

ASEAN too elitist: Prince Norodom Sirivudh

Radio Australia, Updated September 7, 2010 13:05:31

Cambodia's Prince Norodom Sirivudh has warned about rising tensions in the South China Sea and has cautioned calm to avoid backing China into a corner.

The prince also says the ten-member Association of South East Asian Nations is too elitist, and has used the principle of non-interference to avoid addressing issues like human rights in member states. Prince Sirivudh has canvassed the issues with Radio Australia on the sidelines of the sixth Asialink Conversations in Phnom Penh last weekend. It brought together political and business figures, academics, diplomats and journalists to promote regional links. Prince Sirivudh has been a major figure in Cambodian politics. He says that while Cambodia's post civil war achievements have been many, issues of poverty, good governance and human rights loom large.

Presenter: Linda Mottram

Speaker: Prince Norodom Sirivudh

Linda Mottram travelled to Cambodia courtesy of Asialink

Listen:

<http://www.radioaustralia.net.au/connectasia/stories/201009/s3004671.htm>