

***The Compendium of Cambodian Laws, Council for the Development of Cambodia, UNDP  
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KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA  
Nation Religion King  
Ministry of Interior

**CIRCULAR No. 003 ON MEASURES FOR THE CONFISCATION AND MANAGEMENT OF ALL TYPES OF  
WEAPONS AND EXPLOSIVES USE**

*Phnom Penh, August 13, 1996*

In order to ensure the effectiveness of the implementation of the Sub-decree No.62 dated July 31, 1995 on the management of all types of arms/weapons and explosives use, the Ministry of Interior would like to instruct on the following the measures:

**1. MEASURES FOR CONFISCATION**

According to articles 8, 9 and 10 of the Sub-decree No. 62 dated on July 31, 1995 on the management of all types of arms/weapons and explosives use, persons who may be authorized to personal use of pistols during their missions shall be specified as hereunder:

**A. Civil servants of civil institutions:**

- At the ministries and institutions level, from deputy chiefs of department and above.
- At the provinces and municipalities level, provincial/municipal governor and the heads of bureaus of the provincial and municipal authorities.
- At the districts and communes level (*Sroks, Khans*), chiefs and deputy-chiefs of districts.

**B. National police forces:**

- Those whose ranks are from deputy chief of offices and platoon chiefs and above.
- Those members of the national police who are providing security to high ranking officials or special missions in insecurity zones.

**C. Officials of the customs, taxation, forestry, fishery departments, State's rubber plantation company and the National Bank of Cambodia:**

- Those whose ranks are from deputy chief of offices and above.

Aside from those entitled to personal use of pistols, as stated in sub-paragraphs A, B and C above, the Ministry of Interior shall cease to issue such permits. Permits previously issued shall be considered as null and void as of August 31, 1996 and measures for confiscation shall be applied as follows:

- Heads of ministries and institutions shall take measures to collect pistols from all civil servants under their command, make a list per the model attached herewith and forward it to the Administrative Police Department of the Ministry of Interior before August 31, 1996.
- The Chief of Cabinet of the Ministry of Interior, National Police General Director, Administrative General Director, General Inspector, department chiefs, intervention unit chief, international police office chief who are subordinate to the Ministry of Interior, provincial and municipal governors and provincial/ municipal police commissioners shall carry out measures to collect all pistols from members of the national police or of the administrative staff members under their command, make up a list per the model

attached herewith, and forward it to the Administrative Police Department of the Ministry of Interior before August 31, 1996.

- Rifles particularly shall not be allowed to personal use. Rifles belonging to individuals, even though accompanied with proper use permits, shall all be confiscated. Measures for such confiscation shall be the same as those of pistols above.

## 2. MEASURES FOR MANAGEMENT

A. For rifles, they shall be managed by entities and institutions which have filed their applications to:

- the Administrative Police Department, for those rifles which are to be used by units subordinated to the Office of the Minister of Interior and other ministries or institutions located in Phnom Penh.
- the provincial/municipal police commissioners, for those rifles which are to be used by units subordinates to the provincial/municipal police commissariats, provincial/municipal governor offices, (provincial or municipal district offices, various other bureaus of the provincial/municipal authorities).

B. Pistols which are to be used personally shall be the personal responsibility of the user.

C. Heavy arms of all sorts, hand-grenades and mines which are to be used in the national police forces shall be managed by the unit chiefs in charge who are also personally responsible for them.

## 3. MEASURES FOR USE

A. Rifles may be used for the protection of ministries, institutions, units, warehouses or important sites/locations and may be brought along by individuals during their mission in insecurity zones, to provide security to residences of members of the Royal Government and the National Assembly and of important dignitaries duly recognized by the government. The use of rifles during normal ordinary missions in provincial and municipal towns shall be forbidden, except for missions of suppression or prevention of armed robberies or terrorism.

B. Pistols may be brought along and used individually only during missions and shall be kept at home or at the office after the mission. Lending or consigning pistols to other person shall be forbidden.

C. Heavy arms, hand-grenades and mines may be used during operations of sweeping out rebels following the order of the Co-commanders in Chief of the Royal Khmer Armed Forces or to defend strategic sites following the order of the Co-Prime Ministers or the Co-Ministers of Interior.

D. The use of hunting weapons shall be strictly prohibited in order to protect the environment and animals. In the event of abuse, those weapons shall be confiscated as State's property. For repeated offender, the perpetrator(s) shall be arrested and brought to court for prosecution according to the law.

## 4. MEASURES FOR PROVIDING SAFETY PROTECTION AFTER CONFISCATION OF ALL TYPES OF WEAPONS

After confiscation of all types of weapons, companies, enterprises or business, handicraft, industrial, commercial establishments or banks shall necessarily protect their locations. They shall respectively file applications to the Ministry of Interior in Phnom Penh, or to the provincial/municipal police commissariats in the provinces or municipalities in order to discuss on the appropriate number of police forces to be assigned for the safety protection of these locations.

## 5. MEASURES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION AND PENALTIES

All the national police forces, administrative officers, civil servants and citizens shall comply with this Circular. In case of recalcitrant and non-compliance with provisions as stated in the paragraphs 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this Circular, such individual shall be subject to administrative penalties and their weapons and explosives confiscated as State's property. In serious cases, he shall be brought to court for trial in conformity with articles 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Law on the handling of weapons as promulgated by Decree No. 11 dated February 7, 1992. With regards to foreigners, they shall also comply with all the provisions in this Circular.

This Circular shall take effect from the date of its signature.

THE CO-MINISTERS OF INTERIOR  
SAR KHENG YOU HOCKRY