



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

PRESS RELEASE

Briefing on Cambodia's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2022

29 December 2021



On 29 December 2021, H.E. PRAK Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, led the briefing on Cambodia's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2022 under the theme "ASEAN A.C.T.: Addressing Challenges Together" at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation with the attendance of H.E. PAN Sorasak, Minister of Commerce and National Representative for the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Council and H.E. Dr. Dy Khamboly, representative of H.E. Hang Choun Naron, Minister of Youth and Sports, National Representative for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council. The briefing was attended by members of the diplomatic corps both in Cambodia and overseas and members of the local media, and was followed by a Q and A session.


H.E. Deputy Prime Minister underscored that the theme "ASEAN A.C.T.: Addressing Challenges Together" endeavors to promote ASEAN's spirit as a united family of Ten with a strong sense of "Togetherness" in jointly acting for results to achieve common goals, thereby contributing more constructively to the maintenance and enhancement of regional and global peace, stability, and sustainable development.

He also underlined four clusters of challenges with strategic implications far beyond ASEAN, namely the urgent need to achieve a speedy recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the immense pressure deriving from geopolitical rivalries, existing traditional and non-traditional security challenges, and ASEAN internal and institutional challenges.



H.E. Deputy Prime Minister emphasized that ASEAN priorities in 2022 are defined to address these challenges. In this regard, he highlighted the key priorities under the ASEAN Political-Security Community Pillar for ASEAN 2022, which include maintaining and strengthening ASEAN Centrality for peace and prosperity, promoting regional contribution to global peace, and reenergizing and expanding partnerships with external partners. He further added that the immediate attention is to ease the situation in Myanmar based on the 5-Point Consensus agreed at the ASEAN Leaders' meeting in April 2021 and the guiding principles the ASEAN Charter. Cambodia also aspires to finalize the process of admitting Timor-Leste into the ASEAN family. He also announced plan to hold two major side events - the ASEAN Global Dialogue on Post-Covid-19 Comprehensive Recovery and the 2nd ASEAN Women Leaders' Summit on entrepreneurship.

Some of the Economic and Socio-cultural priorities were highlighted at the briefing, such as ensuring effective implementation of COVID-19 response initiatives; launching Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnerships implementation and enhancing existing Free Trade Agreements; promoting digital economy, MSMEs and women empowerment; enhancing digital connectivity and cooperation in science and technology; and strengthening health, well-being and social protection of the ASEAN peoples.

Full text of addresses at the briefing are herewith attached. 

Phnom Penh, 30 December 2021

