



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING



**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Department of Francophonie Organization

PRESS RELEASE

**Deputy Prime Minister takes part in the Fourth Meeting of Francophone
Entrepreneurs**

At the invitation of **Mr. Geoffroy Roux de BEZIEUX**, President of the Alliance des Patronats Francophones (APF) and **Mr. Chakib ALJ**, President of the Confédération Générale des Entreprises du Maroc (CGEM) His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister **SOK Chenda Sophea** took part in the Fourth Meeting of Francophone Entrepreneurs in Marrakesh from May 30th to 31st 2024. More than 1,000 companies took part in the meeting.

In an address to the opening session, His Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister highlighted steps taken by the Royal Government of Cambodia to support the development of companies. Two points are essential, he said. The first is to meet and listen to companies to understand their needs. The second is to help companies adapt better to new circumstances in areas such as human resource development and professional training.

On the sidelines of the meeting, His Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister met with **Mrs. Louise MUSHIKIWABO**, Secretary General of the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF), to discuss Cambodia's candidacy to host the Twentieth Francophone Summit in 2026. He outlined actions already taken by Cambodia to prepare for the Summit if its candidacy is confirmed in October. He also met with the Honorable **Olivier CADIC**, the French Senator for citizens living abroad and His Excellency **Franck RIESTER**, the French Minister Delegate for Foreign Trade



Economic Attractiveness, Francophonie and French Nationals Abroad. The two sides discussed issues related to the Francophone community in Cambodia.

The meeting in Morocco was an opportunity to confirm the agreement of Cambodian authorities to host the Sixth Meeting of Francophone Entrepreneurs in 2026. The APF President and the OIF Secretary General both welcomed the announcement and Cambodia's dynamism among French-speaking countries and territories.

In exchanges with the private sector, His Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister met with the APF and CGEM presidents as well as Mouvement des Entreprises de France (MEDEF) President Patrick MARTIN, French Foreign Trade Advisors (CCEF) President **Sophie SIDOS-VICAT** and **Mr. Karl BLACKBURN**, President of Conseil du Patronat du Québec (CPQ) and APF Vice President for the Americas. In addition, His Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister met with **Mr. David MEAS** and **Mrs. Catherine JOFFROY** from Dentons, the world's largest law firm. All looked forward to Cambodia hosting the Francophone Summit and the Sixth Meeting of Francophone Entrepreneurs in 2026.

Phnom Penh, 3 June 2024

