



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

PRESS RELEASE

**Outcomes of the 3rd Meeting of the Cambodia-Philippines Joint Commission
for Bilateral Cooperation (3rd JCBC)
on 01- 02 December 2021, via Video Conference**



His Excellency PRAK Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and His Excellency Teodoro L. Locsin Jr., Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines, co-chaired the 3rd Meeting of the Cambodia-Philippines Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation (3rd JCBC) hosted by Cambodia on 01 to 02 December 2021 via video conference.

During the 3rd JCBC Meeting, both sides had in-depth discussion on issues of common interests and explored the potentials to expand and deepen the existing good cooperation in political-security, defence, trade and investment, agriculture and agribusiness, tourism, air-connectivity, culture, labour, education and vocational training, science, technology and innovation, health, and environment.

On defense and security cooperation, Cambodia and the Philippines acknowledged the importance of maintaining active engagements between senior military officials and senior police officers through bilateral and multilateral platforms as well as sharing and exchanging information and best practices between the two countries. The two sides agreed to also strengthen law enforcement in addressing growing challenges facing the region such as terrorism, drug trafficking and trafficking in persons, arms smuggling, money laundering, piracy on high seas, cybercrimes, identity fraud and illegal wildlife trade.

While noting the vast potential and opportunity for economic cooperation between the two countries, the Joint Commission has committed to further stimulate two-way trade and investment through the arrangement of more trade events



including trade fairs, exhibition, business matching between import-export firms of the two countries. In this regard, the two sides welcomed the virtual signing of the MoU between the Cambodia Chamber of Commerce (CCC) and the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), aiming to increase trade and investment between both countries.

On education, the JCBC encouraged closer cooperation and partnership among universities bound by the Memorandum of Understanding to increase staff and student mobility, upgrade capacity and qualification, promote teaching and learning and improve research collaboration. The Cambodian side highly appreciated the Philippines for providing full scholarships to Cambodia's post-graduate students in the area of science, mathematics and engineering in top universities in the Philippines and the fourth English language course for the officials and staff of the Secretariat General of the Senate.

Both sides agreed to consolidate the bilateral cooperation on agriculture and agri-business through exchange of information, statistics, knowledge, experiences and best practices. The Cambodian side encourage the Philippine investors to explore opportunities to invest in Cambodia's agricultural sector, especially in rice, vegetables and animal husbandry.

On tourism sector, the two sides underscored the importance of the convening of the ASEAN Tourism Forum 2022 to be held on 16-22 January in Preah Sihanouk province, Cambodia, which will focus on reopening of the region in a more resilient, sustainable and responsible recovery. The Philippine side announced that the Philippines Airlines will be operating direct-flights weekly between Phnom Penh-Manila next month.


Cambodia and the Philippines agreed to strengthen cooperation in the field of public health such as primary health care, maternal and child health, communicable diseases control and non-communicable diseases through the exchange of information, experiences and best practices. Cambodia requested the Philippines to consider providing nursing courses and training programs to Cambodian youths, given the fact that the Philippines is the world's leading exporter of nurses.

The Philippine side expressed deep appreciation to the Royal Government of Cambodia for providing Covid-19 vaccines to the Philippine Embassy's personnel and the Filipino Community on a voluntary basis and free of charge.



Cambodia and the Philippines expressed their commitment to strengthen coordination and continue supporting each other in regional and international fora, particularly within the ASEAN and the UN frameworks. In this connection, on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister expressed sincere appreciation for the participation of His Excellency Rodrigo Roa Duterte, President of the Republic of the Philippines, in the recent 13th ASEM Summit successfully hosted by Cambodia via video conference. The Philippine side expressed her full support for Cambodia's ASEAN Chairmanship 2022.

Both sides shared the view that 2022 will be a milestone year as Cambodia and the Philippines will commemorate the 65th Anniversary of the Establishment of their Diplomatic Relations. The celebration of this landmark event will certainly add more strength and vibrancy to the growing close relations between the two countries. In this respect, the two sides stressed the importance of exchanges of visits by the Leaders as one of the meaningful commemorative activities.

The 3rd Meeting of the Joint Commission on Bilateral Cooperation was conducted in a cordial atmosphere of friendship, cooperation and mutual understanding, reflected the close relations and strong determination of both sides to forge the mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries in the years to come. 



Phnom Penh, 03 December 2021