

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Department of Information

Press Release

Outcome of the State Visit of His Excellency Mr. Moon Jae-in, President of the Republic of Korea, to the Kingdom of Cambodia Phnom Penh, 14-16 March 2019

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At the invitation of His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneat NORODOM SIHAMONI, King of Cambodia, His Excellency Moon Jae-in, President of the Republic of Korea (ROK) accompanied by Her Excellency the First Lady Kim Jung-sook paid a state visit to the Kingdom of Cambodia from 14 to 16 March 2019.

During the visit, President Moon Jae-in and the First Lady had a Royal Audience with His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneat NORODOM SIHAMONI, paid homage at the Independence Monument and the memorial of His Majesty the late King-Father of Cambodia, attended a state banquet hosted by His Majesty the King and had an informal dinner with Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen and Samdech Kitti Prittbandit Bun Rany Hun Sen.

President Moon Jae-in also held a bilateral meeting with Samdech Techo Prime Minister Hun Sen, during which the two leaders cordially discussed and reached a common ground on various areas of cooperation, including trade and investment, agriculture, finance, infrastructure, industry, people to people exchange and development cooperation, and exchanged views on regional and international issues of common interests.

Both leaders expressed satisfaction with the significant progress of bilateral cooperation over the last 20 years since the re-establishment of diplomatic relations in 1997, and expressed commitment to further deepen and widen cooperation between the two countries in both bilateral and multilateral frameworks. Samdech Techo Prime Minister Hun Sen expressed high appreciation to ROK for its willingness to expand contribution for the development of Cambodia and for supporting Cambodia's effort to maintain peace, stability and continued development along the democratic path.

Noting that trade between the two countries has been growing, but far short of the

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existing potentials, Samdech Prime Minister and ROK President agreed to further promote bilateral trade through the expansion of market access for Cambodian products, especially agricultural products. Both leaders emphasized the importance of creating a more favorable investment climate in order to attract greater investment from ROK on sectors with comparative advantage, in line with Cambodia's industrial development and economic diversification policy for mutual benefits of both nations. They expressed satisfaction with the current state of financial cooperation and the presence of 17 Korean financial institutions in Cambodia to support investments of Korean companies in Cambodia and Cambodian SMEs.

Both leaders were pleased to note increasing people-to-people interaction between the two countries, through increased tourism and business exchanges as well as employment of many Cambodian nationals in ROK which serve as a firm foundation for closer friendship and more dynamic cooperation between the two countries.

On ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations, Samdech Prime Minister Hun Sen and President Moon Jae-in agreed to jointly work in further promoting ASEAN-ROK strategic partnership. Samdech Techo Hun Sen congratulated ROK as host of the 1st Mekong-ROK Summit to be held back-to-back with the Commemorative Summit on the 30st Anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations in late 2019. The two leaders also talked at length on Korean Peninsula. They shared the view that the three inter-Korean summits in 2018 and the US-DPRK Summits, paved the way for a permanent peace regime and complete denuclearization and that such dialogues should be further encouraged.

The two leaders concurred to speed up the conclusion of the Agreement on Legal Mutual Assistance and Avoidance of Double Taxation and, following their bilateral meeting they jointly witnessed the signing five of the seven documents concluded during the visit:

- 1. Framework Arrangement on FDCF loan for 2019-2023,
- 2. Loan Agreement for Establishing the University of Health Science Teaching Hospital,
- MoU on the project for the "Supply of Micro-grids and Battery Charging Stations in Cambodia".
- MoU on Bilateral Investment Promotion Cooperation between the Council for the Development of Cambodia and Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency,
- MoU on Cooperation between the Royal Academy of Cambodia and ROK National Research Council for Economics, Humanities and Social Sciences,
- Loan Agreement for Rural Roads Improvement Project III,
- 7. MoU on Bilateral Cooperation between KOTRA and CCA for cooperation on construction material and equipment.

Samdech Prime Minister Hun Sen and President Moon Jae-in jointly addressed the Cambodia-Korea Business Forum, with participation by more than three hundred members of the Korean and Cambodian private sector.

In a separate program, First Lady Kim Jung-sook met Korean Community and visited Banteay Preab Vocational Center in Kandal province. Before departing from Cambodia on 16 March, ROK President and the First Lady made a visit to Siem Reap to see the Angkor Wat Temple

Cambodia highly appreciates the state visit of His Excellency Moon-Jae-in and the First Lady which will elevate bilateral ties to greater heights and invigorate fruitful cooperation between Cambodia and ROK in line with Korea's New Southern Policy to promote shared prosperity, greater people-to-people exchange and permanent peace in the region.

