



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING



**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Department of Information

Press Release

**Outcomes of the participation of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN,
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia in the 10th Mekong-Japan Summit**

Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, participated in the 10th Mekong-Japan Summit from 9-10 October 2018 in Tokyo, Japan. The Summit was chaired by H.E. Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister, together with other Mekong leaders, paid a royal audience on His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

Preceding the summit, Samdech Techo Prime Minister held official talks with H.E. Mr. Shinzo Abe, during which the two Prime Ministers noted with great satisfaction the progress of their bilateral cooperation in all areas, especially after the two countries elevated their cooperation to a strategic partnership level in 2013. Samdech Techo Prime Minister extended an invitation to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to pay an official visit to Cambodia. In response, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe accepted with pleasure and will find an appropriate time to come to Cambodia.

Marking the 10th Anniversary of the Mekong-Japan mechanism, the Leaders agreed to elevate this cooperation to a strategic partnership level. The Leaders adopted the "Tokyo Strategy 2018 for Mekong-Japan Cooperation" which encompasses three pillars, namely (i) Vibrant and Effective Connectivity, (ii) People-Centered Society, and (iii) Realization of a Green Mekong along with its detailed concrete Action Plan. The Strategy 2018 is in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals, the Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy, and the ACMECS Master Plan.

Addressing the summit, Samdech Techo Prime Minister underlined the importance of promoting cooperation in the context of a strong "multilateralism" framework in order to promote peace, stability and prosperity of the region and the world. He also stressed the importance of industry connectivity as a way to take up the challenges of the Industrial Revolution 4.0 and to exploit the potentials benefit of the digital economy.



Within the summit framework, **Samdech Techo Prime Minister** attended a working breakfast hosted by the Japan-Mekong Parliamentary Friendship Association and a working lunch hosted by business leaders. Speaking at these events, **Samdech Techo Prime Minister** emphasized the potentials of the Mekong region, which has consistently transformed itself into a “global growth center” based on its strategic economic location, its popular tourism destination, and the important trading and investment attraction for Japan. **Samdech Techo Prime Minister** highlighted Cambodia’s specific economic plans and policies to respond to the practical needs of private sector such as trade facilitation, simplifying and automatizing custom procedure and gradually lowering the tariff from 2019.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister also attended Japan-Mekong Business Forum organized by the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO). Addressing the gathering, **Samdech Techo Prime Minister** stressed that Cambodia is full of investment potentials and opportunities based on several reasons such as: a favorable climate of political stability and national security, a strategic location within ASEAN which is becoming the “Factory of Asia”, a huge young labor force, and an open economy.

During his stay in Japan, **Samdech Techo Prime Minister** visited the Yokohama Container Port and the Ariake Water Reclamation Center where he appreciated their strategic importance in the modernization of the Japanese economy. He also urged these two institutions to continue strengthen and expand their cooperation with relevant Cambodian institutions, in particular Sinanoukville province.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister received separate courtesy calls by H.E. Mr. Masahiro Imamura, Chairman of the Japan-Cambodia Parliamentary Friendship Association, Mr. Hiroyuki Ishige, President and CEO of JETRO, Mr. Nobuaki Kitamori, Representatives of Mitsui & Co., Ltd, and Mr. Fumiaki Takahashi, Former Ambassador of Japan to Cambodia and President of the Cambodia-Japan Association. The discussions were centered on the promotion of Cambodia-Japan cooperation, particularly in the areas of trade, investment, tourism, and cultural cooperation as well as people to people exchange.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister also took the opportunity to meet with members of the Cambodian community and students living and studying in Japan and updated them on the current situation in Cambodia in a warm and cordial atmosphere.

Phnom Penh, 10 October 2018

