



Drones Regulatory Framework in Southeast Asia - Top 5 Key Q&As Focus on Cambodia

NO.	QUESTION	ANSWER
1.	Is there a regulatory framework relating to drones in Cambodia?	No, there are no prescribed laws and regulations governing the usage and operation of drones in Cambodia. Having said that, relevant authorities have issued several announcements forbidding the flying of drones in certain areas/provinces in Cambodia, which are outlined in greater detail below.
2.	Is there a difference between recreational and commercial uses of a drone in Cambodia?	No, there are no prescribed laws and regulations differentiating between recreational and commercial uses of a drone in Cambodia.
3.	If the answer to 1. is yes, please describe shortly if/how the points below are regulated. a) Importation of a drone. b) Registration of a drone. c) Approval of frequency use of a drone. d) Approval of pilot/operator of a drone. e) Areas where drones can/cannot be flown. f) Penalties in case of non-compliance with the applicable regulations.	N/A.
4.	If the answer to 1. is no, please confirm whether there is any plan for the authorities to implement such regulatory framework.	<p>Yes, the Cambodian Ministry of the Interior has been in the process of drafting a Sub-Decree on the Management of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles or Drones ("Draft Sub-Decree on the Operation and Management of Drones") since 2019.</p> <p>We understand that the Draft Sub-Decree on the Operation and Management of Drones contains 8 chapters and 37 articles. This Draft Sub-Decree, once it enters into force, is intended to manage the registration, production, processing, usage and zoning prohibitions of all types of unmanned aerial vehicles or drones in Cambodia except unmanned aerial vehicles or drones that are used for national security purposes.</p> <p>However, the detailed contents of the Draft Sub-Decree have yet to be made publicly available. It remains unclear as to when exactly the Draft Sub-Decree is to be implemented and enter into force given the lack of official confirmation from the Ministry of the Interior in this regard.</p>

NO.	QUESTION	ANSWER
5.	<p>If the answer to 1. is no, please confirm whether there are any relevant unwritten policies in Cambodia in respect of the use of drones.</p>	<p>Drones Prohibited in Phnom Penh</p> <p>Pursuant to the (i) Announcement Prohibiting the Usage of Camera and/or Video-equipped Drones in Phnom Penh dated 16 February 2015 and (ii) Announcement No. 074/18 Forbidding the Usage of Camera and/or Video-equipped Drones dated 26 November 2018 issued by Phnom Penh City Hall (collectively the “Announcements”), flying drones in Phnom Penh without prior official authorization is completely prohibited. Under these two Announcements, the flying of drones in the Phnom Penh municipal area without obtaining approval from Phnom Penh Capital Hall and the State Secretariat of Civil Aviation is banned, specifically near to or around the flightpaths of aircraft in order to ensure aircraft and passenger safety, safeguard public order, uphold national security and to protect members of the general public.</p> <p>Drones Forbidden in Siem Reap Province</p> <p>The Apsara National Authority has created a working group to strengthen enforcement mechanisms in regard to the prohibition on flying drones around the Angkor Wat area in Siem Reap province in order to protect the public, visitors and the historical temple attractions themselves. The flying of drones around the Angkor Wat area without prior approval from the Apsara National Authority is therefore prohibited.</p>

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