



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Department of Southeast Asia

PRESS RELEASE

Cambodia, Laos to strengthen Comprehensive and Long-Lasting Strategic Partnership

At the invitation of **His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath NORODOM SIHAMONI**, King of Cambodia, **His Excellency Thongloun SISOULITH**, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, led a high-level delegation to pay a state visit to the Kingdom of Cambodia from 23 to 24 April 2024.

During the visit, **His Excellency the President** laid wreaths at the Independence Monument and the Royal Memorial Statue of **His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah NORODOM SIHANOUK**, **Preah Borom Ratanak Kaudh**, the late King Father of Cambodia. **His Excellency the President** had a royal audience with **His Majesty** at the Royal Palace and held separate meetings with **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN Sen**, President of the Senate, **Samdech Moha Rathsapheathika Thipadei KHUON Sudary**, President of the National Assembly, and **Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei HUN Manet**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

His Excellency the President presented **His Majesty** with a photo of a pair of elephants, a male and a female, as a symbol of the long-standing fraternal relations and strong bonds of friendship between the two countries, which **His Majesty** gratefully accepted. The pair of elephants will be handed-over after completion of the necessary procedures.

Samdech Thipadei and **His Excellency the President** encouraged relevant authorities to continue strengthening bilateral cooperation in all fields including politics, border affairs, security and defense, economy, energy, and connectivity. The two leaders also discussed multilateral cooperation to ensure peace and prosperity for the two countries, contributing to harmony and development in the region.



His Excellency the President expressed deep appreciation for Cambodia's generosity in providing a contribution of USD 1 million to support the Lao chairmanship of ASEAN during the official visit of **Samdech Thipadei** to Lao PDR last month.

On security and defense, the two sides agreed to strengthen cooperation and joint efforts in security-related issues among relevant authorities in border areas, especially in preventing and combating transnational crime.

On border affairs, the two leaders highly valued the exchange of instruments of ratification and the signing of the minutes on the exchange of instruments of ratification of the Treaty on Delimitation of Borders between Cambodia and Laos during the official visit of **Samdech Thipadei** to Lao PDR. The two sides agreed to settle the remaining 14 percent of the border segments in a peaceful manner to build a frontier of peace, friendship, and cooperation.

On connectivity, both sides agreed to urge relevant authorities to expedite site selection for a bridge across the Ropou River in Cambodia and Selampao in Laos to facilitate the movement of people, trade, investment and tourism between the two countries.

On energy cooperation, Cambodia expressed appreciation to Laos for supplying electricity to Cambodia, contributing to its socio-economic development. The two sides encouraged Cambodian and Lao authorities to effectively implement agreements and memoranda of understanding related to energy cooperation including a new agreement on energy cooperation between the two governments, memoranda of understanding on green power purchases and a feasibility study for a transmission line to Cambodia, which were signed during **Samdech Thipadei's** visit to Lao PDR.

In addition to the state visit, **His Excellency Thongloun SISOULITH** attended the 14th Summit of the Cambodian People's Party and the Lao People's Revolutionary Party.

His Excellency the President expressed sincere appreciation for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements accorded to him and his delegation during the visit to Cambodia.

Phnom Penh, 25 April 2024

