

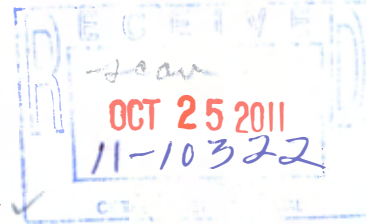
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Note to the Secretary-General



✓ UPDATE ON FLOODS IN THE SOUTHEAST ASIA REGION ✓

1. Thailand, Cambodia, Viet Nam, Lao PDR and the Philippines remain on high alert as continuing heavy rains could cause further flooding. Floods in these countries have already caused the death of 776 individuals, a quarter of them children. Floods have also disrupted the lives of over 8.3 million people.

23/10/11

2. The situation in Bangkok remains of particular concern. At least five suburban districts had been flooded as of 21 October. Flood prevention efforts have focused on the diversion of water north of the city to less populated areas. However, another major wave of runoff from the north is expected over the weekend and it is unclear if the flood wall that has been constructed will be able to withstand the water.

3. According to initial needs assessments conducted by the Governments of affected countries and the international community, immediate humanitarian needs include food assistance, water, shelter and health. Logistical constraints remain a major challenge for the delivery of aid across the region as many highways and roads are impassable.

4. Governments in the region have chosen to lead response efforts. Although not formally requested, they have now also started accepting international assistance from bilateral donors and UN agencies.

5. On 21 October, the Government of Thailand requested specific relief items from the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). OCHA provided an Emergency Cash Grant of US\$100,000 to the Thai Red Cross to purchase shelter materials and to Save the Children in Viet Nam to distribute life vests, drinking water and floating school packs. For Cambodia, I am considering a \$4 million CERF grant to support the HCT to kick-start programmes in the areas of agriculture, education, food assistance, water, sanitation and shelter. This will complement a \$500,000 emergency operation launched by WFP in Cambodia.

7. Anticipating that the humanitarian situation could deteriorate further, the UN system has stepped up its coordination mechanisms at the regional level, including engagement of the Regional Directors' Team. UN agencies have placed on alert and standby tools and services to complement the national response efforts, if requested. We are also awaiting the recommendations from the planned visit of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to flood-affected areas, to help inform our efforts.



HUM/04/001

8. OCHA remains in close contact with key partners at different levels. I know you have been in touch with the Thai Prime Minister and we stand ready to assist should Thailand, or other Governments, request assistance. I will continue to keep you informed about the flooding in the region, as well as the evolving humanitarian needs and response activities.

Valerie Amos
23 October 2011

Cc: ✓ Mr. Nambiar
✓ Mr. Kim

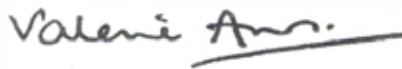
Valerie Amos

Note to Mr. Nambiar

Update on the Floods in Southeast Asia

Please find attached a note to the Secretary-General with an update on the floods in Southeast Asia.

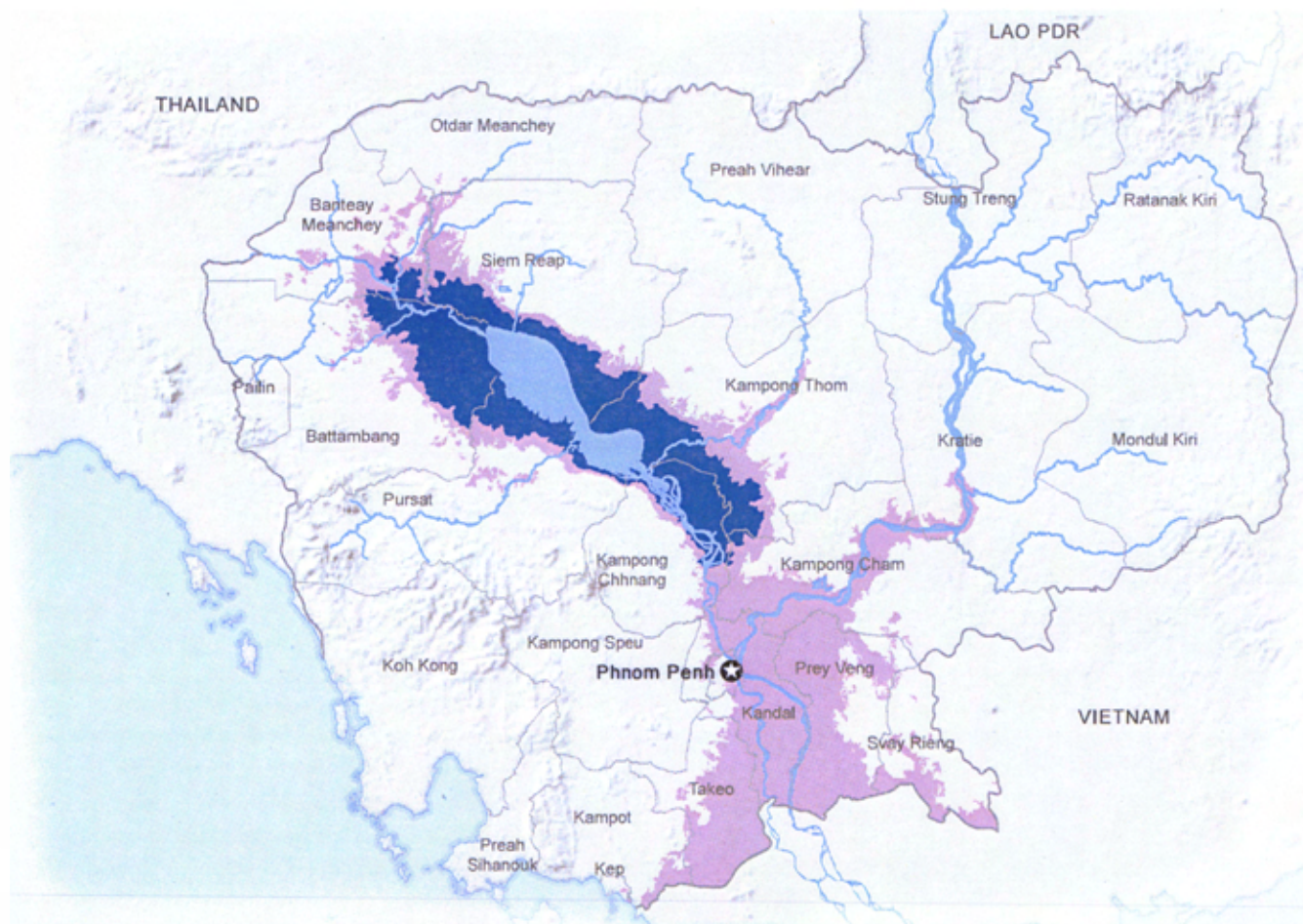
I would be grateful if you could kindly submit this to the Secretary-General.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Valerie Amos" with a horizontal line underneath.

Valerie Amos
23 October 2011

Cambodia: Flooding (as of 18 October 2011)

In the worst flooding since 2000, heavy monsoon rains and a series of tropical storms caused extensive flooding across Southeast Asia, affecting 18 of Cambodia's 24 provinces.

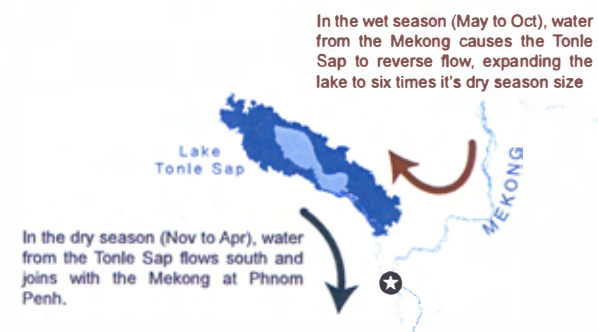


- Extent of lakes and rivers during dry season (Nov to Apr)
- Extent of lake during normal wet season (May to Oct)
- Estimated extent of 2011 floods

Water levels and the Mekong and rivers throughout Cambodia are monitored by the Mekong River Commission (<http://mrcmekong.org/>) and the Cambodian Department of Hydrology and River Works (<http://www.dhrw-cam.org/>)

247 killed
1 million affected
46,403 households displaced

Normal pattern of flooding in Cambodia



30 July. Tropical Storm Nok Ten crosses Viet Nam and Lao PDR

25 Sep. Mekong reaches flood state at Tan Chau

10 Oct. 3 flood stations are close to record levels reached in 2000

Chronology of the emergency

July

Aug

Sept

Oct

AILAND: Floods as of 19 October 2011

