



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA  
NATION RELIGION KING**



**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Outcome of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Leaders' Meeting  
via Video Conference on 24 August 2020**



On 24 August 2020, **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> Mekong-Lancang Cooperation (MLC) Leaders' Meeting under the theme «Enhancing Partnership for Shared Prosperity» which was co-chaired by H.E. Thongloun Sisoulith, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and H.E. Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China. The Meeting was also attended by H.E. U Win Myint, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, H.E. Prayuth Chan-O-Cha, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, and H.E. Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

The Leaders expressed satisfaction on the overall progress in the implementation of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> MLC Leaders' Meeting and the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> MLC Foreign Ministers' Meeting and the steady implementation of its Five-Year Action Plan on MLC (2018-2022) that yielded positive development outcomes and significantly contributed to the enhancement of mutual trust and understanding among the Mekong-Lancang countries and the promotion of harmony and shared prosperity in the sub-region.

The Leaders welcomed the upgrading of the MLC Water Resources Cooperation to Ministerial Meeting level and China's sharing of hydrological information of the Lancang River throughout the year, and commended the active steps taken to establish partnership



between MLC and Mekong River Commission by the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Mekong-Lancang Water Resource Cooperation Center and MRC Secretariat to strengthen the cooperation among riparian countries and create synergy in regional water resources cooperation for shared benefits and more sustainable basin.

The Leaders appreciated the joint endeavor of the member countries to control the COVID-19 pandemic in the spirit of solidarity, mutual help and support with regards to the timely sharing of information on the outbreak and technical guidelines for prevention, control, diagnosis and treatment. The Meeting welcomed China's announcement of the establishment of the LMC Special Fund for Public Health within the framework of the LMC Special Fund to support public health cooperation projects of the member countries.

The Leaders reaffirmed their resolute determination and collective commitment to advance the MLC in addressing the severe impacts caused by the COVID-19, and other global and regional issues so as to ensure promising socio-economic recovery for the post pandemic.

In the Meeting, Samdech Techo Prime Minister shared views as follows:


At the outset, Samdech Techo expressed his profound sympathy and condolences to the people and Government of China for the suffering caused by the recent flood.

1. On the COVID-19 pandemic, Samdech Techo called member countries for continued solidarity and mutual trust in combating this common enemy to make sure that it does not devastate our respective national public health and economy, as well as promoting deeper regional integration and effective multilateralism. Furthermore, he highly appreciated China's efforts in producing vaccines and its commitment to ensure accessibility and affordability of vaccines for developing countries.
2. At a time of global growth de-acceleration, Samdech Techo stressed on securing new sources of growth in the sub-region. He proposed to speed up the realization of the Mekong-Lancang Economic Development Belt as a new engine of growth for the Mekong-Lancang sub-region to boost the investment in quality infrastructure,



connectivity and industrial cooperation, stimulate more cross-border trade, and further integration of the sub-regional supply chains into the global value chains. Similarly, the Prime Minister emphasized on the promotion of science, technology and innovation cooperation to enhance the long-term competitiveness of the sub-region. In this connection, Samdech Techo extended his support to all measures stated in the Co-chairs' Statement on Cooperation of Synergizing the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation and the New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor. Furthermore, under the circumstance of Covid-19 pandemic, Samdech Techo joined H.E. Li Keqiang in stressing the importance of ensuring food security in China and the sub-region, and promoting the export of agricultural products from the Mekong countries to China.

3. To ensure the effectiveness of the MLC framework, Samdech Techo proposed to initiate a comprehensive assessment based on a sound monitoring and evaluation system on the implementation priority areas of the MLC and cooperation projects since the launch of the MLC Special Fund in 2016, which have produced tangible impacts and have contributed significantly to improving the well-being of the people.

The Meeting adopted the Vientiane Declaration of the 3<sup>rd</sup> MLC Leaders' Meeting and noted the Progress Reports of the Year 2018 and 2019 on Implementing the Five-Year Plan of Action on the MLC (2018-2022). The Co-chairs also adopted a Statement on Cooperation of Synergizing the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation and the New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor. 

Phnom Penh, 24 August 2020

