



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

PRESS RELEASE

**The Outcomes of the Virtual Meeting between ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Troika
Open-ended and the UK Foreign Secretary on COVID-19 Response
(via Video Conference)
30 September 2020**

On 30 September 2020, His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister **PRAK Sokhonn**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, participated in the Open-ended Troika virtual Meeting between ASEAN Foreign Ministers and the UK Foreign Secretary, Rt. Honourable Dominic Raab, on COVID-19 Response.

The Meeting shared concern regarding the continued spread of the COVID-19 and its severe adverse impacts on people livelihoods and socio-economic development around the world. In this regard, the Meeting committed to strengthening close cooperation between ASEAN Member States and the UK in the research, development, manufacture and distribution of the COVID-19 vaccines and treatments, adhering to the objectives of efficiency, safety, equal accessibility and affordability.


The Meeting welcomed the UK's announcement to contribute £1 million to the COVID-19 ASEAN Response Fund as well as its contribution of £0.5 million of strategic support to the ASEAN Secretariat to develop and deliver effective policies to mitigate the economic impacts of COVID-19. The Meeting also welcomed the UK's commitment of £4.8 million towards strengthening national health systems and COVID-19 prevention, in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Viet Nam.

The ASEAN Member States encouraged the UK to support and contribute to the Regional Reserve of Medical Supplies to enable rapid response to emergency medical supply needs.

The Meeting also discussed other priority areas of cooperation between ASEAN and UK which aimed at addressing the disruption of supply chains, supporting the global economy through open trade, facilitating sustainable and inclusive international economic growth, restoring business confidence in the region, and supporting regional connectivity.



During the Virtual Meeting, **His Excellency Deputy Minister** reaffirmed Cambodia's support to the UK's application for Dialogue Partner status, and expressed that ASEAN and the UK can still work on a parallel track, while waiting for admission, to boost cooperation especially trade and investment that is exceptionally crucial for both economies. He also raised that there is a need for ASEAN, the UK, together with the rest of the international community, to forge a global alliance to combat the pandemic. He expressed optimism that the UK will contribute to timely access to quality, safe and affordable vaccine.

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister also suggested the possibility for both sides to explore innovative approaches to maintain an open international supply chains, and create safe travel corridors for business people to ensure the flow of trades and investments between the UK and ASEAN region. 

Phnom Penh, 30 September 2020

