

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

## PRESS RELEASE

Outcomes of the Official Visit of His Excellency Bui Thanh Son Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the Kingdom of Cambodia on 19-20 January 2022

At the invitation of His Excellency PRAK Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, His Excellency Bui Thanh Son, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, paid an official visit to the Kingdom of Cambodia on 19-20 January 2022 in order to promote and deepen the bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries.

During the visit, His Excellency Bui Thanh Son paid courtesy calls on Samdech Vibol Sena Pheakdei SAY CHHUM, President of the Senate, Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei HENG SAMRIN, President of the National Assembly, and Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

The Cambodian leaders praised the great achievements in national development recorded in Viet Nam and wished her successful implementation of the development targets set during the 13<sup>th</sup> National Party Congress. While commending Cambodia for her great success in the course of national development and elevation of her role in regional and global arena, His Excellency Bui Thanh Son expressed Viet Nam's support to Cambodia's ASEAN Chairmanship and priorities for 2022.

On the same day, His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn and His Excellency Bui Thanh Son had a bilateral meeting, during which both Foreign Ministers highly valued the long-standing bilateral relations between Cambodian and Viet Nam which have grown unceasingly in all dimensions based on the spirit of good neighborhood, traditional friendship, long-lasting and comprehensive cooperation.

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His Excellency PRAK Sokhonn and His Excellency Bui Thanh Son expressed great satisfaction with the fruitful results of the recent state visit of His Excellency Nguyen Xuan Phuc, President of Viet Nam, on 21-22 December 2021, and the outcomes of the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Cambodia – Viet Nam Joint Commission on Economic, Cultural Scientific and Technological Cooperation (19<sup>th</sup> JC) co-chaired by the two Foreign Ministers on 19 December 2021 via videoconference. They also attached great importance to doubling the efforts by both sides to implement effectively the cooperative agreements and decisions made by both countries' leaders.

Both Foreign Ministers welcomed the year 2022 as the Cambodia-Vet Nam Friendship Year and looked forward to the celebration of the 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Establishment of the Diplomatic Relations between the two countries. In this regard, both Foreign Ministries were committed to working collaboratively to materialize exchange visits of Leaders of the two countries, as well as to finalize the list of joint commemorative activities. They also encouraged respective ministries, institutions, and local authorities of the two countries to continue exchange their visits.

On trade and investment cooperation, the two sides expressed their satisfaction with the steady growth in two-way trade and shared the views to encourage relevant ministries and agencies to further cooperate and sustain this growth momentum.

Both sides restated the importance of strengthening the security and defense cooperation through exchanging information and consolidating coordination to prevent and combat crimes such as drug and human trafficking and smuggling along the border between the two countries.

On border affairs, both Foreign Ministers highly appreciated the positive results registered by the Joint Border Commission (JBC) in border demarcation and marker planting and welcomed the JBC's Agreed Minutes signed in Phnom Penh on 21 December 2021, whereby the two sides were committed to continue working closely to find mutually acceptable solutions to the approximately 16% remaining land boundary.

Both Ministers also had an in-depth discussion on a wide range of bilateral cooperation areas, including health, education, agriculture, transport environment,

among others. They agreed to further strengthen and deepen the existing good relations and cooperation contributing to the further enhancement of the comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries.

Both Foreign Ministers shared the same view that tourism plays a crucial role in boosting socio-economy development, especially in the post-Covid-19 context. In this spirit, they welcomed the convening of the ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) 2022 in Sihanoukville province, Cambodia, under the theme "A Community of Peace and Shared Future".

On ASEAN-related issues, His Excellency PRAK Sokhonn briefed H.E. Bui Thanh Son on Cambodia's Priorities as the ASEAN Chair in 2022 and highlighted major challenges that ASEAN is facing. The Cambodian Foreign Minister also informed his counterpart of the primary goal and outcomes of the visit by Samdech Techo Prime Minister HUN SEN to Myanmar on 7-8 January 2022. His Excellency Bui Thanh Son recalled the joint support recently expressed by the Prime Ministers of Viet Nam and Laos for the important role and endeavours of Samdech Techo Prime Minister HUN SEN in exploring ways and means to address the Myanmar crisis by paying a recent visit to Myanmar, and reaffirmed Viet Nam's support for Cambodia's ASEAN Chairmanship 2022. His Excellency Bui Thanh Son also extended his warm congratulations and support to His Excellency PRAK Sokhonn for his role as ASEAN Chair's Special Envoy on Myanmar. His Excellency PRAK Sokhonn accepted the invitation by His Excellency Bui Thanh Son to pay an official visit to Viet Nam in the near future.

On regional and international cooperation, the two sides exchanged views on issues of common interest and concern and expressed full support to each other in multilateral fora, including in the ASEAN framework.

Phnom Penh, 21 January 2022

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