

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Department of Information

Press Release

Outcomes of the official visit of Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore to Cambodia 17 October 2017

At the invitation of His Excellency **Prak Sokhonn**, Senior Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of **Cambodia**, His Excellency **Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan**, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore, paid an official visit to the Kingdom of Cambodia on 17 October 2017.

During the visit, His Excellency Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan was received in a Royal Audience by His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath NORODOM SIHAMONI, King of Cambodia.

His Excellency Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan also called on Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, during which Samdech Techo Hun Sen highly valued the long standing relationship between the two countries which has been fostered for generations. More importantly, Samdech Techo Prime Minister also expressed his satisfaction with the development of the bilateral cooperation in all sectors currently undertaken by the two countries.

His Excellency Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan had a bilateral meeting with H.E. Senior Minister Prak Sokhonn. During the meeting, recalling the successful state visit to Cambodia in January this year by **Dr. Tony Tan Keng Yam**, then President of the Republic of Singapore, the two Foreign Ministers frankly discussed and agreed to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in many fields, including trade and investment, education and human resource development, tourism, culture, labour, air connectivity and healthcare as well as exchanged views on regional and international issues of mutual interests.

To further increase bilateral trade, His Excellency Senior Minister requested Singapore to consider importing agricultural products, namely rice, peppers, and mangoes for Singapore market. Moreover, H.E. Senior Minister took note with satisfaction on the signing of a Petroleum Agreement for Offshore Oil Field Development in Block A between Cambodia and Singapore Company KrisEnergy, and also requested Singapore to expand investment in other potential areas.

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The two Ministers took note of the increasing numbers of tourist arrivals from year-to-year which will further foster the people linkages between the two countries. H.E. Senior Minister suggested that the two countries should extend cooperation in illicit trafficking of cultural property. They also discussed a cooperation in the field of civil aviation.

On labour cooperation, H.E. Senior Minister expressed his thanks to Singapore's government for receiving Cambodian migrant workers and hopes that Singapore will continue to welcome more workers from Cambodia.

In the spirit of strengthening bilateral cooperation between both Ministries of Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Senior Minister Prak Sokhonn and H.E. Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan signed the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore on Political Consultations.

It should be noted that during his stay in Cambodia, His Excellency Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan also met with His Excellency Dr. Aun Porn Moniroth, Senior Minster, Minister of Economy and Finance and attended a dinner hosted by His Excellency Say Sam Al, Minister of Environment, as well. At their meetings, the Ministers had frank and close discussions in order to explore new steps to expand the bilateral cooperation?

Phnom Penh, 18 October 2017

