



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Department of Information

Press Release

**Outcomes of the Working Visit of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen,
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the Republic of Turkey**

Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, paid a working visit to the Republic of Turkey from 20-22 October 2018 at the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Turkey.

During his stay in Istanbul, on 20 October 2018, Samdech Techo Prime Minister paid a courtesy call on H.E. Mr. Binali Yildirim, Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey. Speaker Yildirim hosted Samdech Techo Prime Minister a cordial working lunch during which the discussions were centered on further strengthening the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister and Speaker Yildirim were committed to promoting the exchange of high-level visits and contacts between Parliamentarians, especially through reinvigorating the Cambodian-Turkish Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Groups as well as continuing cooperation and mutual supports in the framework of Asia Parliamentary Assembly and Inter-Parliamentary Union.

On 21 October 2018, Samdech Techo Prime Minister had a bilateral meeting with President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan. President Erdoğan expressed his warm congratulations to Samdech Techo Prime Minister on his reelection while Samdech Techo Prime Minister reciprocated his congratulations to the President on his victorious election.

The two leaders had an in-depth and fruitful exchange of views with regards to deepening and expanding bilateral ties in all areas of cooperation, particularly the elevation of political confidence and trust. The two Leaders shared common position against a change of a legitimate government by an undemocratic process and vowed to further expand cooperation in the areas of anti-terrorism and security.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister put forward some request for support and facilitation from the Turkish government, namely preparations for the opening of the Royal Embassy of Cambodia in Ankara next year, passenger direct flight to Cambodia, scholarship to Cambodian students and the purchase of Cambodia's agricultural products. President Erdoğan, in response, accepted the proposal and said he would task concerned authorities to work out the details, and further said, in particular, that Turkish Airline would be able to operate the direct passenger flight in the future.



Both leaders reaffirmed their strong commitment to continue to extend mutual support and close cooperation in various regional and international frameworks. In this context, Samdech Techo Prime Minister thanked Turkey for supporting Cambodia as a member of ECOSOC, and thanked President Erdoğan for his pledge to support the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center in Phnom Penh.

Stressing the importance of the to-be-established Royal Embassy of Cambodia in Ankara, Samdech Techo Prime Minister affirmed President Erdoğan that it would serve as a strong foundation for Cambodia to build a long-term relation with Turkey.

It was for the first time that Cambodian Prime Minister was touring the country while the Turkish President expressed his intention to visit Cambodia and looked forward to the progress of all documents signed today. Both leaders expressed strong hope and had agreed to increase bilateral trade volume to US dollar one billion in the coming years.

At the conclusion of the bilateral meeting, Samdech Techo and Turkish President presided over the signing ceremony of eight agreements/MoU:

1. Agreement on Cultural Cooperation;
2. Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Education;
3. Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Sports;
4. Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Agriculture;
5. Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Water Resources;
6. Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Tourism;
7. Agreement on the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investment; and
8. Memorandum of Cooperation between the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority and the Turkish National Mine Action Centre.

On the sidelines of the visit, Samdech Techo Prime Minister attended the Turkish-Cambodia Business Forum. Samdech Techo Prime Minister said, among other things in reference to the Agreement on the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investment between both countries, that “ goods made in Cambodia are not aimed solely at the domestic market of more than 16 million, but they can also be exported to the 250 million people of the Mekong Sub-Region and the ASEAN market of some 630 million consumers. The future Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) in East Asia will comprise a market of three billion consumers. We can also access other major markets across the world”.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister also took the opportunity to meet and interact with Cambodian students studying in Turkey in close and cordial atmosphere.☺

Phnom Penh, 23 October 2018

