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CAMBODIA LAUNCHES NATIONAL SINGLE WINDOW



The Royal Government of Cambodia launched here on 7 May the National Single Window (NSW) to contribute to bettering business environment, promoting trade, and enhancing the country's economic growth.

Addressing the official launching event of NSW, Samdech Thipadei Hun Manet said the NSW will further tighten Cambodia's competitiveness and resilience for trade and investment.

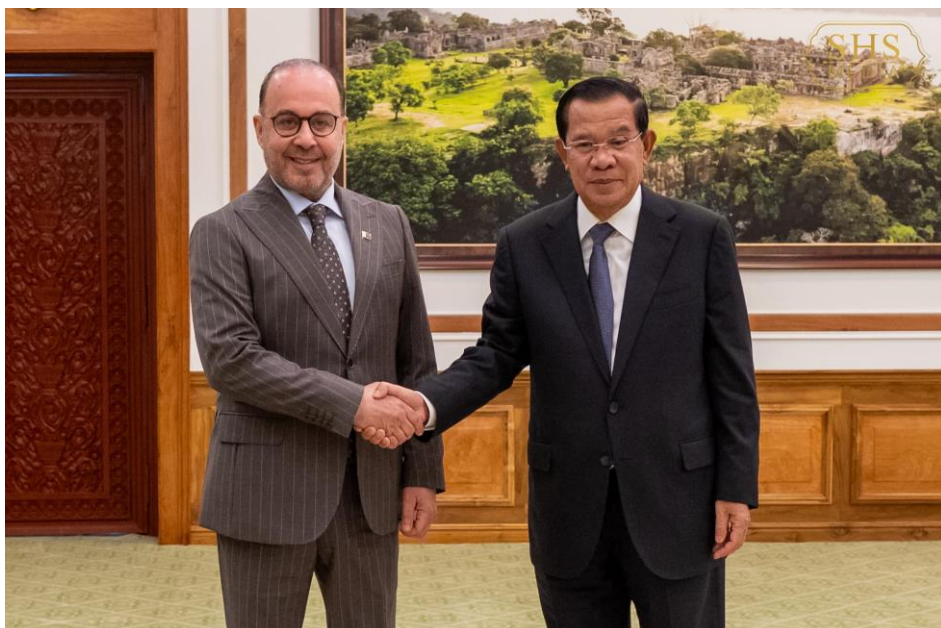
Samdech Thipadei Hun Manet encouraged all state institutions to join the NSW as now there are only 16 institutions.

"This is the most important goal of the Royal Government as NSW will further strengthen the government-to-government, government-to-business and business-to-business cooperation," he underlined.

H.E. Dr. Aun Pornmoniroth, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Economy and Finance said the US\$3.4 million NSW project will allow the exporters-importers to apply for a license, a permit, a certificate, and other documents required for the export-import of goods to the competent ministries and institutions only once in order to receive the authorisation to be used in the fulfillment of customs clearance form through electronic mean.

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SENATE PRESIDENT ASKS QATAR TO OPEN EMBASSY IN CAMBODIA AND RECONNECT FLIGHTS



President of the Senate of Cambodia, Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, called on 8 May the Qatari side to open an embassy in Cambodia and reconnect flight between the two nations to further enhance trade, investment, and tourism.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen made the request when he received a courtesy call from H.E. Khalid Ali Abdullah Abel, Ambassador to the State of Qatar to Cambodia.

Qatar is a rich nation; therefore, she should open an embassy here rather than a residence in another country, he said, recalling the establishment of diplomatic relations between both countries since 2008 when Prime Minister of Qatar paid a visit to Cambodia.

On the occasion, Samdech Techo Hun Sen also laid stress on Qatar's relations with ASEAN as Qatar signed the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation when Cambodia held the ASEAN chairmanship in 2022.

The Cambodian senate president reminded that Qatar should resume Qatar Airlines' flights after being suspended since the COVID-19 outbreak to allow people-to-people contacts as well as bring visitors from the Middle East and Europe to Cambodia, and brings visitors from Cambodia and the ASEAN region back to Qatar.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen encouraged Qatar to consider the possibility to sign a bilateral free trade agreement, as Cambodia has done with China, Republic of Korea, and Saudi Arabia.

For his part, H.E. Khalid Ali Abdullah Abel pledged to do his best to bring the diplomatic relations between the two nations to a higher level and expand the bilateral relations mainly in the field of food security as Cambodia is a food producing country.

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PM HIGHLIGHTS CAMBODIA'S VISION TO BECOME AUTO PART AND ELECTRONIC COMPONENT PRODUCTION HUB

Cambodia has a vision to become a hub for the production of auto parts and electronic components for export to regional and global markets, which will bring many positive results for the country's socio-economic development.

The vision was shared by Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei Hun Manet, Prime Minister of Cambodia, while presiding over the official inauguration ceremony of the US\$36.8 million Toyota assembly plant in Royal Group Phnom Penh Special Economic Zone on 2 May.

To achieve the vision of the Roadmap for the Automotive and Electronics Sectors Development, Cambodia has identified priority measures in five areas: inter-institutional coordination strategy, human resources and innovation, infrastructure, trade facilitation, and business and investment environment, he said.

The Premier added that the inauguration of Toyota assembly plant in the Royal Group Phnom Penh Special Economic Zone is another important contribution of the private sector in the industrial development as well as the national economy through participation in boosting diversification, modernising industrial sector, as well as providing opportunities and promoting more skilled work for Cambodians.

According to Samdech Thipadei Hun Manet, the vision of the 7th-mandate Royal Government is to encourage the modification and modernisation of the industrial structure in Cambodia from labour-intensive industry to skills-based industry in accordance with the Cambodia Industrial Development Policy 2015-2025 to contribute to the creation of high value-added supporting high, sustainable and inclusive economic growth, job creation, income increase, and better living standards.

SENATE PRESIDENT ASKS QATAR ...

The ambassador also promised to encourage investors from Qatar to Cambodia and vice versa to study the possibility of investment cooperation. He also mentioned the areas of interest for Qatar investors such as oil, gas, infrastructure, hospital and airport construction, and so on.

CAMBODIA LAUNCHES NATIONAL SINGLE ...

At the same time, he added, NSW is also connected to the ASEAN Single Window for the electronic exchange of the Certificate of Origin, the ASEAN Customs Declaration Document and other international trade-related documents with ASEAN members and ASEAN dialogue partners.

The Royal Government has announced its commitment to develop this new system to support trade facilitation policies in line with international agreements and international best practices, especially with ASEAN and the World Trade Organisation, said H.E. Dr. Aun Pornmoniroth, also Head of the NSW leading Committee.

CAMBODIAN TOP DIPLOMAT WELCOMES ADVANCES IN CAMBODIA-U.S. TIES



Deputy Prime Minister H.E. SOK Chenda Sophea, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, has commended advances in relations and cooperation between Cambodia and the United States and highly appreciated the remarkable contributions by U.S. Ambassador H.E. W. Patrick Murphy and his team.

The Cambodian DPM made the remarks during the Ambassador's farewell call at the ministry

in Phnom Penh on May 8, according to a news release of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation issued.

H.E. SOK Chenda Sophea also congratulated H.E. Ambassador on receiving as a token of his endeavours the highest distinction of the Royal Order of Sahametrey, Class of Maha Sereywath, from Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister.

The two sides noted with satisfaction positive developments in bilateral relations including exchanges of visits between top leaders as well as partnerships and cooperation in health, education, culture and antiquities conservation, people-to-people ties, demining, Americans missing in action in Cambodia, and combating COVID-19.

H.E. Deputy Prime Minister expressed sincere appreciation for U.S. assistance contributing significantly to the development of Cambodia. H.E. Ambassador thanked the Royal Government for its cooperation and support for his activities and the Embassy's programmes, and highly valued the strengthening and expanding of good relations during his mission in Cambodia.

The two sides also discussed future cooperation as Cambodia assumes the role of country coordinator for ASEAN-U.S. Dialogue Relations under a new three-year cycle.

H.E. SOK Chenda Sophea looks forward to welcoming the new U.S. Ambassador to Cambodia and enjoying the same level of cooperation and support.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, A KEY TOOL TO PROMOTE TRADE, NEW BUSINESSES AND FDI



Intellectual property is an essential tool for promoting trade in goods and services, new businesses and micro, small and medium enterprises, and foreign direct investment (FDI) through value added, commercialisation, creation of source of finance, innovation promotion, and research and development through technology transfer.

The remarks were made by H.E. Mrs. Cham Nimul, Minister of Commerce and Chair of the National Committee for Intellectual Property, while she and H.E. Hem Vandy, Minister of Industry, Science, Technology & Innovation, were presiding over the World Intellectual Property Day 2024, at Hyatt Regency Phnom Penh on April 30.

The commerce minister also requested all stakeholders to work together to prevent intellectual property infringement, which is an obstacle to innovation, and strongly hoped that the Intellectual Property Day 2024 will continue to cultivate a common spirit in promoting awareness raising campaigns, which is closely linked to the people’s lives and benefits all areas of society.

For his part, H.E. Hem Vandy spoke highly of the World Intellectual Property Day, saying that it serves as an important platform to raise awareness about intellectual property, technological advancement and innovation among the public, especially innovators, researchers, and students.

At the end of the celebration, H.E. Mrs. Cham Nimul and H.E. Hem Vandy presided over the launching ceremony of five intellectual property-related projects, including: 1) Inclusive Growth



Project: Promoting Cambodian Entrepreneurs with Disabilities through Intellectual Property Education and Business Branding, (2) Project for Skill-based Learning and Mentoring for Design School, (3) Launch of IP Web Application, (4) Launch of Distance Learning Platform on Intellectual Property, and (5) Launch of Intellectual Property Analysis Programme for Business.

This year’s celebration of the World Intellectual Property Day 2024 was held under the theme “IP and SDGs: Building our common future with innovation and creativity.”

SINGLE PORTAL REGISTERS 35,829 BUSINESSES WITH INVESTMENT VALUE OF US\$10.77 BILLION

A total of 35,829 businesses with US\$10.22 billion capital have been registered via Online Business Registration platform, known as the Single Portal-Phase 1 as of May 5, an official report showed.

The Single Portal has reserved 19,094 company names, read the report, adding that two company applications have been rejected.

Construction sector tops the list, accounting for 10.8 percent of the total investment, followed by real estate 10.14 percent, accommodation service 9.5 percent,

EMIRATES AIRLINES RECONNECTS FLIGHT WITH PHNOM PENH

Emirates, the largest airline in the Middle East, reconnected its flight with Cambodia's Phnom Penh capital through Singapore on May 1.

H.E. Dr. Mao Havannal, Minister in Charge of State Secretariat of Civil Aviation, hailed the Emirates flight resumption with Phnom Penh and was optimistic of increasing arrivals of both tourists and investors from the United Arab Emirates as well as the Middle East at large.

Emirates Executive Vice President for Passenger Sales and Country Management Mr. Nabil Sultan said that Cambodia's rich cultural heritage and growing economy make the country an attractive destination for travel and business.

Emirates' Singapore-Phnom Penh air route can also support trade and commerce as well as import and export among Singapore, Cambodia, and the United Arab Emirates, he added.

CEO of Cambodia Airports Mr. Cyril Girot sees the move as an opportunity for travellers into and out of Cambodia to the Middle East that will further enhance their travel experience.

Emirates launched its first flight from Dubai to Phnom Penh in 2017 and suspended its operation in 2021 due to COVID-19.

consulting service 5.72 percent, manufacturing 5.49 percent, and mixed sector 58.26 percent, the source stated.

Registration businesses managed by women represented 38 percent of the total businesses, it pointed out.

The establishment of the Online Business Registration System has so far contributed to reducing procedures, time, and cost in business registration and provided convenience in setting up private sector’s legal businesses in Cambodia, the Ministry of Economy and Finance said.

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AIRASIA CAMBODIA DEBUTS, HERALDING NEW CHAPTER FOR CAMBODIA TRAVEL AND ASEAN INTEGRATION



AirAsia Aviation Group announced the commencement of its fifth airline, AirAsia Cambodia (flight code KT), marking a significant step forward not just in the country’s aviation landscape but strengthening ASEAN as a vibrant aviation hub.

AirAsia Cambodia is poised to commence its operations today, May 2, 2024 following the handover of its Air Operator’s Certificate (AOC) on May 1.

With an initial fleet of two Airbus A320s, the airline will operate from the bustling hub of Phnom Penh International Airport (PNH), connecting travellers to the iconic cities of Siem Reap and Sihanoukville, and beyond through hubs in Kuala Lumpur and Bangkok.

The start of the new airline represents an important milestone for the AirAsia Group as it recently announced its “ONE Airline” strategy, the firm said in a press release.

AirAsia Cambodia is now well-positioned to become a formidable force in low-cost air travel across the country and beyond, leveraging the group’s core strength to drive customer and operational excellence for sustained growth and profitability.

H.E. Mao Havannall, Minister in Charge of State Secretariat of Civil Aviation said that the

launch of AirAsia Cambodia marks a pivotal moment in our aviation history, symbolising a commitment to accessibility and connectivity.

“As a bridge between people and cultures, this airline not only fosters economic growth and tourism but also embodies the spirit of ASEAN collaboration. With its focus on affordability and connectivity, AirAsia Cambodia embodies the potential for a brighter future for the country’s aviation industry,” he said.

Mr. Tony Fernandes, Advisor and Steward of AirAsia Aviation Group said that Cambodia’s economic growth trajectory and increasing integration into the global economy position it as a key player in the region’s development landscape.

“The wealth of opportunities presents in Cambodia, a country with huge economic potential is truly compelling given its strategic location within the ASEAN region,” he said.

As a group, AirAsia serves a total of six routes into Cambodia from Kuala Lumpur and Bangkok, carrying 1.3 million guests into the Kingdom historically. AirAsia Cambodia will be announcing its international destinations in the next quarter following a careful assessment of demand and market dynamics.

SINGLE PORTAL REGISTERS ...



The increase in business registration reflects the reopening of the country, the resumption of all kinds of socio-economic activities under the effective government’s policies, said Mr. Lim Heng, Vice President of the Cambodian Chamber of Commerce.

“Registration via online platform contributes to facilitating the process of business registration and to build investors’ confidence in doing business in Cambodia,” he underlined.

Launched on June 15, 2020, the Single Portal-Phase 1 integrates business registration with the Ministry of Commerce, tax registration with the General Department of Taxation, and the issuance of enterprise openings at the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training.

The phase 2 was officially launched on Sept. 1, 2021 and the phase 3 in June 2023.