



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING



**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

PRESS RELEASE

Cambodia, UK Hopeful Relationship Will Be Further Enhanced

His Excellency Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and H.E. Dominic Williams, Ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Kingdom of Cambodia, in a meeting on 12 January 2022, expressed optimism the existing excellent relations and cooperation between both countries will be further strengthened and broadened.

Deputy PM Prak Sokhonn recalled the visit of His Excellency Dominic Raab, then UK Foreign Secretary, in June 2021 that showed the importance the UK placed on relationship with Cambodia and the region. He thanked the UK for its assistance to the country, including on socio-economic development, mine clearance, scholarships to Cambodians, fight against COVID-19. Ambassador Williams congratulated Cambodia for its peace, stability and development and both the Deputy PM and the Envoy expressed their delight with the state of affairs in the bilateral relations.

Deputy PM Prak Sokhonn and Ambassador Williams welcomed the increasing bilateral trade volume and shared hope the negotiation on the draft MoU on Trade between the two countries will be concluded soon to further boost it. They noted with pleasure the successful sessions of Cambodia-UK Human Rights Dialogue and had the same views to continue it to further enhance mutual understanding. The Deputy PM and the Ambassador touched on possible events to be organized by both nations to celebrate this year the 70th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between the two countries, which is a good opportunity to boost the bilateral relationship. Deputy PM Prak Sokhonn referred to the outcomes of the Dialogue on Human Rights and suggested to upgrade this Dialogue to Political Consultations, especially in this year

to mark the above-mentioned meaningful event. Deputy PM Prak Sokhonn and Ambassador Williams also discussed ways to promote bilateral cooperation on various fields, including trade, energy transition, climate change, education and defense.

In the ASEAN-UK framework, Deputy PM Prak Sokhonn renewed congratulations to the UK for becoming ASEAN's Dialogue Partner and looked forward to work closely with the Kingdom to advance this partnership. He noted with satisfaction the success of the first ASEAN-UK Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) in August in Phnom Penh and his productive discussion then with The Rt. Hon. Amanda Milling, Minister for Asia at the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office. Ambassador Williams praised Cambodia for its successful ASEAN Chairmanship and its "fantastic job" in ensuring the smooth process of all meetings hosted by the country.

Deputy PM Prak Sokhonn and Ambassador Williams also exchanged views on regional and international developments and shared the stance on the respects for international laws, UN Charter and the sovereignty of independent's states. 

Phnom Penh, 12 January 2023