

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

General Department of Asia-Pacific

PRESS RELEASE

Fax : (855) Email : mfaic

Fruitful outcomes of visit by Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister to the Republic of Singapore from 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei HUN Manet, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, concluded a two-day official visit to the Republic of Singapore from 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024, with both sides reaffirming strong commitment to further deepen the long-standing relations and close cooperation in all fields.

Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister paid a courtesy call on His Excellency Tharman SHANMUGARATNAM, President of the Republic of Singapore, prior to his bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Lawrence WONG. He also met with His Excellency Senior Minister LEE Hsien Loong, former Prime Minister of Singapore. The discussions were enriching and covered cooperation in several areas, including political-security, defense, trade and investment, finance, food and energy security, climate change, tourism, technical and vocational education and training (TVET), digitalization and people-to-people exchange. Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister and the leaders of Singapore recalled the friendship between His Majesty the Late-King-Father of Cambodia and the Late-Prime Minister LEE Kuan Yew of Singapore, as both nations look forward to the celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Cambodia-Singapore diplomatic relations next year. The leaders of Singapore convey their best wishes as Cambodia marks the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Mother NORODOM Monineath Sihanouk on 18<sup>th</sup> June.

To further deepen and expand the scope of bilateral cooperation, Samdech Thipadei HUN Manet and Prime Minister Lawrence WONG agreed to encourage early convening of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Political Consultation between the Foreign Ministries of the two countries. The two Prime Ministers expressed commitment to further strengthen cooperation in combatting transnational crimes such as cyber scam, the spread of take

Address: N° 3, Samdech HUN Sen Street, Sangkat Tonle Bassac, Khan Chamkarmon Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia news and drug trafficking, and look forward to the early signing of an MoU to enhance collaborative work in this field. They also concurred to maintain frequent exchanges of visits between defense officials, sharing of informations, experiences and best practices.

On fostering trade and investment, Samdech Thipadei HUN Manet and Prime Minister Lawrence WONG highlighted the fact that Singapore is among the largest investors in Cambodia and the complementary nature of the two economies. The two Prime Ministers agreed to encourage relevant public and private entities of both countries to jointly identify potential areas for win-win cooperation, starting with food production and supplies.

On people-to-people exchanges, Samdech Thipadei HUN Manet and Prime Minister Lawrence WONG expressed satisfaction with the increase of direct flights to 50 per week and the growing number of travelers between Cambodia and Singapore. They share the view that encouraging tourism flow, including those from third countries is another area to be intensified. On education, Prime Minister WONG pledged to offer more customized capacity building support to Cambodia, including training of trainers in TVET. Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister expressed gratitude to the government of Singapore for supporting Cambodia's human capital development.

On energy and climate change, the two Prime Ministers applauded the fruitful outcome of the first working group meeting, co-chaired by the Energy Ministers of Cambodia, Singapore, and the Lao PDR on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024, to facilitate cross-border electricity trade. They shared resolve to leverage the success of this project to drive the development of the ASEAN Power Grid. They were pleased with the progress on carbon credit cooperation in line with Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, and look forward to the signing of the implementation agreement at an early date.

The two Prime Ministers emphasized the growing importance of ICT and digital technology cooperation. They jointly witnessed and applauded the official launch of the Financial Transparency Corridor initiative by the National Bank of Cambodia and the Monetary Authority of Singapore, which aims to establish supporting digital infrastructures to facilitate trade and financial access for SMEs in Cambodia and in Singapore. Concurrently, they welcomed the signing of the MoU on Cooperation in Digital Government between the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications of Cambodia and the Ministry of Communications and Information of Singapore during the visit.

Both Prime Ministers also exchanged views on major regional and international issues of common concern. They shared the view that maintaining ASEAN unity are

centrality is crucial for peace, stability and prosperity in the region, and are committed to work closely together to navigate through the geopolitical complexity to ensure that ASEAN unity and centrality remains strong and ASEAN continues to stay on the path of growth. They also highlighted the urgent need to expedite conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea.

Given the importance of private sector engagement, Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister addressed the Cambodia-Singapore Business Forum, during which he encouraged some 500 participants to explore business opportunities in Cambodia and win-win joint investments in various areas. He visited the Nanyang Polytechnic and Centre of Innovation for Electronics & Internet of Things, and the Keppel's Infrastructure@Changi building. On the first day in Singapore, Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister visited the National Orchid Garden, where a new orchid hybrid was named "Vanchoanthe HUN Manet" in his honour.

Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister expressed deep appreciation to His Excellency Lawrence WONG for the cordial hospitality extended to the Cambodian delegation. He extended an invitation to Prime Minister WONG to pay an official visit to Cambodia at an early date, which His Excellency Lawrence WONG accepted with pleasure.

Phnom Penh. 19 June 2024