



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

PRESS RELEASE

**Outcome of the official visit of His Excellency MOTEGI Toshimitsu,
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan to the Kingdom of Cambodia
on 21-22 August 2020**

His Excellency MOTEGI Toshimitsu, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, paid an official visit to Cambodia on 21-22 August 2020 with a view to strengthen and expand bilateral ties and cooperation between Cambodia and Japan. During this visit, he made a courtesy call on **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, attended a luncheon hosted by **Samdech Techo HUN SEN** and had a bilateral meeting with **His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

His Excellency MOTEGI Toshimitsu congratulated the Royal Government of Cambodia, under the leadership of **Samdech Techo Prime Minister HUN SEN**, for achieving remarkable socio-economic progress and successfully preventing the spread of COVID-19 in Cambodia. **The Cambodian side** expressed deep appreciation to the Government of Japan for its significant contribution to peace and development in Cambodia and its recent assistance to fight against COVID-19 in Cambodia and support for Cambodian nationals and trainees in Japan who face difficulties from the pandemic. **The Cambodian side** commended the efforts of the Government and people of Japan in taking stringent measures to keep the spread of COVID-19 under control. **Both sides** expressed common resolve to continue joint efforts in fighting the disease, and at the same time working for socio-economic recovery.


Both sides expressed great satisfaction with the progress of Cambodia-Japan relation and cooperation as strategic partners, which both sides agreed to jointly promote further. In order to reinvigorate cooperation and economic activities between Cambodia and Japan following disruption by COVID-19, both sides agreed to re-open in stages and gradually Cambodia-Japan cross-border travel for work and business, while ensuring strict compliance with epidemic prevention measures. Both sides will work with their respective relevant authorities to start cross-border travel for longer-than-fourteen day-stay "Resident Track" in early September 2020 and to expedite discussion on the implementation of cross-border travel for shorter-than-fourteen day-stay "Business Track".



The Cambodian side thanked the Government of Japan for its continued assistance to support Cambodia's economic and social infrastructure building and human resources development. **His Excellency MOTEGI** reaffirmed that Japan will further assist the effort of the Royal Government of Cambodia to promote the democratic process, improve people's livelihood and develop Cambodia in all areas. The two sides discussed the implementation and progress of some major projects in Cambodia, including the development of Sihanoukville Port, new container port at Sihanoukville and National Road 5, which will contribute to the expansion of investment activities and increase trade between the two countries, while Cambodia is striving to further improve its business and investment environment.

Both sides share common desire to strengthen and expand cooperation in all areas, especially in the fields of economy, trade, investment, tourism, health, education and culture. Japan expressed commitment to support Cambodia's endeavor to build its capacity in agro-processing and high-tech industries and expand cooperation in the conservation of ancient temples. **The Cambodian side** expressed satisfaction with the cultural and educational exchange activities of the Asia Center Liaison Office of the Japan Foundation in Phnom Penh and would welcome its permanent presence in Cambodia.

Both sides exchanged views on a number of regional and international issues of common interest, including the South China Sea, effort for early conclusion Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, the concept of ASEAN Outlook on Indo-Pacific and Free and Open Indo-Pacific initiated by Japan. **The two sides** agreed to further support each other in both the regional and international frameworks and to work closely together to encourage synergy from all initiatives which aim to promote peace, stability and inclusive development. **The Cambodian side** thanked Japan for supporting development projects under regional frameworks, in particular the Mekong-Japan cooperation, and for the establishment of ASEAN Center for Public Health and Disease Emergency Management.

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn expressed his pleasure to participate in the Mekong-Japan Foreign Ministers' Meeting proposed to be held in Japan in early 2021. **His Excellency MOTEGI** reaffirmed Japan's support for the success of the 13th Asia-Europe Summit to be hosted by Cambodia in mid-2021. 

Phnom Penh, 22 August 2020

