

Joint Press Statement on the meeting between
H.E. Mr. PRAK Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and
International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia
and
H.E. Mr. Nasser BOURITA, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and
Moroccan Expatriates of the Kingdom of Morocco

Rabat, March 27th, 2023

* * * *

1. H.E. Mr. PRAK Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, paid an official visit to the Kingdom of Morocco, on March 27th and 28th, 2023, at the invitation of H.E. Mr. Nasser BOURITA, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates.
2. During this visit, H.E. Mr. PRAK Sokhonn paid a courtesy call on H.E. Mr. Rachid TALBI ALAMI, President of the House of Representatives.
3. During the meeting held on March 27th, 2023 at the Headquarters of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates, in Rabat, the two Ministers had fruitful exchanges and expressed the confidence that this visit will give new impetus to the cooperation between the two countries through exploration of new areas and launching of new initiatives.
4. H.E. Mr. PRAK Sokhonn lauded the leadership of His Majesty the King Mohammed VI and expressed his admiration of the social and economic development of Morocco, as well as for the wise policy of His Majesty the King aiming at assuring prosperity and stability of the Kingdom and its People.
5. Likewise, H.E. Mr. Nasser BOURITA highlighted the remarkable progress made in Cambodia under the highest guidance of His Majesty King Norodom SIHAMONI and praised the Royal Government of Cambodia under the wise leadership of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, for his role in assuring decades of peace, stability and continued development of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

6. The two Ministers praised the excellent relations binding the two Kingdoms at the highest level, marked by friendship, mutual respect, continuous consultation and coordination on issues of mutual interest.
7. In this regard, they welcomed the holding of the video call at the ministerial level, on January 25th, 2022 and the 3rd Session of Morocco - Cambodia Political Consultations virtually at the Director-Generals level, on May 18th, 2022 and expressed the interest in advancing bilateral political-diplomatic dialogue.
8. The two Ministers underlined the need for developing trade and investments between the two countries and highlighted the potential of developing the economic cooperation by capitalizing on their respective positions in North Africa and Southeast Asia regions.
9. In this respect, the two Ministers pleaded to encourage the business communities from both countries in the view of intensifying trade movements and investments.
10. To this end, the two Ministers expressed their willingness to hold, in the future, an important business forum in Morocco or in Cambodia.
11. The two Ministers highlighted the convergence of Moroccan and Cambodian perspectives on a number of regional and international issues and they renewed the strong commitment in promoting multilateralism and contributing to global agenda for peace, security and development.
12. H.E. Mr. Nasser BOURITA praised the success of Cambodia's Chairmanship of ASEAN in 2022 and the prominence of the outcomes of all summits and related meetings held in Cambodia throughout last year.
13. Regarding Morocco's application for the Sectoral Dialogue Partner (SDP) of ASEAN, H.E. Mr. PRAK Sokhonn reassured his Moroccan counterpart of Cambodia's full support to this application while respecting ASEAN process and consensus.
14. Regarding the Sahara issue, H.E. Mr. PRAK Sokhonn underlined the full support of Cambodia for the efforts undertaken by the United Nations Secretary General and his Personal Envoy for the Sahara, which are in line with the

parameters of the relevant Security Council Resolutions pertaining to this matter and commending Morocco's serious, realistic and credible efforts.

In this regard, the Kingdom of Cambodia fully supports the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Morocco and respects its efforts to reach a negotiated political solution to this regional conflict.

15. The two Ministers welcomed the mutual votes and support in the International Organizations.
16. In this respect, H.E. Mr. Nasser BOURITA reiterated Morocco's support for the candidacy of the Kingdom of Cambodia to be Observer Member of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).
17. Similarly, and in view of the friendly relations tying the two Kingdoms as well as Morocco's leadership and engagement in maintaining the International Security, H.E. Mr. PRAK Sokhonn expressed the support of the Kingdom of Cambodia to Morocco's candidacy for a Non-Permanent Member Seat of the United Nations Security Council, for the period 2028-2029.
18. Regarding the Parliamentary Diplomacy, the two Ministers commended the exchanges between the Moroccan Parliament and the National Assembly of Cambodia, both at the bilateral level but also at the regional level within the AIPA and the multilateral level. The two Ministers acknowledged the positive cooperation of the two Parliaments and reaffirmed their commitment to upholding multilateralism based on international laws, and working closely to enhance Non-Aligned Movement Parliamentary Network (NAM-PN) to protect, preserve and promote peace and sustainable development. They also reviewed their cooperation within AIPA, in which Morocco is an Observer Member.
19. The two Ministers exchanged views on ways and means to develop people-to-people contacts through scholarships, academic exchanges, organization of cultural events, etc.
20. At the end of the meeting, the two Ministers agreed on, setting in the very near future, a roadmap to deepen the bilateral relations with the aim of developing a comprehensive partnership.

21. The two Ministers welcomed the signing of the Agreement on Air Services and expressed confidence that this Agreement would contribute to the promotion of tourism, business, trade and people-to-people connectivity between the two countries.
22. In the same spirit, the two Ministers agreed to speed up the finalization and signing of 3 other pending agreements on:
- Agreement between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Kingdom of Cambodia for the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments.
 - Agreement between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Kingdom of Cambodia for the elimination of Double Taxation with Respect to Taxes on Income and the Prevention of Tax Evasion and Avoidance.
 - Agreement on cultural, technical, scientific and economic cooperation.

These three documents will give a new momentum to the economic, bilateral relations and cooperation, as well as a solid basis for developing trade and investment movements, reflecting the excellence of relations tying the two Countries at the political and diplomatic levels.

23. Moreover, and based on the shared objectives and ambitions for promoting the bilateral relations and beyond, Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia will pay an official visit to Morocco at the invitation of H.E. Mr. Aziz AKHANNOUCH, Head of Government.
24. H.E. Mr. PRAK Sokhonn extended an official invitation to H.E. Mr. Nasser BOURITA to pay an official visit to Cambodia in the near future. This invitation was accepted with pleasure by H.E. Mr. Nasser BOURITA.

END