



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

PRESS RELEASE

At the invitation of His Excellency Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj, President of Mongolia, Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, led a high-level delegation to attend the "11th ASEM Summit" held on 15-16 July 2016 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. The Summit's overall theme is "20 years of ASEM: Partnership for the Future through Connectivity".

The Summit was attended by Heads of State and Government or high-level representatives of 51 Asian and European countries, the President of the European Union, the President of the European Commission, and the Secretary-General of ASEAN. Emphasizing the unique role of ASEM, which constitutes 60% of the global population and GDP, ASEM Leaders stressed the importance of strengthening the soft and hard connectivity between Asia and Europe; enhancing open trade and economic integration; and improving the two regions' close partnership to address their common challenges, inter alia, climate change, disaster risk management, migration, sustainable development, violent extremism, etc.

Samdech Techo HUN SEN, in his address during the plenary session, presented his views that in light of the current global challenges, ASEM should continue: (i) to set new dynamisms to strengthen Asia-Europe relations so as to tap into development opportunities stemmed from physical connectivity,

institutional connectivity and people-to-people relations; (ii) to provide sustained support for the implementation of regional and sub-regional integration and connectivity mechanisms such as the Silk Road Fund, the China-ASEAN Maritime Cooperation Fund, the Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank, and other existing multilateral mechanisms in order to contribute to the enhancement of connectivity in the regions; and (iii) to strengthen security systems that would protect people and countries from any risks as a result of greater connectivity, namely national security, drug trafficking, terrorism, and transnational crimes arising from the increasing flows of people and goods.

This two-day Summit was concluded with the adoption of three important outcome documents:

(i) "Ulaanbaatar Declaration on ASEM into the Third Decade", which recognized the contributions of ASEM to broadening political dialogues, enhancing economic cooperation, increasing socio-cultural exchanges and addressing the challenges faced by both regions. The Declaration underscored also the Leaders' commitment to leading ASEM successfully into its third decade through reinforcing their partnership, focusing cooperation for tangible benefits, fostering connectivity in all dimensions and promoting informality, networking and flexibility.

(ii) **Chair's Statement**, which assessed the progress and challenges of 20 years of ASEM. The Statement identified shared common goals for future, underlined the importance of enhancing connectivity in all dimensions, promoted cooperation on political and security issues, and stressed the need for rethinking working methods of ASEM.

(iii) "Statement of ASEM Leaders on International Terrorism", which strongly condemned the heinous and cowardly terrorist attacks in Europe, Asia and other places, including the one in Nice, and reiterating their strong

unequivocal condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever purposes.

On the sidelines of the Summit, **Samdech Techo Prime Minister** held a series of bilateral talks with:

(i) H.E. Mr. Li Keqiang, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of China. Both sides have discussed development assistance to Cambodia in the areas of electoral process, health, education and access to clean water whereby China has pledged a three-year grant of Yuan 3,600 million (about USD 600 million) from 2016 to 2019.

(ii) H.E Mr. Shinzō Abe, Prime Minister of Japan. The bilateral discussion was focused on boosting trade, investment and tourism between the two countries, and on the peacekeeping cooperation. Direct flights between Japan and Cambodia are expected to begin in September 2016.

(iii) H.E. Ms. Park Geun-hye, President of the Republic of Korea. Both sides have briefly exchanged views on various bilateral and regional issues.

Phnom Penh, 19 July 2016

