



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**  
**NATION RELIGION KING**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

**JOINT STATEMENT**  
**ON STRENGTHENING THE CAMBODIA-VIET NAM**  
**FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION**

1. At the invitation of His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia, H.E. Mr. Nguyen Phu Trong, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Viet Nam, led a high-level delegation to pay a State visit to the Kingdom of Cambodia from 20 to 22 July 2017.

During the visit, General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong had a Royal audience with His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia; held meetings with Samdech Vibolsena Pheakdey Say Chhum, President of the Senate, Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, President of the National Assembly, and Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong also called on His Holiness Samdech Preah Akka Moha Sangharajah Dhipati Tep Vong, Great Supreme Patriarch of Mahanikaya, and His Holiness Samdech Preah Abhisiri Sugandha Mahasangharajah Dhipati Bour Kry, Great Supreme Patriarch of Dhamayuttikanikaya of the Kingdom of Cambodia; received H.E. Mrs. Men Sam An, Chairwoman of the Cambodia – Viet Nam Friendship Association; laid wreaths at the Independence Monument, the Monument of His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, King-Father of Cambodia “Preah Borom Ratanak Kaudh” and the Cambodia – Viet Nam Friendship Monument; visited Preah Sihanouk Province and attended the inauguration ceremony of the Cambodia-Viet Nam Friendship Monument.

On this occasion, Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen and General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong witnessed the signing of 04 documents, namely:

- (i). Protocol on Permanent Disaster Relief Actions along the Land Border Areas between the Ministry of National Defence of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Ministry of National Defence of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam;
- (ii). Joint Framework Agreement between the Royal Government of Cambodia and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on Cambodia-Viet Nam Economic Connectivity;
- (iii). Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Mines and Energy of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Socialist Republic Viet Nam on Cooperation of Power Plant Projects Development, Power Grid Interconnection and Power Exchange; and
- (iv). Memorandum of Understanding between National Institute of Posts, Telecoms & ICT of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications of Cambodia and Viettel ( Cambodia ) PLE.LTD.

2. Both sides noted with great sense of pride that the State visit to the Kingdom of Cambodia by General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong was a momentous and historical milestone as both countries concurrently celebrate the golden jubilee of diplomatic ties and Cambodia – Viet Nam Friendship Year 2017.

Both sides stressed that, inheriting the close friendship from history, over the past 50 years, Cambodia – Viet Nam good neighborliness has not only overcome many challenges but also recorded comprehensive, significant and important achievements in the cause of fighting against common enemies, struggling for the national independence, overthrowing the genocidal regime, building and developing the countries. These remarkable achievements stemmed from a very strong attachment and solidarity that was inseparable and leaning on each other, and have become a sacred symbol and invaluable common asset of both countries, a strong foundation and driving force for the cause of national protection, construction and development of each country.

Cambodia expressed sincere thanks for the strong and invaluable support and assistance in the spirit of comradeship and brotherhood that the Party, State and people of Viet Nam have extended to Cambodia in the past, especially during the struggle for national liberation from the genocidal regime, and at present. Cambodia also expressed sincere thanks to General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong for a gift of 02 ambulance cars for His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni and Her Majesty Queen-Mother Norodom Monineath Sihanouk and to the Party, State and People of Viet Nam for its financial assistance worth of USD 25 million for Office Building in the National Assembly on the occasion of this State visit. Viet Nam also sincerely thanked for the strong and invaluable assistance that His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, King-Father of Cambodia "Preah Borom Ratanak Kaudh", Her Majesty Queen-Mother Norodom Monineath Sihanouk, His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Cambodian leaders and people have extended to Viet Nam in the past as well as at present.

Both sides jointly affirmed a determination to highly promote the achievements in bilateral relations, nurture and foster the noble friendship and neighborliness between Cambodia and Viet Nam, making it stronger, more substantive and long-lasting.

3. General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong and Vietnamese leaders congratulated His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni and conveyed their congratulations to leaders and entire people of Cambodia for their significant achievements in the course of building, protecting, reconstructing and developing the country; congratulated Cambodia for successfully holding the 4<sup>th</sup> Commune/Sangkat Council Election on 04 June 2017, creating a foundation to uphold political stability, peace and development in Cambodia. General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong also conveyed his sincere wish for the successful organization of the upcoming 6<sup>th</sup> National Election in 2018; expressed his firm belief that under the wise reign of His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni and clear-sighted leadership of the Senate, the National Assembly and the Royal Government of Cambodia in which the Cambodian People's Party played a key role,

Cambodian people will continue to gain greater achievements in the course of national development.

His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni and Cambodian leaders congratulated General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong and conveyed their congratulations to the leaders and the entire people of Viet Nam for their great achievements in the course of national reforms, construction and development; expressed their firm belief that under the wise leadership of the Communist Party of Viet Nam, people of Viet Nam will soon successfully realize the cause of national industrialization and modernization.

4. Both sides agreed that protecting, preserving, and developing the bilateral relations of “good neighborliness, traditional friendship, comprehensive cooperation, long-lasting stability” on the basis of principles stated in Cambodia - Viet Nam Joint Statements of 1999, 2005, 2009, 2011, 2014, June 2016, December 2016 and April 2017, were common responsibilities of the two States and peoples of the two countries, for the sustainable development and bright future of each country, as well as for peace, stability, cooperation and development in the region and the world.

5. Both sides agreed to strengthen political relations, further tighten and enhance ties among high-level leaders of the two countries; to continue to strengthen and increase the effectiveness of cooperation mechanisms between the two countries; to expand cooperation and mutual support among all levels of two countries. Both sides also affirmed to attach importance to promoting awareness and education on the Cambodia-Viet Nam traditional friendship and comprehensive cooperation among peoples of the two countries, especially the young generation. Both sides agreed to organize activities celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations and to continue cooperation in repairing and restoring Cambodia-Viet Nam Friendship monuments in each country in accordance with the agreed plans.

6. The two sides highly appreciated the efforts of both governments and affirmed the importance to jointly promote the potential of each country in the areas of economy, culture, tourism, science and technology; agreed to well implement Joint Statements, Agreements concluded between the two countries, in which priority was given to connecting the two economies, on transport infrastructure, energy, tourism,

markets, especially the agricultural product markets of the two countries. Both sides also agreed to take measures to soon improve the investment environment to attract investment from enterprises of both countries; to step up investment and trade promotion activities and trade facilitation; to strive to reach the set goal of bilateral trade volume of US\$ 5 billion before 2020; and to increase the cooperation in enhancing the quality in the field of education – training and human resource development.

7. Both sides agreed to strengthen cooperation in national defense and security with a principle of not allowing any political or military forces to use the territory of one country to menace the national security of the other and to settle emerging issues between the two countries by peaceful means in the spirit of friendship, and mutual benefit; to strengthen co-ordination with a view to maintaining political stability, security, social order and safety in each country; to effectively implement cooperation agreements on national defense and security; to step up co-ordination in such humanitarian issues as natural disasters preparedness, joint exercise on search and rescue, medical military training, and to continue to work closely to locate the remains of Vietnamese voluntary soldiers killed in Cambodia and returned them to their home country.

Both sides also agreed to intensify close cooperation in preventing illegal border crossing, cross-border smuggling, anti-terrorism, transnational crimes, human trafficking and trade fraud, including the production and trafficking of fake and low-quality goods.

8. The two sides highly appreciated the efforts of the Joint Commission on Demarcation and Abornment for Land Boundary (JBC) for having accomplished approximately 84% of the land border demarcation and marker planting workload on the basis of the border delimitation treaties between the two countries; re-affirmed their respect for and full implementation of border delimitation treaties and relevant border agreements signed between the two countries. Both sides expressed the determination to complete the planting of border sub-pillars and supplementary markers within 2017 as well as finalize and approve relevant demarcation and marker planting dossiers in accordance with the JBC's regulations with a vision to sign a legal document to acknowledge the accomplishment of the above-mentioned

84% of the total demarcation workload as well as to find a solution acceptable to both sides to definitively resolve the remaining border sectors in order to complete land border demarcation and marker planting process as soon as possible to jointly build a common borderline of peace, stability, friendship, cooperation and sustainable development between the two countries.

9. The Vietnamese side expressed appreciation to the Royal Government of Cambodia for the efforts in providing assistance to the Vietnamese expats living in Cambodia over the past time. In the spirit of friendly neighborliness between the two countries, the Cambodian side would continue to take appropriate measures to ensure the legitimate rights of Vietnamese residents, so that they are equally treated as other foreign residents living in Cambodia in conformity with Cambodian laws and regulations, thus contributing to the consolidation and reinforcement of the traditional friendship and comprehensive cooperation between the two countries.

10. Both sides agreed to share information timely and co-ordinate closely with each other at international and regional forums, especially the United Nations, ASEAN and sub-regional cooperation mechanisms in order to contribute to promoting peace, security, stability, cooperation and development in the region and the world.

The two sides agreed to continue strengthening cooperation and close co-ordination with each other and with related countries or international organizations to ensure sustainable development, effective management and use of water, water related resources and friendly environment in the Mekong River for harmonious interests of people in the Mekong River Basin.

Both sides stressed the importance of maintaining peace, stability, and security in the South China Sea, settling disputes by peaceful means, exercising self-restraint and refraining from the threat or use of force in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The two sides are committed to work closely within ASEAN-China framework for the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC).

11. The two sides highly valued the good outcomes and historical significance of the State visit to the Kingdom of Cambodia by General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong, considering it as an important milestone, contributing greatly to further strengthen the mutual trust, further developing the Cambodia – Viet Nam relations of good neighborliness, traditional friendship, comprehensive cooperation, long-lasting stability in a deeper, more practical and effective manner, meeting the aspiration of the two peoples for the sake of peace, stability, cooperation and development in the region and the world.

General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong expressed his sincere thanks to His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, leaders and people of Cambodia for the warm welcome and gracious hospitality, in the spirit of friendship and brotherhood extended to him and his delegations during his stay in Cambodia.

General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong cordially invited His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, Her Majesty Queen-Mother Norodom Monineath Sihanouk and high-level leaders of Cambodia to visit Viet Nam at their convenient time. His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, Her Majesty Queen-Mother Norodom Monineath Sihanouk and Cambodian leaders sincerely thanked and gratefully accepted the invitation.

Phnom Penh, 21 July 2017

