

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

## PRESS RELEASE

On the Outcomes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEM Senior Officials' Meeting on 16-17 September 2021 via Videoconference

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Cambodia, as the host of the 13<sup>th</sup> ASEM Summit (ASEM13), co-chaired with Slovenia, as the President of the European Council, the 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEM Senior Officials' Meeting (ASEM SOM) on 16-17 September 2021 via a videoconference. The Meeting was participated by 51 ASEM SOM Leaders as well as high representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat, the European Union, and the Executive Director of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF).

Cambodia informed the Meeting that the official invitation for the ASEM13 had been extended to all ASEM Leaders. Up to date, many ASEM Leaders, including the President of European Council and the ASEAN Secretary-General, have confirmed their participation in the ASEM13, which will be virtually held on 25-26 November 2021.

During this two-day Meeting, ASEM SOM Leaders actively discussed the draft ASEM13 Chair's Statement to be adopted at the ASEM13. ASEM SOM Leaders agreed to have another round of drafting session later this month to discuss some remaining issues.

All SOM Leaders sincerely appreciated Cambodia and Slovenia for co-hosting the SOM Meeting and for maintaining ASEM momentum towards a successful ASEM13.

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