



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

General Department of Asia-Pacific

PRESS RELEASE

**“Cambodia and Japan hold First Senior Officials’ Talks to reinforce
Comprehensive Strategic Partnership”**

Her Excellency TUOT Panha, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and **His Excellency FUNAKOSHI Takehiro**, Senior Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, co-chaired the first Cambodia-Japan Foreign Senior Officials’ Talks in Tokyo on 20 November 2023. The talks coincided with the two countries celebrating the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations.

Both sides shared the view that Cambodia-Japan relations have grown from strength to strength to reach new heights with the two countries upgrading their relationship to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership earlier this year. They discussed ways to further advance mutually beneficial cooperation in various fields, including politics, the economy, defense and security, digital development and people-to-people ties.

The two sides noted with satisfaction the frequent high-level exchanges of visits and interactions between the two countries, especially the recent summit between **Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei HUN Manet**, Prime Minister of Cambodia, and **His Excellency KISHIDA Fumio**, Prime Minister of Japan. The summit contributed to further deepening mutual trust and broadening the bilateral relations.

Both sides were pleased with the current status of economic cooperation, especially stable bilateral trade and Japan’s substantial investment in Cambodia. The two sides discussed measures to boost bilateral trade and attract more Japanese investment to Cambodia.

The Cambodian side reiterated its appreciation to the Government and people of Japan for their significant contribution to Cambodia’s peace process and invaluable support and assistance for the socio-economic development. As Cambodia is one of Japan’s



important partners in development cooperation, the Japanese side reaffirmed its commitment to continue supporting the Royal Government's development efforts in line with its Pentagonal Strategy-Phase I and Japanese official development assistance policy.

In addition, the two sides agreed to further strengthen multilateral cooperation under frameworks such as ASEAN-Japan relations and Mekong-Japan Cooperation. They also had an extensive exchange of views on regional and international issues of common concern and interest.

The Japanese side appreciated Cambodia's commitment to working closely with ASEAN Member States and Japan to ensure the success of the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit marking the 50th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation, and looked forward to welcoming **Samdech Thipadei HUN Manet** to take part and hold a bilateral summit with **His Excellency Prime Minister KISHIDA**.

On 21 November, **Her Excellency TUOT Panha** had a separate meeting with **His Excellency HORII Iwao**, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan. The two sides had productive talks on further strengthening their excellent bonds of friendship and multifaceted cooperation in both bilateral and multilateral frameworks.

The Cambodian side expressed deep appreciation to the Japanese side for the warm welcome and excellent arrangements for the first Senior Officials' Talks. Both sides agreed to convene a second round in Cambodia on mutually convenient dates in 2024.

Phnom Penh, 22 November 2023

