



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA  
NATION RELIGION KING**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

**Press Release**

**On the Outcomes of the General Debate of the 74<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly and Related Meetings  
23-28 September 2019, New York, USA**

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H.E. Mr. Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia led a delegation to attend the General Debate of the 74<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly, under the theme: “Galvanizing multilateral efforts for poverty eradication, quality education, climate action and inclusion” and other related meetings from 23-28 September 2019 in New York, United States of America.

**General Debate of 74<sup>th</sup> Session of United Nations General Assembly**

On September 28, His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister addressed the General Debate by focusing on the realities of the multipolar world and vulnerabilities of multilateralism due to protectionism, unilateralism and the continuing interference in violation of the UN Charter. As all forms of interferences persist, fake news have been used as their justification and have become an instrument for international politics.

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister stressed that respect for the principle of equality and sovereignty, respect for the right to manage one's own destiny and the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of the state as stated in the UN Charter are essential to sustaining multilateralism in pursuing the path to peace and stability, solidarity and progress.

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister informed the General Assembly of the current socio-economic development of Cambodia, which focuses on the quality and



inclusiveness of growth based on the spirit “leaving no one behind”, Cambodia's contribution to the UN peacekeeping operations, and emphasized Cambodia’s commitment to support multilateralism, free trade and rule-based international order with the UN at its core.

**Informal Meeting of CICA Foreign Ministers (23 September)**

After hearing the report on the outcome of 5<sup>th</sup> CICA summit on June 15, 2019 in Dushanbe, the meeting discussed about the CICA’s Work Plan 2020 for the next 4 years on four specific works namely 1) CICA meetings, 2) implementation of Confidence Building Measures (military-political dimension, new threats and challenges dimension, economic dimension, environmental dimension, and human dimension) 3) external ties and 4) Secretariat’s events.

**High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage (23 September)**

The theme of this meeting was “Moving together to build a healthier world”. The Meeting adopted a Political Declaration on Universal Health Coverage. Cambodia also raised its experiences in improving healthcare access through the implementation of the National Social Protection Policy Framework 2016-2015 with the expansion of the National Social Security Fund and Health Equity Fund.

**Ministerial Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement-NAM (26 September):**

The meeting mainly focused on the “Upholding the Principle of Sovereignty and Political Independence as a means to Maintain International Peace and Security and Foster Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States”, and at the same token adopted the Political Declaration of New York. Cambodia shared lessons learnt from her history and highlighted the importance of principles of respect for sovereign equality, independence, and territorial integrity of states, as well as non-interference in domestic affairs which play a very important role in promoting the rule of law at the national and international levels.



**High-Level Plenary Meeting to Commemorate and Promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons (26 September):**

The meeting welcomed the commemoration to promote the international day for the total elimination of nuclear weapons and called for all states, especially nuclear weapons states, to sign and ratify Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and Treaty for Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as well as to implement and respect the obligations under these treaties and relevant nuclear disarmament treaty.

Cambodia called on all states to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. Together with ASEAN, Cambodia has contributed to the creation of the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Southeast Asia, and continued to engage with the permanent five members of the Security Council to sign the Protocol to the Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty.

**Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries(LDCs)(26 September):**

The Meeting adopted the Ministerial Declaration for the Least Developed Countries, which serves as roadmap in accelerating development of LDCs and implementation of the Istanbul Plan of Action. Cambodia informed the meeting on progresses made in improving the livelihood of its people with comprehensive policies to reduce poverty, improve education and economy, promote health and social services, and alleviate the negative impacts of climate change.

**Asia Cooperation Dialogue Foreign Ministers' Meeting (ACD) (27 September 2019):**

The meetings focused mainly on the 2019-2020 activities review and latest development on ACD Vision 2030 and the Blueprint 2017-2021. Cambodia reaffirmed its determination to work closely and look forward to cooperating with ACD members to realize the ACD Vision for Asia Cooperation 2030 which is in line with the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



### **43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 and China (27 September):**

The meeting adopted two important documents, namely: (1) Joint Declaration of the Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the G77 and China at the Occasion of the 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Group; and (2) Ministerial Declaration. Cambodia briefed the meeting on the Cambodian Sustainable Development Goals (CSDGs), and emphasized the threat of climate change which affects millions of people.

### **ASEAN-Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Ministerial Meeting (28 September)**

The meeting discussed on the need to finalize the ASEAN-GCC Framework of Cooperation for 2019-2023. The meeting considered the possibility of the regular convening of ASEAN-GCC Ministerial Meetings, and the meetings between the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR) and the GCC Ambassadors in Jakarta. Cambodia will be the next coordinating country for ASEAN in 2020.

### **Informal ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (IAMM) (28 September)**

The meeting discussed on the setting up of complementarities roadmap (2020-2025) that promotes complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the launching of the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue in November 2019. The meeting agreed with Germany's application to accede to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC). The meeting exchanged views on evolving regional architecture and external relations with dialogue partners based on ASEAN centrality.

### **6th ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Ministerial Meeting, 28 September 2019**

H.E. Mr. Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, co-chaired this meeting with H.E. Mr. Teodoro Ribera Neuman, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Chile. The meeting reviewed the implementation of the ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Work Plan (2017-2019) with four priority areas namely 1) economic cooperation; 2) education and people-to-people contacts; 3) science, technology and innovation; and 4) sustainable development, and agreed to extend the Work Plan till December 2020.



## **ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting with the United Nations Secretary-General and the President of the 74th Session of the UNGA (AUMM) (28 September)**

The Meeting noted the progress of implementing the Plan of Action to implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between ASEAN and United Nations (2016-2020) and the draft Complementarities Roadmap (2020-2025). Cambodia encouraged the United Nations to consider supporting the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) so as to enable the Centre to maximize its capabilities in promoting Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) awareness and victim assistance, therefore contributing towards peace and security in the region and the world at large. In term of sustainable development, Cambodia called for enhanced cooperation under both the ASEAN and the UN frameworks to combat counterfeit and substandard drug which is a major threat to the public health especially in developing countries.

### **Bilateral Meetings**

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister held bilateral meetings with the following dignitaries:

- 1) H.E. Ms. Marise Payne, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia;
- 2) H.E. Mrs. Ekaterina Zaharieva, Deputy Prime Minister for Judicial Reform and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria;
- 3) H.E. Mr. Tomáš Petříček, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic;
- 4) H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák, Foreign Minister of Slovakia;
- 5) H.E. Mr. Chingiz Aidarbekov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic
- 6) H.E. Mr. Sergey V. Lavrov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

At the meetings, His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister discussed on enhancement of bilateral cooperation, mutual support on multilateral frameworks, and briefed his counterparts about major developments of Cambodia's politics and economy.

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister also signed the Joint Statement on No First Placement of Weapons in Outer Space with H.E. Mr. Sergey Lavrov.

Phnom Penh, 01 October 2019.

