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PM HUN SEN EXTENDS CONGRATULATIONS TO 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF CAMBODIA-VIET NAM DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

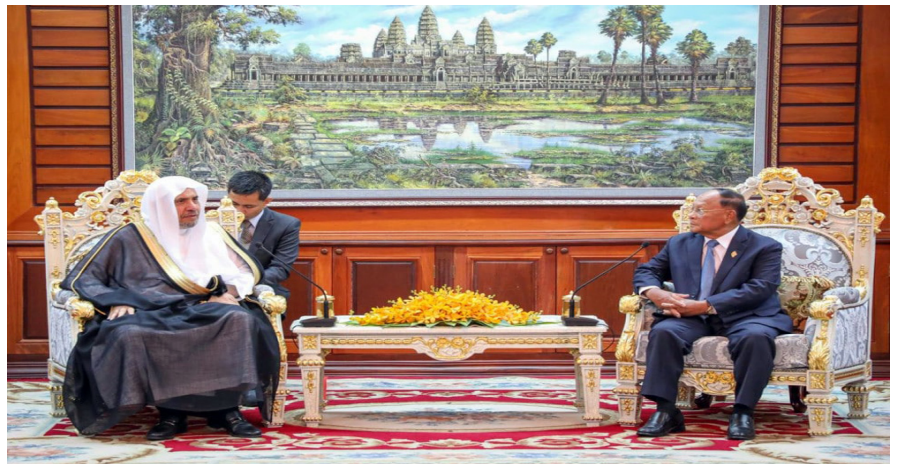


Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, has extended his congratulations to his Vietnamese counterpart, H.E. Pham Minh Chinh on the 55th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Diplomatic Relations between the two countries.

On behalf of the Royal Government and the People of Cambodia, Samdech Techo Hun Sen conveyed his warmest congratulations and best wishes to H.E. Pham Minh Chinh and the friendly people of Viet Nam on this auspicious occasion of the 55th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam as well as the Cambodia-Viet Nam Friendship Year 2022.

"This is indeed an opportune juncture to invigorate the close friendship and strong cooperation between our two countries, bounded hundred years before the formal establishment of our diplomatic relations in 1967. I am delighted to observe that the excellent bonds of fraternal relations and close cooperation between our two countries have been constantly cherished and strengthened over the last decades under the spirit of good neighbourliness, solidarity, mutual trust and understanding as well as win-win cooperation," he stated in his recent congratulatory message.

SAMDECH HENG SAMRIN RECEIVES COURTESY CALL FROM SECRETARY GENERAL OF MUSLIM WORLD LEAGUE



Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, President of the National Assembly (NA), received a courtesy call from visiting H.E. Dr. Mohammad bin Abdul Karim Al-Issa, Secretary General of Muslim World League (RABITA), at the NA Palace on 22 June 2022.

H.E. Dr. Mohammad bin Abdul Karim Al-Issa praised the Cambodian legislative and executive bodies for building religious harmonisation in the country, which is a good model for the world.

He also congratulated Cambodian people on having revered and realistic leaders bringing about peace, stability and development to the country.

For his part, Samdech Heng Samrin said H.E. Dr. Mohammad bin Abdul Karim Al-Issa's visit showed his attention to the Cambodian Muslims, and reflected the good relations and cooperation between RABITA and the Royal Government.

The NA president further laid stress on the high attention of the Royal Government to the Muslim people in Cambodia through the harmonisation of religions, races and beliefs.

Samdech Heng Samrin also added that the Royal Government has improved the living standard and enhanced the rights of Muslim people such as establishing places of worship at public and private institutions, allowing Muslim students to wear Islamic uniform, and so on.

PM HUN SEN EXTENDS CONGRATULATIONS...

"Having gone through a long time of hardship in the cause of national liberation, unification, independence and development, I strongly believed that Cambodia and Viet Nam will continue to deepen our traditional bonds of friendship, long-lasting relations and comprehensive cooperation in many different areas

at bilateral, regional and international fora in the coming years, which in turn contribute to the maintenance of peace, stability, and sustainable development of the ASEAN Community and the world at large," underlined the Cambodian Prime Minister.

PM RE-APPEALS TO COMPATRIOTS TO GET 3RD DOSE OF COVID-19 VACCINE

Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, has expressed his concern over the possible new outbreak of COVID-19 in the country and re-insisted his compatriots to receive the booster dose or 3rd dose of COVID-19 vaccine.

“Even though Cambodia has recorded zero new infection of COVID-19 for 51 days and no new COVID-19-related death for months, it is still important to get the 3rd shot as the pandemic has not got away from us yet,” said the Prime Minister in a special voice message on 27 June 2022.

According to Samdech Techo Hun Sen, only over 9 million people have already received the 3rd jab while 5 million others not yet. At the same time, more than 2 million people obtained the 4th dose and over 200,000 the 5th dose.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen also reaffirmed that Cambodia has enough COVID-19 vaccines to administer to its people.

The Prime Minister once again urged his compatriots of all races, religious beliefs and political tendencies to get the 3rd dose, and those who already did so to receive the 4th jab and the frontliners to obtain the 5th shot to ensure their own, family and community immunity.



Samdech Techo Hun Sen asked the provincial and municipal authorities to provide favourable condition for their people to get vaccinated and to create vaccination teams to go down to villages and even houses of those who have not yet vaccinated.

The National Ad-hoc Commission for COVID-19 Vaccination and the provincial and municipal authorities are instructed to conduct a study on those who have not yet had the 3rd doses – who are they? Workers? Farmers? Where do they live? ... so that medical teams and vaccines can be deployed particularly for them.

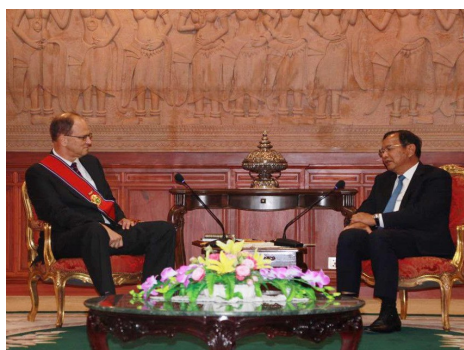
Cambodia has so far registered 136,262 confirmed cases of COVID-19, of which 133,204 have recovered, but 3,056 lost their lives.

CAMBODIA, GERMANY SATISFIED WITH FRUITFUL RELATIONSHIP

Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation H.E. Prak Sokhonn and outgoing German Ambassador H.E. Christian Berger shared satisfaction with the fruitful relations and cooperation between the two countries, during their farewell meeting on 27 June 2022.

According to H.E. Chum Sounry, Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, both sides also spoke highly of the signing of the Joint Declaration of Intent on Bilateral Consultations between the two Ministries of Foreign Affairs as well as the holding of the 1st bilateral consultations in Phnom Penh earlier this year as an encouragement in this direction. They expressed hope that it would be maintained and further enhanced.

The Cambodian top diplomat recalled the warm welcome and the meeting he had with Minister for Foreign Affairs H.E. Ms. Annalena Baerbock,



during his official visit to Germany on Feb. 23-24, 2022, in which both sides had a good discussion on the bilateral relations and some regional and international issues of common interests.

On the occasion, H.E. Prak Sokhonn, on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, conferred the highest distinction of the Royal Order of Sahametrey reserved for foreign

U.S. MULTINATIONAL WALMART TO BUY MORE PRODUCTS FROM CAMBODIA

American retail giant Walmart will increase orders of Cambodian garments and footwear products, and consider buying other products such as fruits, processed food, electronics, and furniture.

The commitment was made by Ms. Anbinh Phan, Director of Walmart's Global Government Affairs, in a virtual meeting with H.E. Ith Samheng, Minister of Labour and Vocational Training on 22 June 2022.

The two sides discussed purchase orders of products which will essentially contribute to job creation and livelihood improvement, and development of vocational training sector in the country.

H.E. Ith Samheng said the government is promoting better working conditions and social protection assistance to workers and other benefits.

On COVID-19 containment, the government prioritises free vaccination for workers, including foreign workers at factories to bring the industry back on track, he added.

Ms. Anbinh Phan underlined that the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training as well as the Royal Government of Cambodia has paid serious attention to bettering working conditions for workers and containing COVID-19 spread at workplaces. Walmart is also planning the purchase of Cambodian fruits, food products, electronics, and furniture in the future, the director added.

CAMBODIA, GERMANY...

Dignitaries, the Class of Maha Serey Wathana, on H.E. Christian Berger in recognition of his distinguished and honourable mission as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Kingdom of Cambodia.

The outgoing Ambassador expressed his pride and great pleasure with the award bestowed on him and appreciated the existing good relations between both countries. Deputy Prime Minister Prak Sokhonn thanked the Government of Germany for continued assistance to Cambodia and appreciated achievements for the benefit of the bilateral ties registered during Ambassador Christian Berger's tenure in Cambodia.

CAMBODIA ORGANISES DIPLOMATIC BRIEFING ON PREPARATION OF THE 55TH AMM AND RELATED MEETINGS



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia organised on 24 June 2022 a briefing to diplomatic missions on the preparation of the 55th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AMM) and Related Meetings.

During the briefing, H.E. Luy David, Secretary of State and Chair of the National Secretariat for the Preparation of ASEAN 2022, affirmed that H.E. Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International

Cooperation of Cambodia, as Chairman of AMM will host the 55th AMM, SEANWFZ Commission Meeting, Post Ministerial Conferences (PMC), 23rd ASEAN Plus Three Foreign Ministers' Meeting, 12th EAS Foreign Ministers' Meeting, 29th ASEAN Regional Forum, and 4 Mekong-related Ministerial Meetings (Mekong-U.S., Mekong-Japan, Mekong-ROK, and Mekong-Ganga with India) from 2-6 August 2022, in Phnom Penh.

The official Opening Ceremony of the 55th AMM will be held on 3 August 2022 at Sokha Hotel under the presidency of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Additionally, before the Opening Ceremony, there will be a Courtesy Call on the Prime Minister of Cambodia by ASEAN Foreign Ministers and ASEAN Secretary General.

ASEAN CHAIR SPECIAL ENVOY URGES RETURN OF DAW AUNG SAN SUU KYI TO HOME



Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair on Myanmar H.E. Prak Sokhonn has urged the State Administrative Council (SAC) of the Union of Myanmar to facilitate the return of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to the home in consideration of her fragile health, according to H.E. Chum Sounry, Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MFA.IC). H.E. Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia, has conveyed to the SAC the "deep concern expressed by ASEAN colleagues" with regard to the report on the the transfer of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi from the home

to a jail in Nay Pyi Taw and urged the SAC to facilitate her return to the home where she was originally detained, the spokesperson added.

"I have no doubt that the same concern resonates beyond ASEAN, considering that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is regarded internationally and by many in Myanmar as having a critical role in your country's return to normalcy and national reconciliation through a peaceful political solution," H.E. Chum Sounry quoted Deputy Prime Minister H.E. Prak Sokhonn's recent letter to H.E. Wunna Maung Lwin, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

In his capacity as the Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair on Myanmar, H.E. Prak Sokhonn continued, "I would like to echo the voice of our ASEAN colleagues in urging the State Administrative Council of Myanmar to exercise compassion and facilitate the return of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to the home where she was originally detained, in consideration of her fragile health and well-being, as well as fair and judicious practice of the rule of law."

NESTLÉ EYEING SETTING UP PLANT IN CAMBODIA

Nestlé, one of world's largest food and beverage companies, is eyeing an operation of its manufacturing in Cambodia for both domestic supply and export.

The good news was unveiled recently by H.E. Pan Sorasak, Minister of Commerce after leading a ministry's delegation for a visit to Nestlé company in Switzerland.

He explained that Cambodia has just inked bilateral free trade agreements with China and South Korea, and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (RCEP) with 10 ASEAN countries and partners including China, Japan, Korea, Australia and New Zealand; so Nestlé sees this as an opportunity for its products.

This opening was amplified by various reforms introduced by the Royal Government to better business and investment in Cambodia, he added.

Cambodia laws on quality control, safety of products and services, consumer protection, and competition are also building confidence among buyers of products from Cambodia.

ASEAN CHAIR SPECIAL ENVOY...

"We all share the view that a peaceful national reconciliation cannot be expected when one party to the conflict is taken out of the resolution equation," said the ASEAN Chair Special Envoy, underlining that "Therefore, all our ASEAN colleagues strongly encourage the State Administrative Council of Myanmar to begin an inclusive process of national reconciliation without further delay". A peaceful political resolution to a conflict, no matter how complex it is, must involve the sharing of political space by all involved, he added.

OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS: CPP WINS 1,648 COMMUNE CHIEF, 1,618 FIRST DEPUTY CHIEF AND 261 SECOND DEPUTY CHIEF POSITIONS

The ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP) earned in total 9,376 seats, including 1,648 commune/Sangkat chief, 1,618 first deputy chief and 261 second deputy chief positions, according to the official results of the 5th Commune/Sangkat Council Election being announced by the National Election Committee (NEC) on 26 June 2022.

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OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS: ...

The Candlelight Party came in second with 4 commune/Sangkat chiefs, 25 first deputies and 1,360 second deputies.

FUNCINPEC won 4 first deputy chief and 12 second deputy positions; the Khmer National United Party, 1 first deputy and 10 second deputy chief positions; the Grassroots Democratic Party and the Cambodian National Love Party, 2 first deputy chief and 2 second deputy chief positions each; the Cambodian Youth Party, 3 second deputy chief positions, the Kampucheaniym Party and the Beehive Social Democratic Party 1 second deputy chief position each.

A total of 7,394,427 people went to the polls on June 5, 2022, equivalent to 80.32 percent of eligible voters, with 7,237,037 valid ballots and 157,390 invalid ballots.

In terms of total votes, the Cambodian People's Party received 5,378,773 votes, the Candlelight Party 1,610,556 votes; the FUNCINPEC Party 9,179 votes; the Khmer National United Party 63,868 votes; the Grassroots Democratic Party 6,807 votes; the Cambodian National Love Party 33,259 votes; the Cambodian Youth Party 13,841 votes; the Kampucheaniym Party 4,856 votes; and the Beehive Social Democratic Party 2,450 votes.

The 5th Commune/Sangkat Council Election 2022 was recognised by national and international observers as free, fair, and just in a neutral, peaceful, and non-violent environment.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT WILDLIFE LAUNCHED

The Ministry of Environment and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) launched on 22 June 2022 a campaign to protect wildlife in Cambodia.

Named "Social and Behaviour Change Campaign to Protect Wildlife - Reduce Snaring, Selling/Buying and Eating Bushmeat" the campaign, the second of its kind, is a part of the Zero-Snaring Campaign, led by the Ministry of Environment in collaboration with partnered organisations and local communities.

H.E. Neth Pheaktra, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Environment, said that all Cambodians have a shared responsibility to conserve and protect precious natural resources.

"We urge Cambodians across the country to say 'No to wild meat' and to join the Royal Government's efforts in combating illegal wildlife trade as well as participate in the conservation of our Kingdom's natural resources," he stressed.

Mr. Richard Chen, Sustainable Economic Growth Office Director of USAID/Cambodia, pointed out that wildlife plays an important role in maintaining ecosystem services that benefit people and the economy.

Increasing awareness of the importance of biodiversity will encourage even more Cambodians to protect wildlife, he said.

BORAMY CONFIRMED AS WORLD'S LARGEST FRESHWATER FISH

Boramy, a giant freshwater stingray (*Urogyrnus polylepis*) discovered, tagged, and released in the Cambodian Mekong River, has been confirmed by the Guinness World Records as the world's largest fresh water fish.

According to the Guinness World Records, the female giant freshwater stingray weighed approximately 300 kilogrammes (661 lb) – about the same as a typical grizzly bear – and had a total length of 3.98 metres (13 ft) with tail included, making her longer than a pickup truck!

The phenomenal fish, also known as a whiplay, spanned 2.2 metres (7 ft 2 in), meaning that if she were placed on a ping-pong table, her outer "wings" would overhang each side by a foot (30 cm).

The record-breaking ray, which is an endangered species, was named Boramy ("full moon" in the Khmer language), owing to both her rounded disc-like shape and the early-evening time of her release.

For Mr. Zeb Hogan, a fish biologist at the University of Nevada, Reno who leads the Wonders of the Mekong, the stingray find is evidence that the natural world can still yield new and extraordinary discoveries, and that many of the largest aquatic creatures remain woefully understudied.

"In 20 years of researching giant fish in rivers and lakes on six continents, this is the largest freshwater fish that we've encountered or that's been documented anywhere worldwide," Mr. Hogan, who is also the host of National Geographic's "Monster Fish" television series, said. "This is an absolutely astonishing discovery, and justifies efforts to better understand the mysteries surrounding this species and the incredible stretch of river where it lives."

The stingray was caught on 13 June 2022 by a fisher south of the town of Stung Treng, in the middle stretches of the Mekong River as it runs through northern Cambodia. Recognising the importance of his catch, the fisher quickly contacted a team from the USAID-funded Wonders of the Mekong research project to help release the ray back into the river.

In collaboration with the Cambodian Fisheries Administration, the Wonders of the Mekong project established a network of fishers who agreed to report catches of giant and endangered fish, including stingrays. Last month, fishers in the same area reported to the team that they had caught a 400-pound giant female stingray, which the research team then helped release safely into the depths of the river.

Freshwater fish are defined as those that have spent their entire lives in freshwater, as opposed to giant marine species like bluefin tuna and marlin, or fish that migrate between fresh and saltwater like the huge beluga sturgeon.

