

Press Briefing
Official visit of H.E. Peter Szijjarto,
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary,
Phnom Penh, 03 November 2020

Excellency Minister **Peter Szijjarto**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Representatives of the Press,

1. Your Excellency **Péter Szijjártó**, my dear friend, Cambodia is pleased and honored to welcome you on your second official visit to the Kingdom, today.
2. Your visit at this time of raging pandemic and socio-economic extreme challenges reflects well your strong commitment to further strengthen our long-standing friendship and close cooperation. A commitment shared by Cambodia, of course.
3. The visit of SPM to Budapest, twice, and the state visit of H.E. Janos Ader, President of Hungary to our capital last year, the official opening of Office of the Embassy of Hungary in Phnom Penh and the signing of 3 documents of bilateral cooperation on water management, agriculture, and air services later today are all testimony of this shared commitment.
4. (To everybody here today) Minister **Péter Szijjártó** and I have just concluded a very fruitful discussion. Both of us are pleased with the strong ties of friendship and growing cooperation over

the years, supported by a continuously stronger legal base. We reviewed the implementation of signed agreements, MOUs, and agreed mechanisms such as the Joint Economic Committee, the Bilateral Consultation between our two Foreign ministries, to further strengthen our cooperation in fields such as Water management, Agriculture, Economy and Trade, Tourism, and Education. Our two countries believe in the principles of international law as enshrined in the UN-charter and stand for the strengthening of multilateralism in due respect to the sovereignty of States.

5. Hungary is one of Cambodia's close friends. Hungary has extended assistance and support to Cambodia when this country was in need of help after emerging from the ashes of Khmer Rouge regime. Hungary's Blue Berets served under the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia. Hungary's position on the EBA's withdrawal process is another concrete example of a friend who understands us well and dare to raise his voice of support for fair treatment and to ensure that Cambodia's march toward peaceful democracy and sustainable development continues unimpeded. For all of that, I thank you Minister and I thank Hungary.
6. Minister, you have a heavy program today. SPM will receive you this afternoon, you will meet Minister of Commerce Pan Sorasak, Minister of Agriculture Veng Sakhon, MP Sous Yara, and you will also officially open the Office of the Hungarian embassy in Phnom Penh.

7. Both sides are preparing His Majesty the King's State Visit to Hungary in the second half of 2021 or in the first semester of 2022 which would be the flagship event celebrating the 65th anniversary of our diplomatic relations next year.
8. Minister **Péter Szijjártó**, may I now give you the floor to reflect your views on this visit.