

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Department of Information

PRESS RELEASE

"Cambodia, Republic of Korea forge stronger bilateral relations for a new height"

On 31 October 2023, His Excellency SOK Chenda Sophea, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, received a courtesy call by His Excellency Chang Ho-jin, the first Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, during the latter's working visit to the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Both sides express deep satisfaction with the successful conclusion of the 5th Cambodia-Republic of Korea Joint Commission Meeting earlier on the same day, charting a new course of action to further enhance and deepen the wide-ranging cooperation of mutual benefits.

Emphasizing the pivotal role of the Cambodia-Korea Free Trade Agreement, the Agreement on Double Taxation Avoidance, Cambodia's Law on Investment, and the annual Government-Private Sector Forum, His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister highlighted their potential to significantly bolster the bilateral trade and investment. Deputy Prime Minister SOK Chenda Sophea extended profound appreciation to the Government and friendly people of the Republic of Korea for the development cooperation, contributing to the Kingdom's socio-economic development.

His Excellency Vice Minister, reflecting on his diplomatic tenure in Phnom Penh a decade ago, expressed admiration for Cambodia's rapid transformation. The growing number of high-rise buildings and the robust domestic growth reflect the country's remarkable development. Vice Minister Chang Ho-jin highlighted that

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Address: N° 3, **Samdech HUN Sen** Street, Sangkat Tonle Bassac, Khan Chamkarmon Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia Cambodia has become the largest development cooperation partner of the Republic of Korea this year.

They engaged in discussions about measures to elevate the bilateral relationship to a new height, expedite the implementation of Cambodia-Republic of Korea Friendship Bridge project, and encourage additional Korean companies to invest in Cambodia, particularly in agriculture, food processing, and manufacturing sectors as well as in high value-added activities based on advanced Korean technology. Both sides also underlined the importance of frequent high-level exchange of visits, which will send an encouraging signal to the private sector.

The two sides exchanged views on regional and international issues of common interest, including the Korean peninsula.

Phnom Penh, 31 October 2023