



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Department of Information

Press Release

**Outcomes of the participation of H.E. Deputy Prime Minister Prak Sokhonn,
Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation,
in the 73rd United Nations General Assembly**

From 24 to 28 September 2018, during the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly, H.E. Deputy Prime Minister Prak Sokhonn, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and delegation of the Ministry participated in various high-level meetings as follow:

Special Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the member-states of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) (24 September 2018)

- At the Meeting, Cambodia congratulated the Republic of Tajikistan who assumed the chairmanship of CICA for the term 2018-2020.
- Cambodia pushed for enhancement of efforts to support the CICA Action Plan for Implementation of UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy which was approved by the Senior Officials Committee held in Siem Reap, Cambodia on 24 November 2017.
- Cambodia also proposed consideration on the possibility of discussing and bringing a new trade facilitation agenda into the CICA framework.

The Nelson Mandela Peace Summit (24 September 2018)

- The Summit was held to honor the centenary of the birth of Nelson Mandela in accordance to the Resolution 72/243 adopted by the General Assembly on 22 December 2017 to pay tribute to the legacy of Nelson Mandela who had spent his



entire life tirelessly fighting for democracy and promoting the culture of peace throughout the world.

- Cambodia and other Member states adopted the Political Declaration expressing commitment “to demonstrating mutual respect, tolerance, understanding and reconciliation in our relations” and “recognized the period 2019 and 2028 as the Nelson Mandela Decade of Peace”.

High-Level Meeting on Financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (24 September 2018)

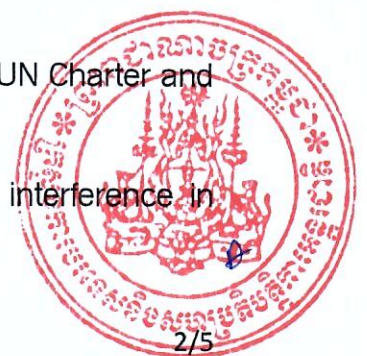
- The meeting highlighted the Secretary-General’s new strategy to support Financing the 2030 Agenda which appeals for action to achieve three objectives: aligning global financial and economic policies with the 2030 Agenda, enhance sustainable financial strategies at the regional and country levels, and exploit the potential of financial innovations, new technologies and digitalization to provide equitable access to finance.

High-level meeting on Action for Peacekeeping, A4P (25 September 2018)

- The Meeting marks the seventieth anniversary of United Nations peace operations.
- In his speech, the United Nations Secretary-General recalled his visit to the Central African Republic where he laid a wreath in memory of Cambodian and Moroccan peacekeepers who were killed there.
- As an active contributor to global peacekeeping operations, Cambodia expressed support for “the Action for Peacekeeping Initiative” which aims to make the peacekeeping missions stronger and safer and to mobilize greater political support for well-equipped, well-trained forces. To date Cambodia is among a total number of 146 countries that have supported the Declaration of Shared Commitments on UN Peacekeeping Operations.

Ministerial Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement (26 September 2018)

- Cambodia jointly adopted a political declaration on “Upholding the UN Charter and the NAM Purposes and Principles: Toward a Culture of Peace”.
- Cambodia raised concern about the growing rampant domestic interference in defiance of the UN Charter.



- Cambodia also drew attention to the 20 years peace that Cambodia has achieved which is the longest peace it has ever had in modern history. Cambodia's peace culture can only be sustained through national reconciliation and promotion of win-win mentality that puts national and people's interest at the core. Therefore, it appealed for respect of sovereignty, promotion of friendly coexistence and win-win cooperation among people and nations because foreign interference has never been a factor for sustainable peace.

Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries (26 September 2018)

- Cambodia welcomed Malawi as the new chair of LDCs. It also welcomed the establishment of the Technology Bank for the LDCs in Turkey in June 2018.
- Cambodia called all relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries (IPoA) to overcome the structural challenges faced by the LDCs in order to eradicate poverty and to achieve sustainable development goals.
- Cambodia raised concern on uncertainty for LDCs due to the scaling back of special preference schemes, including loans, grants and development packages that may jeopardize any attainments in economic growth while acknowledging the need for LDCs to take ownership for graduation preparation.

42nd Annual Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 (27 September 2018)

- Cambodia joined other members to congratulate Palestine for being elected to lead the G77 in 2019.
- The Meeting adopted Ministerial Declaration and discussed about issues related to youth employment and productive capacities.
- Cambodia underlined that investing in education contributes to sustainable peace globally. Through the national Education Strategic Plan, it has achieved near universal access to primary education while steadily increasing gender parity. It also raised about the importance of computer literacy in providing career and professional development opportunities, for young people across the globe in today's digital age.



5th ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Ministerial Meeting (26 September 2018)

- The Meeting noted the progress in the implementation of ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Work Plan 2017-2018 and agreed to extend the timeline of the Work Plan to December 2019.
- The Meeting shared the view on the need to strengthening cooperation in digital connectivity and physical connectivity, including direct air linkages between the two regions, promoting awareness of people of the two regions, and supporting Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSMEs). Furthermore, the Meeting also stressed the importance in promoting complementarity between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the Pacific Alliance's Strategic Vision 2030.

ASEAN- Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Ministerial Meeting (27 September 2018)

- The Meeting agreed to work towards the finalization of the ASEAN-GCC Framework of Cooperation for 2019-2023.
- The Meeting shared the views on the need to revitalize the ASEAN-GCC 6 sectoral body working groups, namely trade and investment; education; culture and information; food security and agriculture investment; energy; and tourism.
- The Meeting also agreed to convene the ASEAN-GCC Ministerial Meeting at the troika level every two years and the meeting of the Secretariat-to-Secretariat cooperation every year.

Informal ASEAN-U.S. Ministerial Meeting (27 September 2018)

- The Meeting had a fruitful discussion on the follow up to the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) 10+ 1 Session with the U.S. held in August 2018 in Singapore and preparations for the upcoming 6th ASEAN-U.S. Summit in November 2018, among others.
- The Meeting appreciated the important role and constructive contribution of the U.S. in promoting peace, security, stability and prosperity in the region. The Meeting recognized the need to further strengthen economic partnership, digital connectivity, youth internship, entrepreneurship, education, as well as enhance regional connectivity between the two regions.



- The Meeting welcomed the positive development in the Korean Peninsula, particularly the Inter-Korean Summits and the historic summit between the U.S. and the DPRK.

Informal ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (IAMM) and ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting with the United Nations Secretary-General and the President of the 73rd Session of the UNGA (AUMM) (28 September 2018)

- At the IAMM, the Ministers noted the List of ASEAN Candidatures to the United Nations (UN) Bodies and other International Organizations. Cambodia reiterated its appreciations to all ASEAN Member States for supporting Cambodia as members of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for the term 2019 and as Vice President of the 73rd Session of the UNGA for September 2018 to September 2019. While the Ministers exchanged views on regional and international issues of common concerns, they were also briefed on recent developments on the humanitarian situation in the Rakhine State.
- The AUMM focused on how to further enhance ASEAN-UN cooperation and reviewed the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between ASEAN and the United Nations (2016-2020). The Meeting welcomed efforts by ASEAN Sectoral Bodies and UN agencies in developing specific action lines for effective implementation of the Plan of Action. The Meeting noted the significance of the implementation of the IAI Work Plan III and Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025, and noted the particular importance of the promotion of collaboration between the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) and relevant UN agencies of expertise.

Phnom Penh, 04 October 2018

