



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

General Department of Asia-Pacific

PRESS RELEASE

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister concludes fruitful visit to China

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister SOK Chenda Sophea, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, paid his first official visit, with fruitful outcomes, to the People's Republic of China from 23rd to 25th May 2024, at the invitation of **His Excellency WANG Yi**, Member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, Director of the Office of the Central Commission for Foreign Affairs, and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

During the official visit, **His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister SOK Chenda Sophea** paid a courtesy call on **His Excellency HAN Zheng**, Vice President of the People's Republic of China, prior to holding a bilateral meeting with **His Excellency WANG Yi** and meeting with **His Excellency Zhang Jianhua**, Member of the CPC Leadership Group of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) and Chairman of the National Energy Administration.

The bilateral talks between **His Excellency SOK Chenda Sophea** and **His Excellency WANG Yi** was held in a cordial atmosphere with an in-depth discussion covering a number of prioritized works to be implemented in order to promote the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership including cooperation in politics, security and defense, trade and investment, energy, infrastructure development, people-to-people exchange, education, tourism, and culture.

The two Foreign Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the outcome of the 7th meeting of the Inter-Governmental Coordination Committee held last month, including progress of the implementation of consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries under the Diamond Cooperation framework, in particular the establishment of the "Industrial



and Technological Corridor” and “Fish and Rice Corridor”, cooperation in clean energy development, railway development and the promotion of growing trade volume by the effective implementation of Cambodia-China Free Trade Agreement.

With the aim to further expand economic relations and cooperation, **His Excellency WANG Yi** welcomed **His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister SOK Chenda Sophea**’s proposals for the Chinese side to explore the possibility of expanding or establishing more new special economic zones in Cambodia and to provide technical and vocational training to increase more skilled workforce in the Kingdom as well as affirmed support for major infrastructure development projects in Cambodia, such as in transportation, logistics and irrigation system as well as the strategically important Funan Techo Integrated Water Management project considering China’s long experience in these sectors. Meanwhile, **His Excellency WANG Yi** also pledged to encourage the Chinese companies and enterprises to invest in Cambodia, and increase the import of agricultural products from Cambodia. Both sides also agreed to further promote cooperation in various key and potential areas, such as education, tourism, modern agriculture, connectivity, digital economy and artificial intelligence.

His Excellency SOK Chenda Sophea and **His Excellency WANG Yi** also discussed and exchanged views on regional and international issues of common interest, and reaffirmed the enhancement of closer cooperation both bilateral and multilateral frameworks, including in ASEAN-China, Mekong-Lancang and the United Nations to contribute to peace, stability and prosperity in the region and beyond.

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister SOK Chenda Sophea and the Chinese leaders highly valued the growing from strength to strength of the ironclad friendship and excellent cooperation between the two countries, encouraged by frequent high-level exchanges of visits and communication, and concurred to continuously increase the exchanges and communication more actively and closely in both executive and legislative frameworks. The Chinese leaders underscored the continued support for Cambodia in choosing a development path suited to her national conditions and in playing a more important role on the international stage. **His Excellency SOK Chenda Sophea** also emphasized Cambodia’s principled position on adhering to the "One China Policy" and considering Hong Kong, Taiwan, Tibet and Xinjiang as China's internal affairs, as well as continuously supporting China's active role in the international affairs. Both sides



recognized the importance of people-to-people exchanges as well as cultural exchanges and agreed to work closely to enhance these exchanges, especially among the youths.

His Excellency SOK Chenda Sophea also exchanged views with **His Excellency Zhang Jianhua**, Member of the CPC Leadership Group of the NDRC and Chairman of the National Energy Administration, on the advancement of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership of Cooperation within the Diamond cooperation framework with the focus on the development of clean energy which is crucial for supporting the development of the “Industrial and Technological Corridor” and “Fish and Rice Corridor”.

His Excellency SOK Chenda Sophea also met with about 250 Cambodian students studying in Beijing and Tianjin, China, during which he conveyed to the participants the all best wishes from **Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei HUN Manet**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and offered some advice and shared important experiences with the students.

Beijing, 25 May 2024.

