

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

PRESS RELEASE

Cambodia and Republic of Korea Meet for Cooperation Discussion

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister Prak Sokhonn, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation had a bilateral meeting with His Excellency Park Jin, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea (ROK) on the sidelines of the 55<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting and Related Meetings on 05 August 2022 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

The two Foreign Ministers expressed satisfaction over the continued growth of the amicable bilateral relations, which is reflected by the frequent exchanges at all levels and agreed to advance existing cooperation. Both parties noted with satisfaction the resilient economic cooperation between Cambodia and ROK, underpinned by high bilateral trade volume despite the COIVD-19 pandemic. DPM Prak Sokhonn was optimistic that trade activities will be significantly boosted once the Cambodia-Korea Free Trade Agreement (CKFTA) enters into force. DPM Prak Sokhonn also noted that RoK was ranked second in Foreign Direct Investment in Cambodia and the implementation of RCEP will serve as frameworks to bolster economic cooperation between the two countries.

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister expressed his appreciation for ROK's role as one of Cambodia's main development partners and for the continued substantial assistance to the socio-economic development of Cambodia, including COVID-19 assistance. On demining, Deputy PM Prak Sokhonn thanked his counterpart for ROK's contribution to Cambodia's own demining efforts and support to the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC) based in Phnom Penh.

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On the ASEAN framework, His Excellency Park Jin reaffirmed ROK's support for Cambodia's chairmanship of ASEAN this year and appreciated Cambodia's efforts as ASEAN Chair in finding a peaceful solution for the Myanmar issue. With regards to the Mekong-ROK cooperation, Deputy PM Prak Sokhonn expressed his regret over the postponement of the 12<sup>th</sup> Mekong-ROK Foreign Ministers' Meeting and suggested to coordinate for an appropriate schedule to convene the meeting in the future.

Both sides also had exchanges on regional and international developments including the Korean peninsula.

Phnom Penh, 05 August 2022 Spokesperson of the MFAIC Chum Sounry