

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

## Department of Information

## Press Release

Outcomes of the Participation of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia in the 12th ASEM Summit 18-19 October 2018, Brussels, Belgium

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The 12th ASEM Summit held on 18-19 October 2018 in Brussels, Belgium was successfully concluded with the adoption of the Chairman's Statement on "Europe and Asia: Global Partners for Global Challenges".

The Leaders held substantive discussions on a wide range of issues centering on promoting inclusive growth, ASEM connectivity and sustainable development in the context of the 2030 Agenda.

The Leaders shared their views and perspectives on recent regional and international developments that need to be addressed collectively for the common interests of Asia and Europe, which include among others, the fight against protectionism, strengthening effective multilateralism and rules-based international order, tackling the challenges of climate change, upholding global non-proliferation regime, the denuclearization and the peace process in the Korean Peninsula, countering terrorism and violent extremism, migration, cyber security, and maritime security.

During the meeting, Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia shared his views on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by underlining the need for a coordinated framework to jointly address key global challenges that could impact the ability of countries to secure growth, tackle poverty eradication, improve gender equality and women empowerment. Samdech Techo reiterated his support for the multilateralism in the global architecture, particularly for strengthening the World Trade Organization, Asia and Europe should further strengthen their cooperation to ensure peace security

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development and basic human rights, which are the key issues for effectively achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

At the end of the Summit, Samdech Techo Prime Minister expressed his thanks to all ASEM partners for supporting Cambodia in hosting the 13<sup>th</sup> ASEM Summit in 2020 in Phnom Penh.

On the margin of the Summit, Samdech Techo Prime Minister held a series of bilateral talks with foreign Leaders and dignitaries of the European Union, aiming at strengthening bilateral ties, especially H.E. Mr. Li Keqiang, Premier of the People's Republic of China; H.E. Mr. Dmitri Medvedev, Prime Minister of the Russian Federation; H.E. Ms. Erna Solberg, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Norway; H.E. Mr. Jüri Ratas, Prime Minister of the Republic of Estonia; and H.E. Ms. Federica Mogherini, EU High Representative and Vice-President of the European Commission.

During the meeting with H.E. Mr. Li Keqiang, both sides highly valued the good progress of their bilateral relations and the growing cooperation in all areas between the two countries. The two Leaders also exchanged views on multilateral cooperation and regional and international issues.

With H.E. Mr. Dmitry Medvedev, Samdech Techo Prime Minister highlighted the importance of enhancing bilateral cooperation between Cambodia and Russia in the area of counter-terrorism and debt conversion and the modernization of Khmer-Soviet Friendship Hospital. The two Leaders encouraged officials from both sides to continue their work and convene the Cambodia-Russia Intergovernmental Commission for Trade, Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation.

In the meeting with H.E. Ms. Federica Mogherini, both sides noted the significance and benefits resulting from the growing cooperation and partnership between Cambodia and the EU over the last two decades and agreed on continuing the dialogue on the matters related the Everything But Arms (EBA) scheme.

In the meeting with H.E. Ms. Erna Solberg, the two Leaders exchanged views on strengthening bilateral ties and further promoting areas of mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries. Samdech Techo Prime Minister also expressed Cambodia's support for Norway's candidacy as the Chair of the Fourth Review Conference on the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction which will be held in 2019 in Norway.

In the meeting with H.E. Mr. Jüri Ratas, Samdech Techo Prime Minister assured his counterpart about Cambodia's utmost consideration on Estonia's

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candidacy as a Non-Permanent Member of the UN Security Council for the term 2020-2021.

Furthermore, Samdech Techo Prime Minister took the opportunity to receive a delegation of the ASEAN-EU Business Council and also met with approximately 1,000 Cambodian expats and students coming from different communities across Europe where his presence was most cordially and warmly welcomed. Samdech Techo Prime Minister also updated the participants the current political and economic situation in Cambodia.

Phnom Penh, 21 October 2018

