



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

PRESS RELEASE

Cambodia, Egypt Advance Long Standing Relationship and Cooperation

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, led a Cambodian delegation to pay an Official Visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt from 29 to 30 March 2023 at the invitation of **His Excellency Sameh SHOUKRY**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

During the bilateral talks held on 30 March, **His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn** and **His Excellency Minister Sameh SHOUKRY** highly appreciated the development in the long standing relations of freindship and cooperation, which were built by Cambodia's Late King Father NORODOM Sihanouk and Egypt's Late President Gamal Abdel Nasser, who were among the founding members of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

The two Foreign Ministers underlined the meaning of the visit that coincided with the 70th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Arab Republic of Egypt and discussed the opportunities to further strengthen and broaden cooperation in various fields.

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn and **His Excellency Minister Sameh SHOUKRY** shared the views to consider establishing bilateral consultations between both Ministries of Foreign Affairs as a mechanism to explore ways and means to advance and strengthen ties in all fields. In this connection, both Foreign Ministers agreed to push for the signing in the near future of an MoU on this purpose.

In order to respond to the growing ties, **His Excellency Minister Sameh SHOUKRY** informed **His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn** that Egypt would consider opening its Embassy in Phnom Penh.

The two Foreign Ministers noted that bilateral trade volume remained low, thus underscoring the need to promote trade and economic cooperation and to encourage interactions between the two countries' ministries concerned. **Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn** called on Egypt to take advantages of Cambodia's attractiveness and potentials in the frameworks of ASEAN Free Trade Agreement (AFTA), Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (RCEP), Cambodia-China FTA, Cambodia – ROK FTA, and the new Law on Investment.

Both Foreign Ministers shared the views for the two countries' Ministry of Tourism to explore their respective potentials to promote tourism cooperation and to consider having an MoU on this purpose.

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister thanked the Egyptian Government for providing scholarships to Cambodian students, including 92 scholarships for 2022-2023 and called for more scholarships on technical expertise, including agriculture and digitalization that was accepted by his counterpart. **His Excellency Minister Sameh SHOUKRY** also agreed to share best practices in agriculture and was open for training and direct links between the two sides' experts.

The two Ministers expressed satisfaction with the fruitful outcomes of this visit, especially the signing of three important documents, namely (1) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Cultural Cooperation, (2) MoU on Cooperation in the fields of Archaeology, Museums and Heritages, and (3) MoU on Cooperation between the National Institute of Diplomacy and International Relations of Cambodia (NIDIR) and the Institute for Diplomatic Studies of Egypt.

On cooperation in the multilateral framework, the two Foreign Ministers noted with pleasure the convergent perspectives between both countries on many regional and international issues, and were committed to multilateralism, global peace, security, stability and development as well as to lend mutual support and strengthen cooperation in the International Organizations and Peacekeeping Operations (PKOs). **Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn** thanked his Egyptian counterpart for reaffirming

Egypt's strong support to Cambodia's candidature to become an observer member of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn and **His Excellency Minister Sameh SHOUKRY** had also an exchange of views on several regional and international of common concerns and interests.

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn extended an invitation to **His Excellency Mr. Sameh SHOUKRY**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, to pay an official visit to Cambodia at a mutual convenient time. This invitation was accepted with pleasure by the latter.

Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn availed himself of his stay in Cairo to have at the Royal Embassy of Cambodia a get-together with 70 Cambodian students, who were studying in Egypt.

Cairo, 31 March 2023