

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

## PRESS RELEASE

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Outcomes of the Visit of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen,
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia
to Seoul, the Republic of Korea
From 10-13 February 2022

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Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, has successfully paid a visit to Seoul, the Republic of Korea (ROK) from 10 to 13 February 2022, to co-chair the World Summit 2022 (Summit for Peace on the Korean Peninsula) with His Excellency Ban Ki-moon, former Secretary-General of the United Nations, and Her Excellency Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, Co-Founder of Universal Peace Federation (UPF).

On 11 February 2022, Samdech Techo Prime Minister delivered his opening remarks to the World Summit 2022 organized by the UPF, with attendance of distinguished leaders and experts from more than 100 countries. Samdech Techo Prime Minister urged for a permanent peace treaty on the Korean Peninsula, and called upon all stakeholders to continuously foster trust-based cooperation and people-centred partnership building towards a peaceful reunification of the two Koreas.

Samdech Techo shared Cambodia's lessons on peace-making, peacebuilding, and national reconciliation by emphasizing that war cannot end war, and therefore he reiterated the importance of peaceful dialogues and Win-Win negotiation to end war.

After an extensive deliberation, on 13 February, the Summit unanimously endorsed two outcome documents namely the "Seoul Resolution 2022: Toward Sustainable Peace and Prosperity on the Korean Peninsula" and Samdech Techo Prime Minister's initiative on "Two States Toward One Nation: One Peninsula, One Peninsula, One Peninsula, One Culture".

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It is worth highlighting that apart from co-chairing the Summit from 11 to 13 February, Samdech Techo Prime Minister also had meetings with H.E. Moon Jae-in, President of the Republic of Korea, H.E. Park Byeong-seug, Speaker of the National Assembly, Her Excellency Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, Co-Founder of UPF, and H.E. Ban Ki Moon, former Secretary-General of the United Nations. Samdech Techo Prime Minister has also attended the Awarding Ceremony of Sunhak Peace Prize as the Laureate of the Sunhak Peace Prize 2022.

## I. Meeting with H.E. President Moon Jae-in at the Blue House (11 February 2022)

His Excellency the President emphasized that the Republic of Korea has considered Cambodia as one of the key partners and the priority countries for the Official Development Assistance (ODA) of the Republic of Korea. He raised that Cambodia was the first Mekong country that the ROK had concluded a bilateral Free Trade Agreement. He congratulated Cambodia on assuming the 2022 ASEAN Chairmanship and expressed support for Cambodia's success in advancing peace and prosperity in the region. As co-chair of the Mekong-ROK cooperation framework with Cambodia, he also expressed hope that the Mekong-ROK Summit will be held successfully this year.

Being the co-founder of the re-establishment of the Cambodia-ROK diplomatic relations, Samdech Techo Prime Minister cherished the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the re-establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations and encouraged various commemorative activities to promote the deepening of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and peoples.

Both sides demonstrated their gratification with the dynamic growth of the two countries' bilateral relations in the past 25 years. They discussed extensively on the ways and means to further strengthen and broaden the bilateral cooperation on areas such as trade, investment, human resource development, civil aviation, dispatch of laborers, infrastructure development, agro-industry, and technology and ICT.

The two Leaders expressed their satisfaction with the stable trade flows between the two countries despite the COVID-19 pandemic, and agreed to expedite the early entry into force of the Cambodia-Korea Free Trade Agreement (CKFTA) signed in October 2021, so as to boost trade, increase employment and speed up the two countries.

post-COVID-19 economic recovery. Samdech Techo has informed His Excellency the President that Cambodian side has already completed internal procedures for the entry into force of CKFTA, and anticipated that the ROK will do so at the earliest convenience.

With the new investment law of Cambodia which provides more investment incentives, Samdech Techo encouraged more Korean investment to Cambodia. He also thanked the ROK for taking good care of Cambodian laborers and students, especially the provision of vaccines to them, and for keeping the air connectivity open during the pandemic to sustain business, tourism and people-to-people exchanges.

His Excellency the President congratulated the Royal Government of Cambodia in successfully controlling the COVID-19 pandemic through effective national vaccination campaign, which has enabled the Kingdom to reopen the country as well as to resume economic activities. In response, Samdech Techo expressed his gratitude to the Republic of Korea for the timely assistance to contribute to the fight against the pandemic, and for the invaluable assistance to Cambodia's socioeconomic development.

Both sides also discussed multilateral cooperation and exchanged views on regional and international issues of common concern. With regard to Myanmar's issues, His Excellency the President has reiterated the ROK's support to the ASEAN 5-point consensus to help Myanmar back to normalcy, and voiced his appreciation to Samdech Techo's effort in this endeavour.

## II. Meeting with the Honorable Park Byeong-seug, at the National Assembly (11 February 2022)

During their meeting Samdech Techo Prime Minister and Honorable Park Byeongseug, Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea, have discussed on how to further advance the good existing cooperation between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Republic of Korea, particularly in the fields of trade and investment

and people to people exchanges including the visits by women and young parliamentarians, as the two countries are celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the

re-establishment of diplomatic relations this year.

Honorable the Speaker expressed his high appreciation to Samdech Techo for his utmost efforts to re-establish the diplomatic relations and huge contribution to develop and consolidate the two countries' bilateral relations. He also admired Samdech Techo for his support to the peace process in the Korean Peninsula and requested Samdech Techo to continue to do so.

On behalf of Samdech Vibol Sena Pheakdey Say Chhum, President of the Senate and Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, President of the National Assembly of Cambodia, Samdech Techo Prime Minister has extended an invitation to Hon. Park Byeong-seug to pay a visit to Cambodia at a convenient time, which he accepted with great pleasure. Honorable the Speaker also hosted a dinner in honor of Samdech Techo Prime Minister at his official residence on 12 February 2022.

## III. Meeting with H.E. Ban Ki-Moon, former Secretary-General of the United Nations (11 February 2022)

H.E. Ban Ki-Moon recalled the good and close working relations with Samdech Techo during his tenure as the Secretary-General of the United Nations. He touched on regional peace and conflict situation in Myanmar and was pleased that the United Nations Security Council recognized the important role of ASEAN in addressing crisis in Myanmar, and supported the role of the Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair. He expressed confidence on Samdech Techo's leadership in steering regional efforts to solve these issues. To that end, he expressed readiness in supporting Cambodia in his capacity as the former Secretary General of the United Nations and Vice-Chair of The Elders, which is an independent network of global leaders founded by the late South African President Nelson Mandela in 2007.

Samdech Techo shared his evaluation of the situation, complexities of Myanmar crisis, and on-going challenges of ASEAN in addressing the issues while trying to advance its own Community building efforts. Samdech Techo explained the purposes of his visit to Myanmar in early January, and various ASEAN-led mechanism towards engendering Myanmar-owned and Myanmar-led inclusive political dialogue and national reconciliation.

IV. The Sunhak Peace Prize Awarding Ceremony (12 February 2022)

It is a great and historical honor for the Cambodian nation that its states may Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom

Cambodia, was awarded the 2022 Sunhak Peace Prize, which is the international award for individuals who have dedicated their lives for the noble cause of peace, and inspired other humankind for the pursuance of world peace.

The Sunhak Peace Prize Committee has recognized Samdech Techo Prime Minister's lifetime efforts and achievements to end the decades-long civil war and establish a full peace in Cambodia. His visionary leadership as the Prime Minister who has steered Cambodia towards poverty alleviation, enhancement of people's wellbeing, uplifting of socio-economic development of Cambodia as a whole, and his contribution to the wider peace in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond are also being recognized by this prestigious award.

In the awarding ceremony, Samdech Techo Prime Minister emphasized that the 2022 Sunhak Peace Prize is not only for his own sacrifice but also for those who had supported his endeavour to build peace in Cambodia. Samdech Techo Prime Minister particularly expressed deep gratitude to His Majesty the Late King Father Norodom Sihanouk, Her Majesty the Queen Mother Norodom Monineath Sihanouk and His Majesty the King Norodom Sihamoni for their roles in promoting the spirit of national unity among all Cambodians as a big family. He also extended deep appreciation to the countrymen for their enthusiastic support to the "Win-Win policy" which has created a conductive environment for perpetual peace in Cambodia.

Prior to the awarding ceremony Samdech Techo met with Her Excellency Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, Co-Founder of UPF, who wholeheartedly congratulated Samdech Techo for the award and for his distinguished contribution towards peace in the Korean peninsula. At the end of the ceremony, Samdech Techo also witnessed the launch of the book entitled "Hun Sen's Thought and Vision for Cambodia", which was authored by Khmer researchers from the Asian Vision Institute and published by UPF for the dissemination of peacebuilding experiences.

