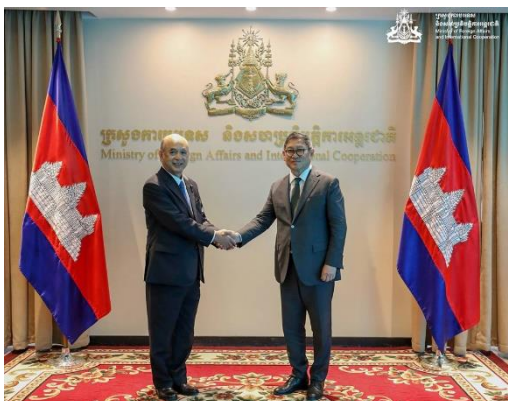


# VISIONS of CAMBODIA

ISSUE 135: 16 – 30 June 2024

## CAMBODIA, JAPAN STRENGTHEN COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation H.E. SOK Chenda Sophea received on June 28 visiting H.E. TSUGE Yoshifumi, Japan State Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The ministers expressed their mutual desire to reinforce the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership established between the two nations in 2023, said a press release of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and

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## CAMBODIA-UK LAUNCHED INVESTMENT AND TRADE CONFERENCE

On 28 June 2024 H.E. Dr. Sok Siphana, Senior Minister in Charge of Special Missions and Chairman of the Private Sector Working Committee, led a Cambodian delegation to the Investment and Trade Conference at KPMG Company's headquarter in London.

In the keynote address and presentations by His Excellency Dr. Sok Siphana as well as other speakers, they highlighted the favorable environment for investment in Cambodia, which include the strategic location to get

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## CAMBODIA, SINGAPORE MULL OVER DEEPER ECONOMIC COOPERATION



As Singapore was ranked the third largest foreign investor in Cambodia between 2018 and 2023, both countries' leaders have mulled over deeper economic and trade cooperation.

The commitment was underscored during the official visit of Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei Hun Manet, Prime Minister of Cambodia, to Singapore from June 18-19, 2024.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation said this official visit was concluded with fruitful outcomes.

On fostering trade and investment, Samdech Thipadei Hun Manet and his Singaporean counterpart H.E. Lawrence Wong highlighted the fact that Singapore is among the largest investors in Cambodia and the complementary nature of the two economies.

The two Prime Ministers agreed to encourage relevant public and private entities of both countries to jointly identify potential areas for win-win cooperation, starting with food production and supplies.

On people-to-people exchanges, both leaders expressed satisfaction with the increase of direct flights to 50 per week and the growing number of travellers between Cambodia and Singapore. They shared the view that encouraging tourism flow, including those from third countries is another area to be intensified.

On energy and climate change, the two Prime Ministers applauded the fruitful outcome of the first working group meeting, co-chaired by the Energy Ministers of Cambodia, Singapore, and the Lao PDR on May 29, 2024, to facilitate cross-border electricity trade. They shared resolve to leverage the success of this project to drive the development of the ASEAN Power Grid. They were pleased with the progress on carbon credit cooperation in line with Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, and look forward to the signing of the implementation agreement at an early date.

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## CAMBODIA'S FIRST SOCIAL MEDIA APP LAUNCHED



A group of Cambodian IT professionals have launched the first Cambodian social media application.

On his social media networks on 21 June, Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, President of the Senate, mentioned that

the first ever Cambodian social media application is called CoolApp.

"CoolApp, Cambodia's first Chat social media application with the same standard as Telegram and WhatsApp, is now available on the App Store and Play Store," he said.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen, a leader known for his support and openness to social media usage, said CoolApp was developed by many Cambodians who have been IT professionals for more than three years since 2021 and has just been released recently.

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## CAMBODIA, SINGAPORE MULL OVER DEEPER ...

The two Prime Ministers emphasized the growing importance of ICT and digital technology cooperation. They jointly witnessed and applauded the official launch of the Financial Transparency Corridor initiative by the National Bank of Cambodia and the Monetary Authority of Singapore, which aims to establish supporting digital infrastructures to facilitate trade and financial access for SMEs in Cambodia and Singapore.

According to the National Bank of Cambodia, from 2018 to 2023, Cambodia attracted a total of US\$48.4 billion in foreign direct investment, while Singapore is the third largest investor, behind China and South Korea.

## CAMBODIA-UK LAUNCHED INVESTMENT ...



access to the market of 600 million consumers, young labor force and competitive labor cost, young dynamic & pro-business leadership, and favorable legal framework among others.

The conference with more than 100 participants from governments of both countries, private

sectors, chamber of commerce, and major UK companies were aimed at enhancing economic relations, increasing trade between the two countries, and attracting more UK investment to the Kingdom.

## CAMBODIA, JAPAN STRENGTHEN ...

International Cooperation, pointed out that their discussions covered various bilateral, regional, and international issues, with a focus on enhancing cooperation and attracting more Japanese investments to Cambodia.

H.E. TSUGE Yoshifumi expressed his delight at witnessing the rapid development and evolving landscape of Cambodia. He praised the Kingdom of Cambodia for its significant efforts and achievements in recent years, underscoring the potential for further collaboration and growth.

The Deputy Prime Minister and the state minister reaffirmed their commitment to implementing the agreements under the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, emphasizing the importance of continued cooperation. H.E. SOK Chenda Sophea extended his gratitude to Japan for its longstanding assistance, which includes support in infrastructure development, human resource development, legal advancements, and demining.

H.E. SOK Chenda Sophea highlighted the significance of human resource development and celebrated the enriching history of Cambodia-Japan relations. He noted H.E. TSUGE Yoshifumi's participation in the ASCOJA (ASEAN Council of Japan Alumni) meeting earlier in the morning, which underscored the shared commitment to educational and professional development. They agreed on the critical role of digital transformation in this new era and discussed strategies to attract more Japanese investors to the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Additionally, H.E. SOK Chenda Sophea outlined the Royal Government of Cambodia's Pentagonal Strategies, highlighting the government's approach to achieving sustainable and inclusive growth.

According to the press release, the meeting concluded with both parties expressing optimism about the future of Cambodia-Japan relations and their shared vision for mutual prosperity and development.

## CAMBODIA VOICES SUPPORT FOR A "SIX-POINT CONSENSUS ON COMMON UNDERSTANDING ON POLITICAL SETTLEMENT OF THE UKRAINE CRISIS"

Cambodia stands in support of the "Six-Point Consensus on Common Understandings on the Ukraine Crisis" jointly issued by the People's Republic of China and Brazil on May 23, 2024.

H.E. Chum Sounry, Secretary of State and Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation underlined Cambodia's stance in a statement released on 28 June 2024.

The spokesperson explained that the contents of this document is apt to address the actual situation, which must emphasize four key priorities: (1) Preventing the escalation of tensions and creating a conducive environment for dialogue that requires the participation of Ukraine and Russia (2) Averting further deterioration of the humanitarian crises (3) Avoiding a nuclear crisis, and (4) Increasing efforts to improve food security, energy and supply chain stability.

The China-Brazil's Six-Point Consensus includes:

1. The two sides call on all relevant parties to observe three principles for deescalating the situation, namely no expansion of the battlefield, no escalation of fighting and no provocation by any party.
2. The two sides believe that dialogue and negotiation are the only viable solution to the Ukraine crisis. All parties should create conditions for the resumption of direct dialogue and push for the de-escalation of the situation until the realisation of a comprehensive ceasefire. China and Brazil support an international peace conference held at a proper time that is recognised by both Russia and Ukraine, with equal participation of all parties as well as fair discussion of all peace plans.
3. Efforts are needed to increase humanitarian assistance to relevant regions and prevent a humanitarian crisis on a larger scale. Attacks on civilians or civilian facilities must be avoided, and civilians including women and children

and prisoners of war (POWs) must be protected. The two sides support the exchange of POWs between the parties to the conflict.

4. The use of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons and chemical and biological weapons must be opposed. All possible efforts must be made to prevent nuclear proliferation and avoid nuclear crisis.
5. Attacks on nuclear power plants and other peaceful nuclear facilities must be opposed. All parties should comply with international law including the Convention on Nuclear Safety and resolutely prevent man-made nuclear accidents.
6. Dividing the world into isolated political or economic groups should be opposed. The two sides call for efforts to enhance international cooperation on energy, currency, finance, trade, food security and the security of critical infrastructure, including oil and gas pipelines, undersea optical cables, electricity and energy facilities, and fiber-optic networks, so as to protect the stability of global industrial and supply chains.

## KAMPOT INTERNATIONAL TOURISM PORT TO START OPERATION IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF THIS YEAR

The Kampot International Tourism Port, operated by local firm AZ Builders Co., Ltd., will temporarily open by the third quarter of 2024.

The agreement on the port's operation and maintenance was signed on June 28 between H.E. Peng Ponea, Minister of Public Works and Transport, and Mr. Lim Bunsur, Chairman of AZ Builders Co., Ltd.

"The firm has to prepare for trial port operation in the third quarter of this year and the official commencement will be in the fourth quarter," the ministry said in a

## CAMBODIA'S FIRST SOCIAL MEDIA...

The Cambodian former prime minister added that CoolApp has many functions including chat and call and video call following international standards. Data and call data are encrypted and secure using Internet Local (Dix) which makes calls sound clear while pictures and videos are sent rapidly.

"CoolApp is the pride of our nation. It is the first-ever Cambodian programmed used within the Cambodian security domain," stressed Samdech Techo Hun Sen.

## ANGKOR WAT RANKED AMONG THE 25 BEST TOURIST ATTRACTIONS IN THE WORLD



Angkor Wat Temple of Cambodia was ranked 12th among the 25 Best Tourist Attractions in the World, according to Tripadvisor's Traveler's Choice Awards 2024.

"Angkor Wat is a world wonder—and it's not hard to see why. Explore the UNESCO World Heritage Site and admire its architecture and intricate carvings. Many people visit at sunrise, so make sure to set your alarm to snag a spot. The guided tour is also worthwhile as you'll hear the stories and significance behind the landmark," said the source.

The Ministry of Tourism extended congratulations to this world recognition for Angkor Wat, underlining, "Cambodia's ancient temples

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## CIFF BECOMES THE LARGEST FILM EVENT IN ASEAN



Cambodia International Film Festival (CIFF) has become the largest film event in Cambodia and in the ASEAN region, said H.E. Dr. Phoeurng Sackona, Cambodian Minister of Culture and Fine Arts at the opening ceremony of the CIFF 2024, held at Chaktomuk Theatre in Phnom Penh on June 25.

This year, nearly 200 films (short and feature films, documentaries and animations) from 41 countries will be shown at many screening venues in Phnom Penh during the five-day event, she added.

H.E. Minister also laid stress on the CIFF’s important role in creating a rich and vibrant film environment in Cambodia, as well as on its significant contribution to the promotion of the Kingdom of Cambodia as a land for national and international filmmaking.

This annual event also helps promote Cambodia's reputation on the international stage in the context of peace, political stability, and physical infrastructure development under the Win-Win policy, H.E. Dr. Phoeurng Sackona underlined.

As the Honorary Patron of the CIFF 2024, H.E. Mrs. Chea Serey, Governor of the National Bank of Cambodia, encouraged everyone to seize this unique opportunity to watch such a vast selection of movies made available to the public throughout Cambodian cinemas.

“Movies make us dream, cry, laugh, think, and experience all kinds of feelings: Cinema is an art. Let’s take this opportunity to enjoy it as much as we can!” she said on her Facebook page.

The CIFF 2024, the 13th of its kind, taking place from June 25 to 30, is aimed not only to present other cultures, and exchange ideas, but also to be a crossroad for young and more experienced film professionals to expose their work.

Hosted by the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, the CIFF event was organised by the Cambodia Film Commission and the Bophana Centre, in partnership with major film industry players, theatres, sponsors and filmmakers.

## KAMPOT INTERNATIONAL TOURISM PORT TO START OPERATION IN ...

press release issued upon the signing ceremony.

H.E. Pong Ponea said that under the agreement, AZ Builders Co., Ltd. will cooperate with his ministry and relevant ministries and institutions in efficiently implementing the agreement for the national and firm’s interests.

Located in one of the country’s coastal provinces, the port will become an important international

waterway for transporting tourists to the southern islands and connecting Kampot province to the world, boosting the local tourism sector.

The port, whose construction started in 2018 and completed in 2022, is part of a “Tourism Infrastructure Development Project” with a US\$10 million financial support from the Asian Development Bank.

## ANGKOR WAT RANKED AMONG THE ...



amaze travelers from around the world with their magnificent architecture, luxurious sculptures, and rich history.”

Built in the 12th century by King Suryavarman II (1112-1152AD), Angkor Wat Temple is the largest religious monument in the world and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Last year, the temple was crowned the eighth wonder of the world by beating Italy’s Pompeii, said the Time of India Travel, indicating that Eighth Wonder of the World is an unofficial title given to new buildings or projects or designs, among others.

The Empire State Building in New York City, the United States of America was crowned the best tourist destination in the world by Tripadvisor, followed by the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France and Anne Frank House in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

In Asia, there are the Gardens by the Bay of Singapore, Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque Centre of the United Arab Emirates, Mutianyu Great Wall of China, Taj Mahal of India, Petra of Jordan, and Fushimi Inari-taisha Shrine of Japan that won the 8th, 10th, 19th, 22nd, 23rd, 24th places, respectively.