natural and cultural value.



View from the rocky outstretch of the promontory to the South-West and the village of Kor 1 below.



Scenic view from the promontory to the plain, extending to the horizon and rolling between massive ranges of mountains from the east and the west.



## DESCRIPTION OF THE MONUMENT

## MAIN STRUCTURES

The temple of Preah Vihear presents an axial plan having 800 metres in length with successive and alternate “gopuras” and pavements leading to the central shrine.

The north-south orientation of this axis is relatively uncommon due to the (topography) of the site.

### THE GOPURA V:

A cruciform building consists of square pillars and gables that supported a double slope slide roof made of wood.

### THE GOPURA IV:

This Gopura is also a cruciform building. The gables support two superimposed ornaments.

### THE GOPURA III:

This Gopura in cruciform plan opens to the south by three doors. It is flanked by two symmetrical galleries in U-shaped form and ended by a long hall.

### THE GOPURA II:

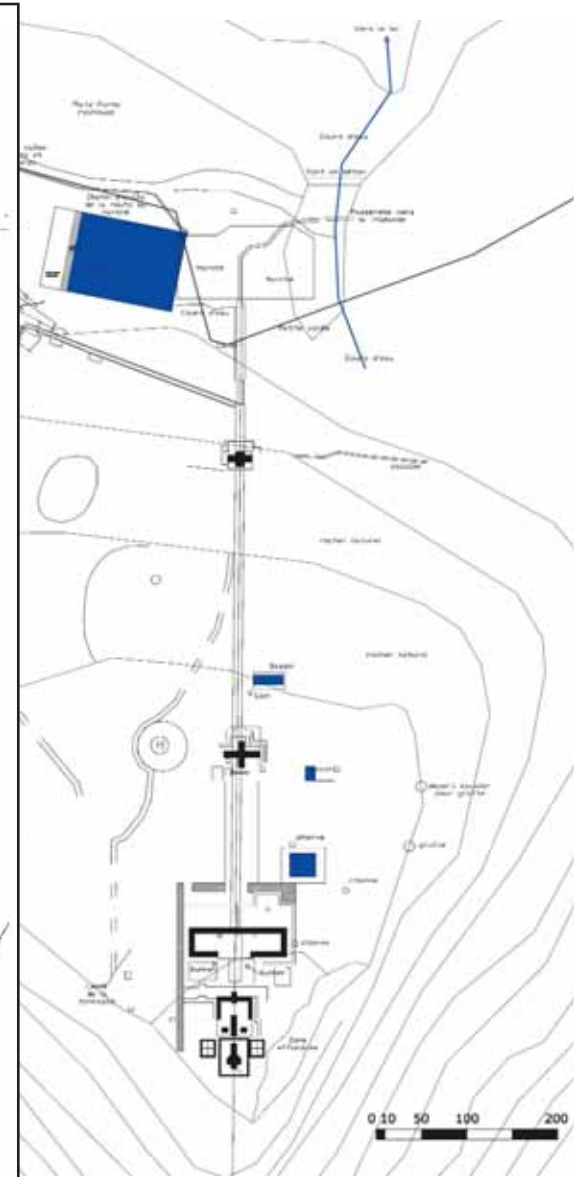
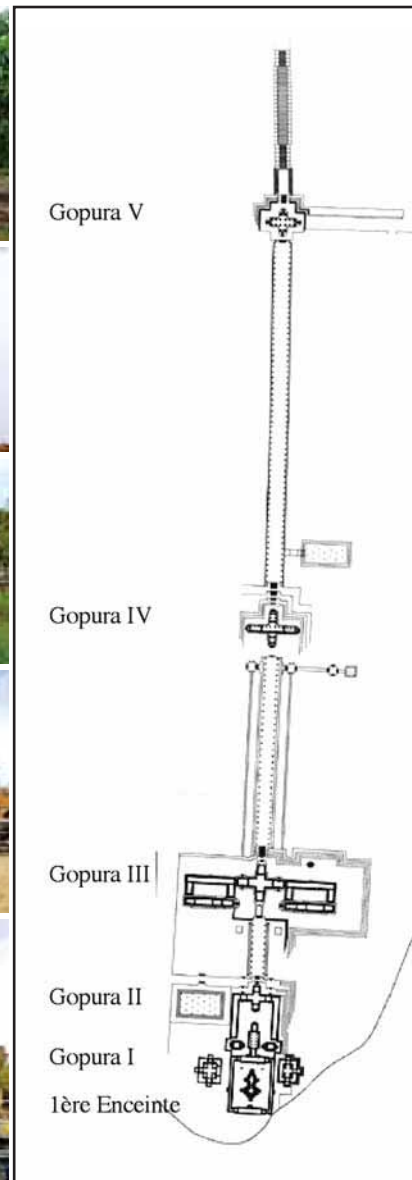
This Gopura, also in cruciform plan, is followed by the east and west galleries. The whole setting is a U-shaped delimiting a courtyard with a large rectangular room and pillars.

To the east and west of this room are the two “libraries”.

### THE GOPURA I and the first courtyard:

The large rectangular room with pillars made up the first gopura.

It opens on a central courtyard of vaulted galleries at the center of which stands the sanctuary with a collapsed central tower.





## DESCRIPTION OF THE MONUMENT

## THE SECONDARY STRUCTURES

The water management works designed to complement the main structures of the monument demonstrate the ingenuity of Khmer engineering in the vital field of water management. These works, sometimes, gigantic are important to understand and to appreciate of monument.

### WATER WORKS

#### THE GREAT BASIN:

A large east – west direction dam made of blocks of sandstone on both sides of a small valley to the north, forms a large basin which receives all the waters of the west side of the promontory bearing the temple.



Le grand bassin

#### THE WEST PAVEMENT:

The holding wall on the upper side of the pavement is connected to a canal cut through the rock which drains the water into a receptacle and pours it into the large basin located in low area.



La chaussée Ouest

#### THE MAIN RESERVOIR:

It measures 36 metres by 18 metres. This reservoir is partly cut in the rock and has walls of steps made from blocks of sandstone. It is fed by the rain waters of the east side of the plateau.



Le grand réservoir

#### THE SMALL RESERVOIR:

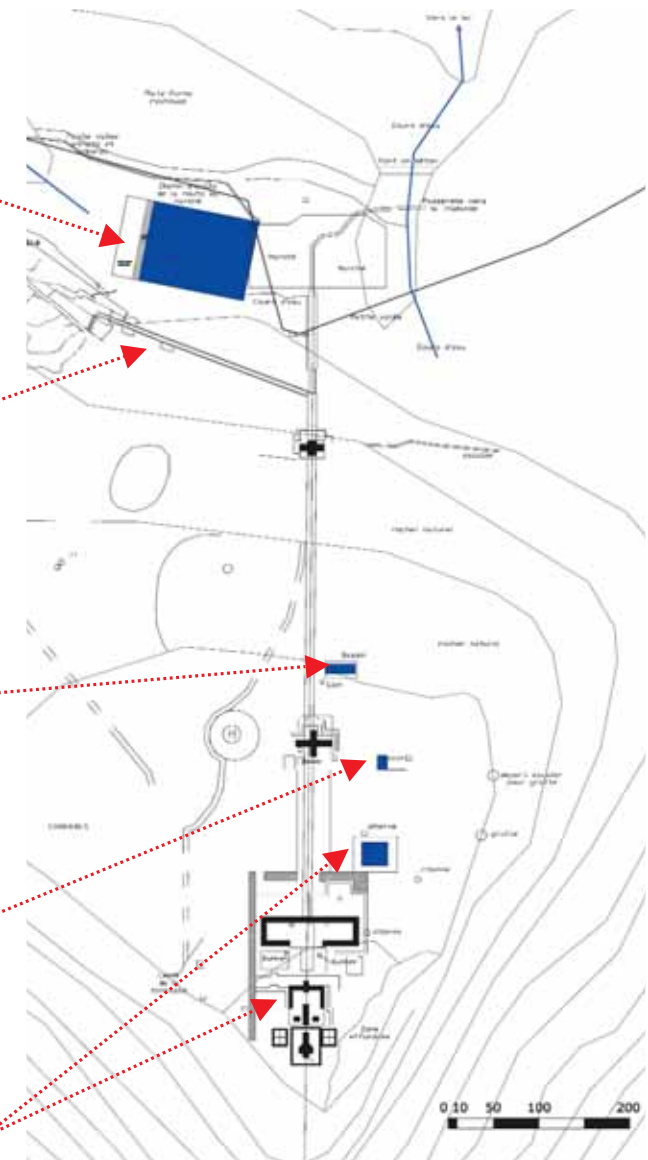
A second, square-shaped reservoir of 9.5 metres each side, with walls of steps made from blocks of sandstone is located just above the main reservoir. It is fed from the south with the rain water from the area of the lion's head.



Le petit réservoir

#### OTHER WORKS:

The entire water management system is not understood today. Other reservoirs and pipe works appear in several locations and have yet to be studied.



Les autres ouvrages



## DESCRIPTION OF MONUMENT

## COMPLEMENTARY WORKS

The main and secondary structures are connected to each other by complementary structures (pavements and stairs) and are accompanied by water management infrastructure (basins and gutters). These structures constitute integral parts of the monument.

### COMPLEMENTARY WORKS

#### THE MAIN STAIRCASE:

The monumental staircase climbs the escarpment leading to the plateau on which the temple stands. It has 159 steps; half of each step is made of blocks of sandstone and the other half is carved in the rock.

#### THE WEST PAVEMENT:

This pavement of north-west south-east direction was built on the broken slope of the escarpment and against the line of sandstone short walls, leading to the foot of the “nagas” pavement.

#### THE NAGAS PAVEMENT:

The monumental staircase ends at a 25 metre long pavement, itself bordered by railings made of gigantic nagas.

#### THE EAST STAIRCASE:

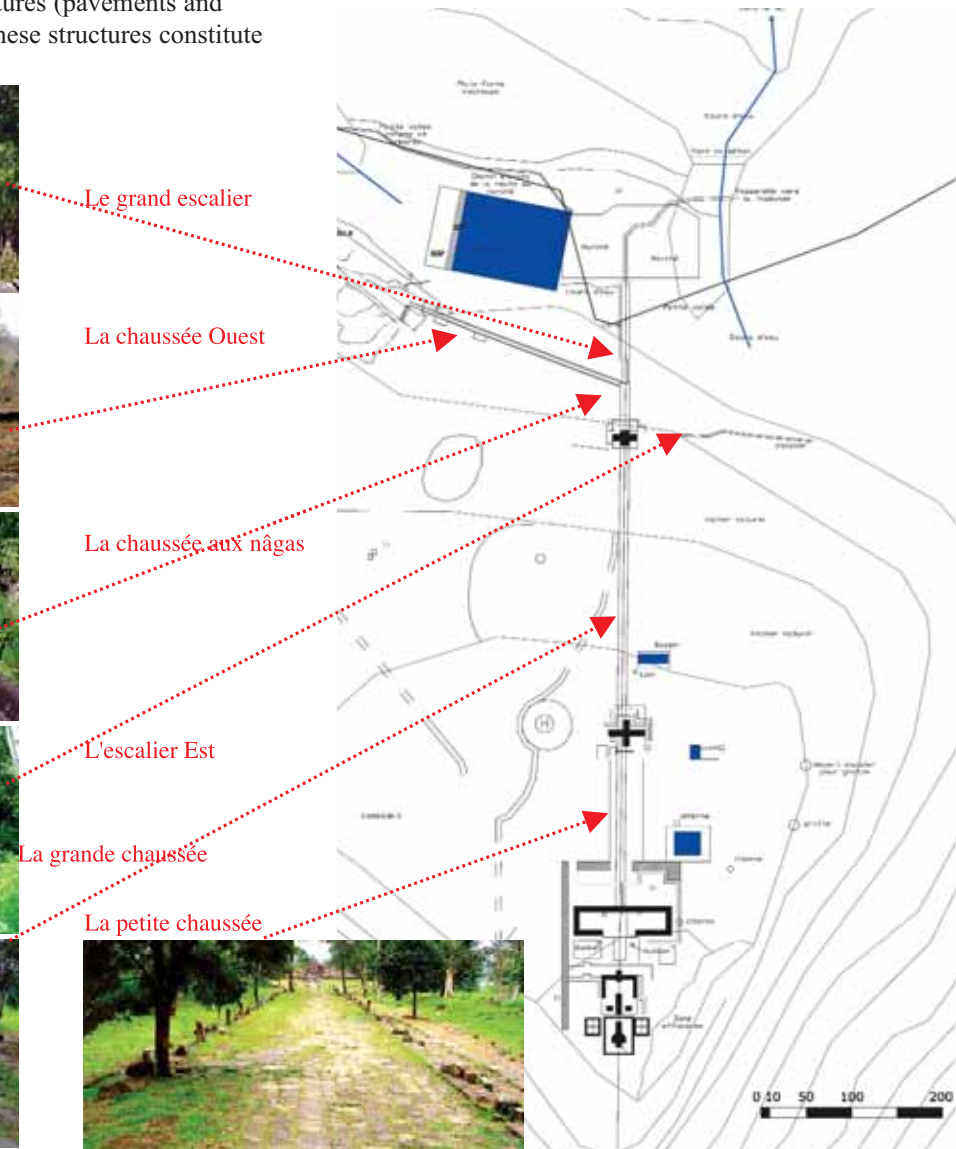
The 10 metre-wide East staircase begins at Gopura V and descend 400 metres along east side of the escarpment of the promontory. Built in the 10th century, the staircase is in a very poor condition.

#### THE MAIN PAVEMENT:

It is beyond Gopura V, and was built against the side walls of sandstone blocks in its northern part, and cut into the rock in its southern part with railings of short pillars. It is 244 metres long and leads to the Gopura IV.

#### THE SMALL PAVEMENT:

This pavement is 150 metres long, spanning between Gopura III and IV with railings of short pillars and other unidentifiable structures which remain to be studied.





## THE ARCHITECTURAL DECORATION

## THE DECORATIVE THEMES

The temple of Preah Vihear is dedicated to Shiva.

The topics covered are vishnouite and shivaite. They provide an idea of religious practice at the time of their creation.

One may be surprised to see so many vishnouite representations in a temple dedicated to the god Shiva.

The most beautiful stone-carved decorations of the temple are on the “lintels” and doors “enfilade”.

### THE TYMPANS

The doors “enfilade” are rich with scenes of mythology: churning of the sea of milk, Khrishna Govardhan.

On several gates, the decorative motif of the doors “enfilade” is the same as the lintel.

This recalls the décoration on the doors of the libraries at Phnom Chisor.

### THE LINTELS

Several compositions of different types exist in Preah Vihear.

One is built around a central motif, almost always a head of kala or lion, which develops into a symmetrical decoration.

Others are organized around a branch that is bending around creating more room for the decorative motif.

Still others present in their center a small scene.

The mask or head of “Kala” is one of the elements of the decorative features of Preah Vihear. They are directly inspired by the iconography of the temple of Banteay Srei.

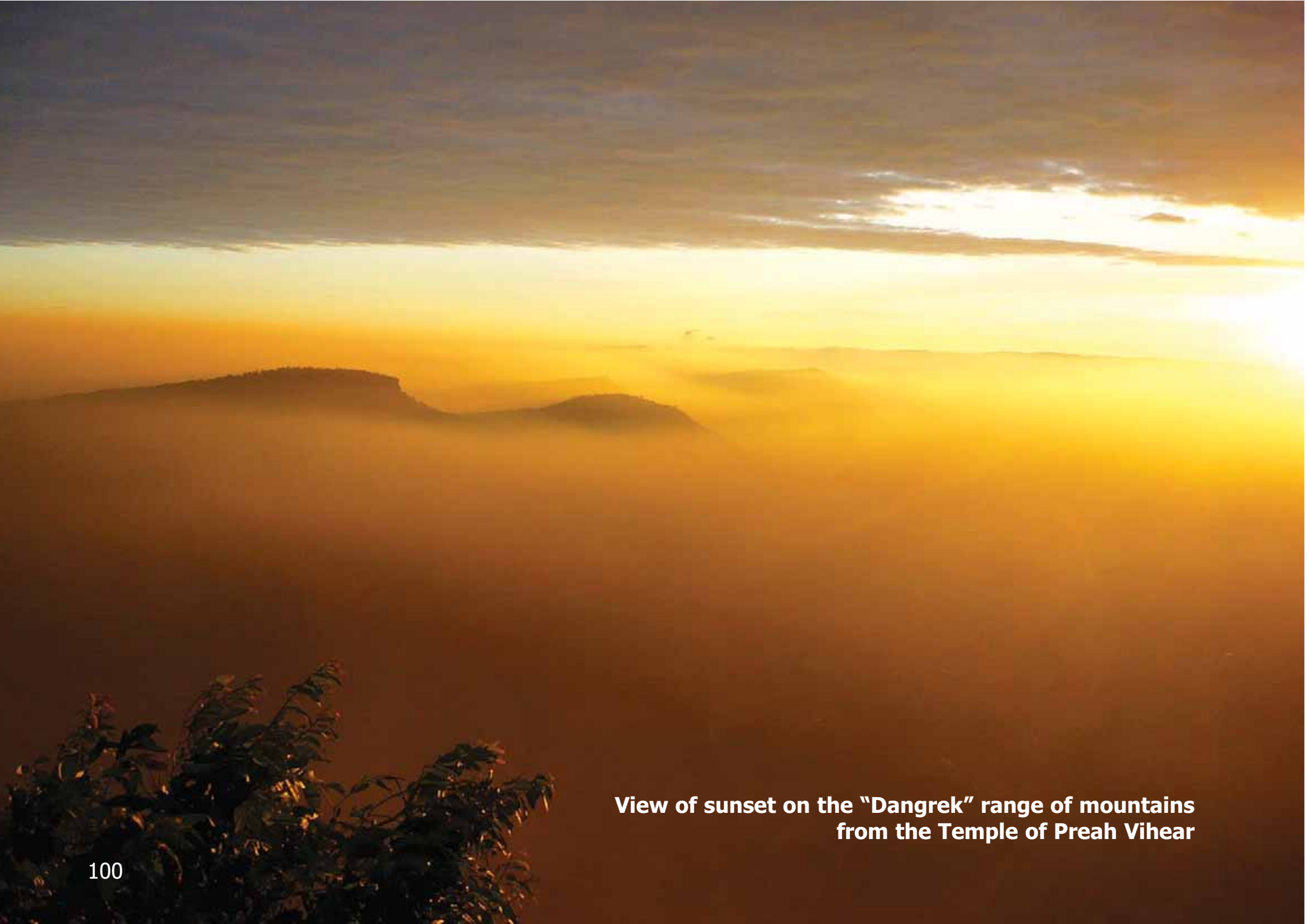


Tympan on Gopura IV: churning of the sea of milk.



The lintel of Gopura IV: Khrishna killing Kalya





**View of sunset on the “Dangrek” range of mountains  
from the Temple of Preah Vihear**



A full-page background image featuring a silhouette of a large, leafy tree on the left and a person's silhouette on the right, looking upwards. The sun is setting behind the tree, creating a bright orange and yellow glow against a blue sky. The person is standing on a dark, rocky ledge.

# APPENDICES



## I. DEFINITION OF THE CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

### Article 1

For the purposes of this Convention, the following shall be considered as “cultural heritage”:

**monuments:** architectural works, works of monumental sculpture and painting, elements or structures of an archaeological nature, inscriptions, cave dwellings and combinations of features, which are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science;

**groups of buildings:** groups of separate or connected buildings which, because of their architecture, their homogeneity or their place in the landscape, are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science;

**sites:** works of man or the combined works of nature and man, and areas including archaeological sites which are of outstanding universal value from the historical, aesthetic, ethnological or anthropological point of view.

## II. NATIONAL PROTECTION OF THE CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

### Article 6

Whilst fully respecting the sovereignty of the States on whose territory the cultural and natural heritage mentioned in [Articles 1](#) and [2](#) is situated, and without prejudice to property right provided by national legislation, the States Parties to this Convention recognize that such heritage constitutes a world heritage for whose protection it is the duty of the international community as a whole to co-operate.

The States Parties undertake, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, to give their help in the identification, protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage referred to in paragraphs 2 and 4 of [Article 11](#) if the States on whose territory it is situated so request.



### **III. INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

#### **Article 8**

An Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection of the Cultural and Natural Heritage of Outstanding Universal Value, called “the World Heritage Committee”, is hereby established within the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. It shall be composed of 15 States Parties to the Convention, elected by States Parties to the Convention meeting in general assembly during the ordinary session of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. The number of States members of the Committee shall be increased to 21 as from the date of the ordinary session of the General Conference following the entry into force of this Convention for at least 40 States.

The International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and restoration of Cultural Property – Rome Centre – (ICCROM)

The International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)

The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN).

The Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection of the Cultural and National Heritage of Outstanding Universal Value, called “the World Heritage Committee” (WHC)

Basic Texts of the 1972 World Heritage Convention,  
2005 Edition, @ UNESCO 2005, p.10, 11 and 12





## Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention

### Protection and Management

96. Protection and Management of World Heritage Properties should ensure that the outstanding universal value, the condition of integrity and/or authenticity at the time of inscription are maintained or enhanced in the future.

97. All properties inscribed on the World Heritage List must have adequate long-term legislative, regulatory, institutional and/or traditional protection and management to ensure their safeguarding. This protection should include adequately delineated boundaries. Similarly States Parties should demonstrate adequate protection at the national, regional, municipal, and/or traditional level for the nominated property. They should append appropriate texts to the nomination with the clear explanation of the way this protection operates to protect the property.

### Operational Guidelines

#### MODIFICATIONS TO THE BOUNDARIES OF A WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY

##### **Minor modifications to the boundaries**

163. A minor modification is one which has not a significant impact on the extent of the property nor affects its outstanding universal value.

164. If a State Party wishes to request a minor modification to the boundaries of a property already on the World Heritage List, it shall submit this by 1 February to the Committee through the Secretariat, which will seek the advice of the relevant Advisory Bodies. The Committee can approve such modification, or it may consider that the modification to the boundary is sufficiently important to constitute an extension of the property, in which case the procedure for new nominations will apply.

##### **Significant modifications to the boundaries**

165. If a State Party wishes to significantly modify the boundary of a property already on the World Heritage List, the State Party shall submit this proposal as if it were a new nomination. This re-nomination shall be prepared by 1 February and will be evaluated in the full year and a half cycle of evaluation according to the procedures and timetable outlined in paragraph 168. This provision applies to extensions, as well as reductions.



## ADVISORY BODIES TO THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

### **ICCROM**

ICCROM (the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Properties) is an international intergovernmental organization with headquarters in Rome, Italy. Established by UNESCO in 1956, ICCROM's statutory functions are to carry out research, documentation, technical assistance, training and public awareness programmes to strengthen conservation of immovable and moveable cultural heritage.

### **ICOMOS**

ICOMOS (the International Council on Monuments and Sites) is a non-governmental organization with headquarters in Paris, France. Founded in 1965, its role is to promote the application of theory, methodology and scientific techniques to the conservation of the architectural and archeological heritage. Its work is based on the principles of the 1964 International Charter on the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (the Venice Charter)

### **IUCN**

IUCN - the World Conservation Union (formely the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources) was founded in 1948 and brings together national governments, NGOs, and scientists in a worldwide partnership. Its mission is to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable. IUCN has its headquarters in Gland, Switzerland.

Basic Texts of the 1972 World Heritage Convention,

2005 Edition, @ UNESCO 2005, p.41, 42 and p.56, 72 and 73





## **31 COM 8B.24-Examination of Nominations - Sacred Site of the Temple of Preah Vihear (CAMBODIA) 2007**

### **Decision Text**

1. The World Heritage Committee, Having examined documents WHC-07/31.COM/8B and WHC-07/31.COM/NF.8B.1,
2. Having taken note of the following statement by the Chair of the World Heritage Committee which has been agreed to by the Delegation of Cambodia and the Delegation of Thailand:

"The State Party of Cambodia and the State Party of Thailand are in full agreement that the Sacred Site of the Temple of Preah Vihear has Outstanding Universal Value and must be inscribed on the World Heritage List as soon as possible. Accordingly, Cambodia and Thailand agree that Cambodia will propose the site for formal inscription on the World Heritage List at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session of the World Heritage Committee in 2008 with the active support of Thailand.

They also agree that the site is in need of urgent attention and requires international financial and technical assistance and close cooperation between them.

They further agree that it is essential to strengthen conservation and management at the site including by the development of an appropriate management plan, as required under paragraph 108 of the Operational Guidelines, that will ensure the future protection of this property.

They understand, following consultation with the World Heritage Centre, that financial and technical assistance for the development of a management plan will be available through the World Heritage Centre's International Assistance programme."

3. Recognizes that the Sacred Site of the Temple of Preah Vihear is of great international significance and has Outstanding Universal Value on the basis of criteria (i), (ii) and (iv), agrees in principle that it should be inscribed on the World Heritage List and notes that the process for inscription is in progress;



4. Requests the State Party of Cambodia to strengthen conservation and management plan, which progress in developing an appropriate management plan, which progress will enable its formal inscription by the Committee at its 32<sup>nd</sup> Session in 2008;
5. Further requests the State Party of Cambodia to submit a progress report to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2008.





## 32COM 8B.102 - Examination of Nominations - Sacred Site of the Temple of Preah Vihear (CAMBODIA) 2008

### Decision Text

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document *WHC-08/32.COM/INF.8B1.Add2*,
2. Recalling Decision **31 COM 8B.24**, which recognized 'that the Sacred Site of the Temple of Preah Vihear is of great international significance and has Outstanding Universal Value on the basis of criteria (i), (iii) and (iv), and agreed in principle that it should be inscribed on the World Heritage List',
3. Having noted the progress made by the State Party of Cambodia towards the development of a Management Plan for the property, as requested by the Committee by its Decision **31 COM 8B.24** in Christchurch, New Zealand,
4. Expressing gratitude to the governments of Belgium, the United States of America, France, and India for providing support for the work of experts to assist in this effort, and to the governments of China and Japan, as well as ICCROM, for providing valuable expert input to this process
5. Recognizing that the Joint Communiqué signed on 18 June 2008 by the representatives of the Governments of Cambodia and Thailand, as well as by UNESCO, including its draft which was erroneously referred to as having been signed on 22 and 23 May 2008 in the document *WHC-08/32.COM/INF.8B1.Add.2*, must be disregarded, following the decision of the Government of Thailand to suspend the effect of the Joint Communiqué, pursuant to the Thai Administrative Court's interim injunction on this issue,
6. Noting that the State Party of Cambodia submitted to the World Heritage Centre the revised graphic plan of the property (RGPP) included in *WHC-08/32.COM/INF.8B1.Add2* (hereinafter called "RGPP") indicating a revised perimeter of the area proposed for inscription on the World Heritage List,

7. Decides, on an exceptional basis, to accept, in view of the multilateral process leading to the elaboration of the supplementary report submitted in May 2008 by the State Party of Cambodia at the request of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, the information submitted by the State Party beyond the deadline established in the paragraph 148 of the *Operational Guidelines*;

8. Recognizes that Thailand has repeatedly expressed a desire to participate in a joint nomination of the Temple of Preah Vihear and its surrounding areas;

9. Notes that the property proposed for inscription is reduced and comprises only the Temple of Preah Vihear and not the wider promontory with its cliffs and caves;

10. Considers further that archaeological research is underway which could result in new significant discoveries that might enable consideration of a possible new transboundary nomination, that would require the consent of both Cambodia and Thailand;

11. Encourages Cambodia to collaborate with Thailand for safeguarding the value of the property, in view of the fact that peoples of the surrounding region have long treasured the Temple of Preah Vihear, and agrees that it would be desirable in the future to reflect its full values and landscape setting through a possible additional inscription to the World Heritage List that could capture criteria (iii) and (iv), which had been recognized by the Committee in its Decision **31 COM 8B.24**.

12. Inscribes the Temple of Preah Vihear, Cambodia, on the World Heritage List under **criterion (i)**;

13. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

The Temple of Preah Vihear, a unique architectural complex of a series of sanctuaries linked by a system of pavements and staircases on an 800 metre long axis, is an outstanding masterpiece of Khmer architecture, in terms of plan, decoration and relationship to the spectacular landscape environment.

**Criterion (i):** Preah Vihear is an outstanding masterpiece of Khmer architecture. It is very 'pure' both in plan and in the detail of its decoration.

Authenticity, in terms of the way the buildings and their materials express well the values of the property, has been established. The attributes of the property comprise the temple complex; the integrity of the property has to a



degree been compromised by the absence of part of the promontory from the perimeter of the property. The protective measures for the Temple, in terms of legal protection are adequate; the progress made in defining the parameters of the Management Plan needs to be consolidated into an approved, full Management Plan;

14. Requests the State Party of Cambodia, in collaboration with UNESCO, to convene an international coordinating committee for the safeguarding and development of the property no later than February 2009, inviting the participation of the Government of Thailand and not more than seven other appropriate international partners, to examine general policy matters relating to the safeguarding of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property in conformity with international conservation standards;

15. Requests the State Party of Cambodia to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2009**, the following documents:

a) a provisional map providing additional details of the inscribed property and a map delineating the buffer zone identified in the RGPP;

b) updated Nomination dossier to reflect the changes made to the perimeter of the property

c) confirmation that the management zone for the property will include the inscribed property and buffer zone identified in the RGPP;

d) progress report on the preparation of the Management Plan;

16. Further requests the State Party of Cambodia to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **February 2010**, for submission to the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session in 2010 a full Management Plan for the inscribed property, including a finalized map.



### 33 COM 7B.65 - Temple of Preah Vihear (Cambodia) (C 1224 rev) 2009

#### Decision Text

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-09/33.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions 31 COM 8B.24 and 32 COM 8B.102, adopted at its 31st session (Christchurch, 2007) and 32<sup>nd</sup> Session (Quebec City, 2008) respectively,
3. Notes the developments that have occurred at the property since its inscription on the World Heritage List, the information contained in the State Party report and the preliminary findings of the Reinforced monitoring mission;
4. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2010, a report on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations by the Committee in its Decision 32 COM 8B.102, for the examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 34<sup>th</sup> session in 2010.

#### Documents

Original Decision Document

WHC-09/33.COM/7B.Add

**Themes: State of Conservation**

**States Parties** Cambodia; **Properties** Temple of Preah Vihear





## ELECTION OF TWELVE NEW MEMBERS AT THE 1972 CONVENTION 17<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY

In the new rules of procedure that were used during the elections, there were reserved seats for two groups of countries.

- One for countries with no sites on the World Heritage List (United Arab Emirates got elected under this rule)
- And the other for countries from a region group that was not represented on the committee. (Russian Federation was elected under this rule)

### Elections

World Heritage Committee is composed of 21 Member States (elected without reserved seats for each region. This makes it very competitive and this time round the election took all the afternoon on 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2009 and went on past eleven o'clock at night to be completed). This time there were 30 candidates contesting for 12 vacant seats.

### Election Results

The table below shows the different candidates for election to the HWC and the distribution of seats per regional group after the election.

Electoral Group	Outgoing Committee Members	Candidates seeking elections during the 17 <sup>th</sup> General Assembly October 2009	Newly elected Committee Members	Composition of New 21 WHC (new Members and the continuing Members)
Europe and North America	Canada Israel Spain USA	France Switzerland Ireland	France Switzerland	Sweden France Switzerland

Eastern Europe		Bulgaria Bosnia & Herzegovina Croatia Estonia Hungary Russia	Russia Estonia	Russia Estonia
GRULAC	Peru Cuba	Bolivia Columbia Mexico	Mexico	Brazil Barbados Mexico
ASPAC	Korea	Afghanistan Cambodia Indonesia Thailand	Cambodia Thailand	Australia China Cambodia Thailand
Africa	Madagascar Mauritius Kenya	Ethiopia DRC Malawi Mali Senegal South Africa Tanzania Togo	South Africa Ethiopia Mali	Nigeria South Africa Ethiopia Mali
Arab States	Morocco Tunisia	Iran Iraq Saudi Arabia Sudan UAE Yemen	UAE Iraq	Bahrain Egypt Jordan UAE Iraq
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>21</b>



## **Twelve members elected to World Heritage Committee, 2009**

17th General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention, Room II, UNESCO, Paris, France  
Tuesday, October 27, 2009

Twelve new members were elected to the World Heritage Committee during the 17th General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention, held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France from 23 to 28 October. The new members of the Committee are Cambodia, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Iraq, Mali, Mexico, Russian Federation, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand and United Arab Emirates. Each country will serve a mandate of four years.

*The 21-member World Heritage Committee meets once a year to discuss the state of conservation of sites inscribed on the World Heritage List, and to add new sites to the List.*

**The next session of the Committee will be held from 25 July to 3 August 2010 in Brasilia, Brazil.**

The General Assembly will also address the future of the World Heritage Convention, and discuss **the theme "2012 and Beyond", the road map toward the 40th anniversary of the Convention and a long-term vision.**





The Office of the Council of Ministers

**THE TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR**  
**INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST (UNESCO) SINCE 2008**

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With the collaboration of:

The Preah Vihear Task Force of the Office of the Council of Ministers  
The National Task Force for Conservation and Development of Preah Vihear  
The Press and Quick Reaction Unit of the Office of the Council of Ministers





**The Office of the Council of Ministers  
of  
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