



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA  
NATION RELIGION KING**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

**General Department of ASEAN**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Deputy PM discusses enhancing ASEAN-China partnership with  
Chinese envoy to ASEAN**

**His Excellency SOK Chenda Sophea**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, has discussed strengthening the ASEAN-China partnership with **Her Excellency Hou Yanqi**, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to ASEAN.

During Her Excellency's courtesy call at the ministry on 8 April 2024, the two sides commended the good momentum of ASEAN-China relations. They recalled decisions by leaders on the establishment of the meaningful, substantive and mutually beneficial ASEAN-China Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in 2021. They welcomed 2024 as the ASEAN-China Year of People-to-People Exchanges and looked forward to the successful implementation of activities and projects to deepen and broaden connections and promote interactions between the two sides.

**His Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister** underlined the salience of the "ASEAN Way" – consultation and consensus-based decision-making enshrined in the ASEAN Charter, stressing the uniqueness of the association and preserving its centrality and unity in relations with partners. He expressed sincere thanks to China for extensive support to ASEAN community-building efforts.

**Her Excellency the Ambassador** appreciated Cambodia's active role in ASEAN community-building and acknowledged the importance of ASEAN in maintaining peace, security, stability, and enhancing growth in the region. She reaffirmed China's firm support and respect for ASEAN centrality and unity.



On Cambodia-China relations, **His Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister** highly appreciated the significant contribution of China's Global Development Initiative and Belt and Road Initiative to Cambodia's socio-economic development over the years. He also stressed the importance of the "diamond cooperation" framework between Cambodia and China, notably in the fields of agriculture, energy and people-to-people exchanges. He highly valued China's continued support for the development of Cambodia. **Her Excellency the Ambassador** underscored China's strong commitment to quality cooperation with Cambodia under the Belt and Road Initiative.

The two sides also exchanged views on regional and international issues of common interest and concern, including Mekong-Lancang Cooperation.

Phnom Penh, 10 April 2024

