



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**  
**NATION RELIGION KING**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

**General Department of ASEAN**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**“Outcomes of the 15<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-ECO Ministerial Meeting”**

At the invitation of **His Excellency Jeyhun Bayramov**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, in the capacity of Chair of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and Co-Chair of the Meeting, **His Excellency Mr. KUNG Phoak**, Secretary of State and ASEAN SOM Leader of Cambodia, on behalf of **His Excellency SOK Chenda Sophea**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, participated in the 15<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-ECO Ministerial Meeting held in New York on 22 September 2023 on the sidelines of the 78<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The Meeting reviewed the progress of the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two Secretariats, and the Work Plan that was adopted and signed since 2006, particularly in the four priority areas such as: (i) trade and investment, (ii) narcotics control, (iii) SMEs development, and (iv) tourism.

The Meeting also exchanged views on recent developments to further enhance ASEAN-ECO cooperation in the areas of mutual interest, especially to harness the benefits from inter-regional cooperation and synergy through the facilitation of the flow of trade, capital, human resources as well as the promotion of business-to-business and business-to-government interactions. In this spirit, the Meeting adopted the Framework of Cooperation between ASEAN and ECO (2024-2028) to further bolster and expand practical areas of cooperation with the joint commitment to strengthen regular coordination and consultation mechanisms between the two organizations, especially through their respective Secretariats.

During the Meeting, Cambodia underscored that ensuring robust and resilient economic development will require ASEAN and ECO to explore new sources of growth, and we could see great potential in our cooperation and collaboration in key areas such as digital economy, green transition, connectivity, e-commerce and regional and global supply chains, among others. Cambodia also urged the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN and Ambassadors of the ECO in Jakarta to have regular consultation to ensure full and effective implementation of key priorities and explore potential areas of strategic and long-term significance to our partnership. END

Phnom Penh, 23 September 2023

