



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Intervention by

His Excellency Tithiarun Mao

**Chargé D' Affaires a.i. and Deputy Permanent Representative of the
Kingdom of Cambodia to the United Nations**

**At the 2026 United Nations Water Conference
Organizational Session**

ECOSOC Chamber Council

New York, 3 March 2025

Co-Chairs,

Distinguished delegates,

1. At the outset, my delegation commends the efforts of the co-hosts in convening the organizational session and fully supports your endeavor to make the 2026 Conference a milestone event **that advances a water-secure future for all**. We also extend our gratitude to USG and Special Envoy on water for their tireless efforts as always in bringing this commitment to action.

Co-Chairs,

2. Water is the source of life and progress. Without water, there would be no human survival nor development. As a country reliant on the Mekong River and its tributaries, Cambodia recognizes water as "**White Gold**"—a driver of inclusive and sustainable socio-economic growth.
3. In December last year, Cambodia proudly hosted **the 5th Water Conference and Exhibition** under the theme "Water for a Sustainable Future". In this regard, we are committed to strengthening water resource management and expanding clean water access to foster innovative solutions for sustainable water management and to ensure that no one is left behind.
4. Over the years, Cambodia has achieved remarkable progress in advancing SDG6. Our clean water supply now reaches 87% nationwide. Guided by the national development plan, the Pentagonal Strategy, we are committed to achieving 100% clean water supply coverage nationwide by 2030.

Co-Chairs,

5. As we move forward with the 2026 UN Water Conference, my delegation would like to highlight a few priorities:
 - **First, leveraging smart technologies in water management:** We have to emphasize the need to harness AI and emerging technologies to foster efficient and integrated management of water resources for shared prosperity.
 - **Second, promoting water sustainability for economic growth:** We must encourage investments in water-efficient technologies and innovative

solutions that not only protect water resources, but also boost job creation, and stimulate economic development.

- **Third, fostering transboundary water cooperation:** We must call for stronger regional and international cooperation to ensure equitable and inclusive access to clean water and sanitation.
6. **In closing,** Cambodia reaffirms its steadfast commitment to engaging actively and constructively with all Member States in the preparatory process to push for a successful and action-driven 2026 UN Water Conference.

Thank you for your attention!