

21.12 Land Use and Ownership Rights

The property law regulating the use of land and buildings was announced in 1989. According to the law, the land belongs to the people of the SOC and is to be administered on their behalf by the State.

Foreign individuals and companies cannot own land in Cambodia. They are permitted to lease land and/or buildings for unlimited leasing periods from the land holder; however, it is difficult to determine the owner of the land or buildings due to the mismanagement of the Land Titles Registry and the Lands Department under the Ministry of Commerce.

The government also seeks tenders for the lease of state-owned buildings for a period of 25 years. There are also tenders for the lease of factories, equipment, and factory employees.

21.13 Patents, Trademarks, and Copyrights

No procedures exist for the registration of patents and copyrights. As of 1992, trademarks can be registered under the Ministry of Commerce. Trademark registration will remain in effect 10 years after the date of registration.

The government is considering a Trademark Act and other legislation related to intellectual property.