



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING



**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

PRESS RELEASE

**Samdech Techo PM Hun Sen Discusses Cooperation Strengthening
with U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee Chair Gregory Meeks**

Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and Representative Gregory W. Meeks, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the United States House of Representatives, vowed to strengthen the relations and cooperation between Cambodia and the U.S. in a meeting held on 23 November 2022 at the Peace Palace, during the latter's visit to Cambodia to attend the 43th ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA).

Samdech Techo Prime Minister extended a warm welcome and congratulations to the US House of Representatives upon becoming Observer Parliament of AIPA. He highly appreciated the separate visits to Cambodia in two weeks by President Joe Biden to attend the ASEAN Summits and Related Summits, House Foreign Affairs Committee Chair Gregory Meeks to take part in AIPA and Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin to participate in the ADMM Plus, underlining they proved clearly the U.S. commitment to the region as well as the value given to Cambodia as the hosting country of these significant events.

Representative Gregory Meeks appreciated Cambodia for hosting successively the above-mentioned three Meetings while the region and the world are facing many issues and commended Samdech Techo Prime Minister for his leadership as Cambodia's Prime Minister and ASEAN Chair 2022 as well.



Samdech Techo Prime Minister recalled his visit to Washington, D.C last May to attend the ASEAN-US Special Summit hosted by President Joe Biden, which was an opportunity for Cambodia to contribute as the rotating ASEAN Chair in elevating the ASEAN-U.S. Dialogue Relations to “Comprehensive Strategic Partnership” and the constructive meeting he recently had with President Joe Biden on the sidelines of the ASEAN Summits and Related Summits.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister Hun Sen and Representative Gregory Meeks expressed their satisfaction with the development of U.S.- Cambodia relations, discussed and shared view to further strengthen the bilateral cooperation. Representative Meeks assured Samdech Techo that the U.S. considers Samdech a “friend” and will work closely with Samdech, who underlined that the Cambodia-U.S. relations are now better than ever since the establishment of diplomatic relations 72 years ago and that the two countries could become partners in the future.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister Hun Sen briefed Representative Gregory Meeks on the democratic process in Cambodia, especially the holding last June of the Commune Elections in a free and fair manner and the preparation by the country and different political parties for the upcoming National Elections.

Addressing the U.S.’s concerns with regard to Ream Naval Base, Samdech Techo Prime Minister reaffirmed Cambodia’s firm stance not to allow the presence of any foreign military base on the country’s territory as prohibited by the Constitution and assured the transparency in the use of this port.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister Hun Sen and Representative Gregory Meeks also exchanged views on key regional and global developments, including the situation in Myanmar and the war in Ukraine, during which Representative Meeks praised Samdech Techo Prime Minister for the country’s position on Ukraine war and endeavors to help settle Myanmar crisis.

The meeting was conducted with a frank manner and in an atmosphere of friendship and sincerity. 

Phnom Penh, 24 November 2022

