



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**  
**NATION RELIGION KING**



**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

**Cambodia, Japan Appreciate Relations to be Upgraded  
to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in 2023**

His Excellency PRAK Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and His Excellency MIKAMI Masahiro, outgoing Ambassador of Japan to Cambodia, during a farewell call by the latter on 06 December 2022, highly valued the bilateral relations between the two countries and noted with satisfaction its upgrading to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in 2023, the commemorative year of the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations.

In addition, the Deputy PM and Japanese Envoy shared the view to organize some activities to further strengthen the bilateral cooperation to commemorate this 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and with that in mind, Deputy PM PRAK Sokhonn confirmed his readiness to visit Japan by the end of January next year at his Japanese counterpart's invitation.

The Deputy PM appreciated the Ambassador's active contribution in promoting the ties and fruitful cooperation, especially the good arrangement for the exchange of high-level visits, including the official visit to Cambodia of Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio in March this year and his attendance in the ASEAN-Related Summits last November as well as the two visits of Samdech Techo Prime Minister HUN Sen to participate in the 4<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Water Summit in Kumamoto, Japan in April this year and to attend the State Funeral for former PM ABE Shinzo last September. He expressed sincere thanks for Japan's Official Development Assistance that has contributed to Cambodia's socio-economic development and support in Cambodia's fight against the pandemic and post Covid-19 recovery.

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Ambassador Masahiro commended Cambodia's successful ASEAN Chairmanship, particularly Samdech Techo Prime Minister HUN Sen's and Deputy PM PRAK Sokhonn's excellent performance of the country's duties as the Chair that brought about the remarkable outcomes of the AMM and Related Meetings and the ASEAN Summits and Related Summits hosted by Cambodia at the time of many serious regional and international crises. He also praised Cambodia for the endeavors in helping Myanmar return to normalcy, underlining that without those efforts, the situation in Myanmar would be much worse. The Deputy PM thanked Japan for its significant support to Cambodia's ASEAN Chairmanship. ①.

Phnom Penh, 06 December 2022