



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Press Release

Outcomes of the 24th ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Summit

27 October 2021, via Videoconference



The Leaders emphasized the critical importance of the APT mechanism to the long-term goal of building an East Asian community with ASEAN as the driving force. The Leaders also recognised the significant contribution of the APT towards the realisation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025, the MPAC 2025, the IAI Work Plan IV, and deeper regional integration in East Asia.

The Summit commended the substantive progress in the implementation of the APT Cooperation Work Plan (2018-2022) and called for the development of the successor APT Cooperation Work Plan for 2023-2027 and its adoption in 2022. In addition, the Summit welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Plan of Action (APT PoA) on Mitigating the Economic Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic to ensure supply chain connectivity and strengthen the region's economic resilience.


The Leaders reaffirmed their commitment to expedite respective domestic procedures to ensure the entry into force of the RCEP in January 2022. The Leaders further stressed on the need to assist people and businesses affected by the impact of COVID-19, especially MSMEs, start-ups and vulnerable groups, by facilitating their integration into the digital economy, access to digital infrastructure and use of technologies to maintain operation and enhance competitiveness.

The Leaders also underscored the need to expand vaccine cooperation and promote equitable access to and distribution of safe, effective, quality and affordable vaccines among APT countries. Cooperation related to people-to-people exchange, student mobility, financial safety net, food security, sustainable rice reserve, and climate change, among others, were also discussed.



The Leaders also touched on regional and international issues of concern for regional peace and security, including Myanmar situation and denuclearization in the Korean Peninsula

Samdech Techo Prime Minister acknowledged that the ASEAN Plus Three mechanism has been an indispensable driving force for effective responses to crises. Despite the pandemic, the ASEAN Plus Three region remains the core engine of growth for the region and the world at large. **Samdech Techo Prime Minister** encouraged the Plus Three countries to extend greater support to the ASEAN's COVID-19 response initiatives, including the ASEAN Center for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED), ASEAN Regional Reserve of Medical Supplies (RRMS), the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework (ACRF), and the ASEAN Travel Corridor Arrangement Framework (ATCAF). On RCEP, Samdech Techo Prime Minister called on the APT countries to expedite ratification process to pave the way for early implementation of the agreement to reap economic benefits for the region through trade revitalization.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister called for four key priorities to be included in the successor APT Cooperation Work Plan for 2023-2027, as follows: (1) public health security (2) capacity building of MSMEs to adapt to new contexts (3) climate change resilient agricultural production and (4) sustainable energy. 



Phnom Penh, 27 October 2021