



*Phnom Penh, 23 September 2013*

## **Local EU Statement on new legislature in Cambodia**

*The European Union Delegation issues the following statement in agreement with the EU Heads of Mission in Cambodia*

The EU Delegation reiterates its commitment to Cambodia's political and economic development and welcomes the peaceful conduct and unprecedented levels of public participation in this year's general election.

At the start of the new National Assembly term, the EU Delegation believes that the National Assembly cannot serve its purpose without the participation of all elected political parties and calls upon elected parties to co-operate so that the mandate given to the National Assembly by the Cambodian people can be fulfilled.

The Delegation notes with concern the on-going dispute over alleged irregularities in the electoral process. The EU Delegation calls on the political parties to work together to identify any flaws that occurred and to agree steps to improve the electoral process, notably reform of the voter list, the media environment, and the National Election Committee.

The EU Delegation encourages the political parties to continue their dialogue to agree on structural reforms in areas that will contribute to Cambodia's longer term development, including judicial reform, National Assembly reform and other efforts to boost good governance and democracy.