



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING



**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

PRESS RELEASE

Cambodian, Philippine Foreign Ministers Hold Bilateral Meeting

His Excellency Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia, and **His Excellency Enrique A. Manalo**, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, highly appreciated the long-standing friendship and good relations as well as close cooperation in many areas in a bilateral meeting held on 09 November 2022, on the sidelines of the 40th and 41th ASEAN Summits in Phnom Penh. Secretary Manalo congratulated Cambodia for “the excellent chairmanship of ASEAN” while Deputy PM Prak Sokhonn thanked the Philippines for its support to Cambodia’s ASEAN Chairmanship 2022.

The two Foreign Ministers shared the belief that the Bilateral Meeting between President Ferdinand Marcos and Samdech Techo Prime Minister Hun Sen tomorrow, 10 November 2022 while both nations are commemorating the 65th Anniversary of the Diplomatic Relations between the two countries would add a momentum to the bilateral cooperation enhancement. They recalled the fruitful results of the 3rd Joint Commission on Bilateral Cooperation co-chaired by Deputy PM Prak Sokhonn and His Excellency Teodoro Locsin Jr., former Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, last December and encouraged the implementation of its Agreed Minutes that serves as a roadmap for both sides to deepen the existing good cooperation.

The two Foreign Ministers noted with pleasure the increasing trade exchange between both countries and, with a view to further promote bilateral trade and investment cooperation, they agreed to encourage both sides to expedite the negotiation on the draft Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation. Deputy PM Prak Sokhonn called on the Philippines to import more rice from Cambodia and to make use of new Cambodia’s

Investment Law with more favorable incentives to explore investment opportunities in the country, especially in agri-food industry.

The two Foreign Ministers touched on tourism cooperation promotion and Deputy PM Prak Sokhonn recommended to increase direct flights between Manila – Phnom Penh – Manila and possibly Cebu-Siem Reap-Cebu.

The cooperation on human resource development, security and defense, agriculture, and the exchange of support between the two countries on international arena were also discussed during the meeting.

The two Foreign Ministers exchanged views on the crisis in Myanmar, in which Secretary Manalo appreciated the efforts by Deputy PM Prak Sokhonn as Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair on Myanmar and assured the Philippines' continued support to Cambodia's endeavors.

Phnom Penh, 09 November 2022.