



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Department of Information

Press Release

**Outcomes of the 16th Meeting of the Cambodia-Viet Nam Joint Commission
on Economic, Cultural, Scientific and Technological Cooperation**

16-17 May 2018, Ha Noi, Viet Nam

His Excellency **Prak Sokhonn**, Senior Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, led a delegation to attend and co-chair with His Excellency **Pham Binh Minh**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, the 16th Meeting of the Cambodia-Viet Nam Joint Commission (16th JC) on Economic, Cultural, Scientific and Technological Cooperation, held from 16 to 17 May 2018, in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, at the invitation of His Excellency **Pham Binh Minh**.

During his stay in Ha Noi, H.E Senior Minister **Prak Sokhonn** paid a courtesy call on H.E Mr. **Tran Dai Quang**, President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. In a call, he conveyed the warmest regards of **Preah Karona Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni**, King of Cambodia, **Samdech Vibol Sena Pheakdey Say Chhum**, President of Senate, **Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin**, President of National Assembly, and **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, to His Excellency President and Madam. He also informed His Excellency President the positive outcomes of the 16th JC and highly valued the relations between Cambodia and Viet Nam which reached an all-time high.

His Excellency **Tran Dai Quang** had reciprocally conveyed, through His Excellency Senior Minister **Prak Sokhonn**, the best regards from the State and people of Viet Nam to **Preah Karona Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath King of Cambodia**, **Samdech Vibol Sena Pheakdey Say Chhum**, **Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin**, and **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen** and also praised the relentless efforts of both sides to conclude the 16th JC meeting with positive outcomes.

Prior to co-chairing the 16th JC meeting, H.E Senior Minister **Prak Sokhonn** and **H.E Mr. Pham Binh Minh** hold a bilateral meeting during which they shared with each other the current development on politics and socio-economics of the two countries.

During the 16th JC meeting, the two sides highly valued the organization of commemorative activities to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations (24 June 1967 - 24 June 2017), and expressed a common view that the activities were of profound significance in deepening the understanding of the two peoples about the traditional friendship, solidarity, cooperation and mutual support between Cambodia and



Viet Nam. The meeting also reiterated their respective positions to further deepen the bond of friendship and strengthen the existing mechanisms for the mutual benefits of the two countries. They also took the opportunities to highlight the positive outcomes of the close relations and recent exchanges of high-level visits of the top leaders of the two countries.

The meeting was satisfied with positive outcomes on many fields of cooperation such as education, vocational training and human resource development, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, environment, water resource and hydro-meteorology, mining and energy, economic, planning, trade and investment, transportation, culture, sports and tourism, health, border issues, and security and combating crime etc.

On education, vocational training and human resource development, both sides noted the progress made in building the Upper Secondary School in O' Rang district, Mondulkiri province which will be completed in 2018 and agreed to strengthen cooperation on technical vocational education and training (TVET) by organizing activities on human resources development (HRD) and to continue exchange scholarship programmes for their students.

In terms of agriculture and forestry cooperation, both sides agreed to foster cooperation in sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures to control diseases in the border areas between Cambodia and Viet Nam. Moreover, they reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen cooperation in preventing, combating and suppressing the illegal cross-border trade of timber, wild animals, natural rubber, and other products through the regular exchanges of information and meetings between law enforcement officials and the authorities of border provinces.

For water resource cooperation, the two countries agreed to strengthen cooperation in the effective use of the Mekong water resources towards the sustainable development of the river basin as well as management, sharing, and protection of, and pollution control in the shared water resources between Cambodia and Viet Nam.

On energy cooperation, Cambodia and Viet Nam agreed to further strengthen cooperation in the trade of electricity and they will work together in the research for, investment into and development of power distribution grids so as to facilitate Cambodia's export of electricity to Viet Nam.

In terms of economic and investment, the meeting welcomed the positive growth of the 2017 two-way trade volume and emphasized their joint efforts to boost the growth rate to reach the target of USD 5 billion as expected by high-level Leaders. In similar manner, they also highly valued the coordination efforts to promote two-way investments.

For tourism cooperation, they agreed to further strengthen cooperation in tourism development by expediting joint tourism promotion and marketing activities, and enhance connectivity among the tourism destinations and products of the two countries.

For border issues, the two sides noted with high appreciation of the positive results in demarcation and marker planting that the two sides have achieved in 2017. The two sides also welcomed the Agreed Minutes between the Chairmen of the Joint Commission on Demarcation and Abornement for Land Boundary (JBC) signed on 31 March 2018 in Ha Noi, in which the two sides agreed to draft two (02) legal documents to acknowledge the completed work (84%) on land border demarcation and marker planting, and agreed on the workload, coordination plan and implementation roadmap until these legal documents have been signed.



On security and combating crime, both sides reaffirmed their policies of not allowing any hostile forces to use their respective territory to sabotage the security and intervene in the domestic affairs of the other. Moreover, they also agreed to instruct, promote and enable the provinces sharing the border to increase cooperation between their local functional forces with a view to strengthening solidarity and friendship between the peoples of the border provinces.

Besides, both sides agreed to speed up implementation of other relevant matters or projects which have been delayed while exploring new and concrete measures to further improve activities and cooperation with the ultimate aim to achieve maximum outcomes for serving the mutual interests of the two peoples.

The two sides agreed to convene the 17th Joint Commission Meeting in Cambodia at a mutually agreed date to be communicated through the diplomatic channel.

It should be noted that the 16th JC meeting was discussed in friendly, candid and frank atmosphere.

At the conclusion of the 16th JC, **His Excellency Prak Sokhonn** and **His Excellency Pham Binh Minh** signed agreed minutes on the outcomes of the meeting.

Phnom Penh, 18 May 2018

