



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

PRESS RELEASE

Cambodian and Thai Prime Ministers Discuss Bilateral Cooperation

Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and **His Excellency General Prayut Chan-o-cha**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, highly valued the existing good relations and cooperation in all fields between the two countries based on the spirit of good neighborliness, traditional friendship and mutual trust, during a Bilateral Meeting held on 10 November 2022 on the sidelines of the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits and Related Summits in Phnom Penh. The Two Prime Ministers expressed satisfaction with the significant progress of the comprehensive cooperation in recent years and agreed to further deepen and broaden the very close ties.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister renewed Cambodia's full support and wished Thailand a success in hosting the upcoming APEC Summit and expressed his pleasure in accepting the invitation to attend the Summit on 18 November 2022 as "Guest of the Chair".

The two Prime Ministers underscored the importance of the resumption of the Joint Cabinet Retreat (JCR) between both governments that is the highest mechanism of bilateral cooperation after a break caused by the pandemic. **His Excellency General Prayut Chan-o-cha** affirmed that Thailand will host the 4th JCR at a mutually convenient time.

The two Leaders noted with satisfaction the increasing bilateral trade exchange amidst the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and discussed concrete measures to further promote it to reach the target of USD15 Billion in two years. **Samdech Techo Prime Minister** asked the Thai side to buy more Cambodian

rice and facilitate the procedure for the imports of Cambodian agricultural products across the border into Thailand.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister expressed high appreciation to the Royal Thai Government for facilitating the Cambodian workers in Thailand, especially during the COVID-19 outbreak, and called on his Thai counterpart to continue close cooperation in this field.

To promote cross-border trade and people-to-people connectivity, the two Prime Ministers agreed to task the authorities concerned of the two countries to expedite the opening of the Stung Bot-Ban Nong Ian international border checkpoint and the opening of the “Friendship Bridge” as soon as possible as well as to implement the agreements reached during the recent Meeting of the Governors of Cambodian-Thai Border Provinces to promote the development of the border areas.

Both Leaders also stressed the importance of strengthening cooperation in education, human resource development, defense and security, tourism, railway connection, clean energy, fight against transnational crimes such as illegal border-crossing and human trafficking. The exchange of support on the international arena were also touched on during the meeting.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister Hun Sen and **His Excellency General Prayut Chan-o-cha** also exchanged views on the challenges facing ASEAN and on various regional and international issues of common concerns. **His Excellency General Prayut Chan-o-cha** extended best wishes to **Samdech Techo Prime Minister** for the success of 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits and Related Summits in Phnom Penh.

Phnom Penh, 10 November 2022