



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

PRESS RELEASE

**“Cambodia, Thailand vow to renew multifaceted thriving
partnership for peace and prosperity”**

Phnom Penh, 24 February 2023 - His Excellency PRAK Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, concluded an official visit to Thailand on 23-24 February 2023 at the cordial invitation of His Excellency Don PRAMUDWINAI, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand.

Both Deputy Prime Ministers had an extensive discussion that reviewed and charted a new course of actions on the multifaceted cooperation for shared growth and prosperity between the two Kingdoms, namely trade and investment, education, tourism, labour, connectivity, security and defense.

1. While noting with satisfaction the positive trend of the two-way trade turnover, they attached great importance to the joint endeavors to realize the bilateral trade target of USD 15 billion by 2025. Both Deputy Prime Ministers presided over the soft opening of Cambodia-Thailand Friendship Bridge (Stung Bot – Ban Nong Ian), which will contribute to intensified flow of cross-border trade and investment as well as improved connectivity and well-being among the two peoples. Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn encouraged the Thai side to broaden Thai market and lift technical trade barriers in favor of Cambodian agricultural products.

2. Deputy Prime Minister Don PRAMUDWINAI renewed Thailand's cooperation in education, including scholarships, through the Thai International Cooperation Agency (TICA). On tourism, both sides agreed to further enhance collaboration under the slogan of "Two Kingdoms, One Destination", and encourage respective provincial authorities along the frontier to jointly organize events aiming to promote and facilitate tourist flow between the two Kingdoms.
3. They also deliberated immigration procedures, including joint efforts to legalize Cambodian workers residing in Thailand. Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn sought Thai side's reduction of employment visa fee in favor of Cambodian workers. On transportation, the two Deputy Prime Ministers welcomed the improvement of the National Road 67, linking Siem Reap Province of Cambodia to Sisaket Province of Thailand, and underscored the importance of strengthening aviation cooperation as to safety, security, institutional capacity building and human resource training.
4. On security and defense, the two sides agreed to further strengthen cooperation and enhance coordination between the respective law enforcement officials, and attached significance to peaceful settlement of the border disputes with a view to jointly building a boundary of peace, friendship, cooperation and development. As Cambodia and Thailand are steadfast in realizing the goal of mine-free land by 2025 and 2026 respectively, the two Deputy Prime Ministers underlined the importance of early conclusion of demining operations along the perimeter, as instructed by the two Kingdoms' top leaders. They agreed to continue to enhance partnership in transboundary multi-hazard prevention, mitigation and emergency response.
5. On regional and international topics, they reiterated the firm commitment to further strengthening cooperation, among others, in ASEAN and Mekong frameworks and assisting Myanmar's return to normalcy. Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn also reaffirmed Cambodia's support for Thailand's bid to host the "Specialized Expo 2028" in Phuket, and appreciated Thailand's

support for Cambodia's hosting of the 32nd SEA Games on 5-17 May 2023 and the 12th ASEAN PARA Games on 3-9 June 2023.

During the visit, His Excellency PRAK Sokhonn paid a courtesy call on His Excellency General Prayut Chan-o-cha, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, who spoke highly of the excellent all-round relations between the two nations and close cooperation between the two foreign ministries. His Excellency Prime Minister emphasized greater collaboration and mutual support by the respective authorities concerned for shared tangible benefits of the two peoples as well as for peace and development along the frontier, including the opening of international points of entry wherever necessary, and the demining operations along the border. ENDS