



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

PRESS RELEASE

Samdech Techo PM Hun Sen Holds Bilateral Meeting with President Joe Biden

Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, held a Bilateral Meeting with The Honorable Joe Biden, President of the United States of America, on 12th November 2022 in Phnom Penh, on the sidelines of the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits and Related Summits.

President Biden congratulated Cambodia for the great success of hosting and chairing ASEAN this year, and valued Cambodia's support for elevating ASEAN-US relations to "Comprehensive Strategic Partnership" during its Chairmanship.

The two Leaders touched on the on-going activities of cooperation, including on law enforcement cooperation to combat transnational crime, culture, demining, peace-keeping, and environment. Samdech Techo Prime Minister expressed his deep gratitude for the US Government's excellent cooperation in returning plundered Cambodian artifacts to their rightful place. On demining, he called for more US contribution to help Cambodia achieve "A Mine-Free Cambodia by 2025". On repatriation, Samdech Techo outlined Cambodia's position on accepting Cambodians deported from the United States taking into account humanitarian and compassionate considerations and affirmed Cambodia's continued cooperation with the US based on the existing MOU in 2002 through in-person and virtual interviews of Cambodian citizens as conducted in the past.

The two Leaders also exchanged views on regional and international issues, of which President Biden commended Cambodia for its constructive role as Chair of ASEAN in handling the crisis in Myanmar, and appreciated Cambodia's positions on the war in Ukraine, and on the recent launch of DPRK's ballistic missiles. Samdech Techo Prime Minister stressed Cambodia's firm position against the threat of using nuclear

weapons. He also informed President Biden of the collaboration between Cambodia and Japan, via the Cambodian Mine Action Center (CMAC) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), in dispatching Cambodian deminers to help train the Ukraine's demining team in Poland and of Ukraine's request to Japan to provide demining equipment.

Phnom Penh, 12 November 2022