H.E. Mr. WANG YANG Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC)

Excellency,

On the auspicious occasion of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the People's Republic of China, on behalf of the Cambodian people, the Cambodian Senate and myself, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to you, members of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and the Chinese people. I would also like to wish the Communist Party of China and the Chinese people great, prosperity, progress and happiness.

Since the Angkor era, the good relationship between the Chinese and Cambodian people has been continuing for hundreds of years. Diplomatic relations between both countries was established on 19<sup>th</sup> July, 1958 under the wise leadership of the great leaders of the People's Republic of China and the late-King Father Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk "Preah Borom Ratanak Kaudh" after the first meeting between the late-King Father Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk "Preah Borom Ratanak Kaudh" and H.E Zhou Enlai in 1955 in Bandung, Indonesia.

Over the last 60 years, the leaders and people of both countries have been constantly nurturing friendly relations, solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation for greater mutual benefits for both countries. Leaders of both countries have been continuously undertaking exchange visits and the political, military, economic, trade, investment, tourism, cultural, and education sectors have expanded their cooperation and have shown remarkable growth. In Particular, bilateral cooperation between the two countries has developed into a "Comprehensive Strategic Partnership of Cooperation".

Meanwhile, the relationship and cooperation between both legislative bodies, especially between the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and the Senate of the Kingdom of Cambodia is also being continuously strengthened which results in significant outcomes. In the future, we will continue to increase exchange visits at every levels and continue to fully support each other's government's political agenda.

I would also like to express my deepest appreciation to the Chinese government and its people for their valuable contribution to the policy implementation of the Royal Government of Cambodia aiming at promoting socio-economic development, improvement of living standards and poverty reduction in Cambodia. Cambodian prosperity can not be differentiated from the valuable assistance of our Chinese friend.

Taking this opportunity, on behalf of the Senate of the Kingdom of Cambodia, I would like to reaffirm Cambodia's commitment to the "One China Policy" while regarding China as the most trust worthy friend.

I would also like to convey my appreciation of the great achievements of the Chinese government and its people under the wise leadership of the Communist Party of China which has driven China into being the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest economy with the high prestige that plays a crucial role in the international arena and significantly contributes to sustainable development, peace, stability and security in the region and the world.

Finally, I wish that the traditional friendly relations and cooperation between our two countries and peoples continues to be strengthened progressively and prosperously.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Phom Penh, 12 July 2018

President of the Senate Samdech Vibolsena Pheakdei SAY CHHUM