



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

General Department of Asia-Pacific

PRESS RELEASE

**“OUTCOMES OF THE EIGHTH POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS
BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
OF CAMBODIA AND THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF VIET NAM”**

25th-27th October 2023, Sihanoukville, the Kingdom of Cambodia

On 27th October 2023, **His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister SOK Chenda Sophea**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, received a courtesy call from **His Excellency DO Hung Viet**, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, at the Ministry. **His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister** warmly welcomed the Vietnamese delegation and expressed his congratulations for the fruitful outcomes of the 8th Political Consultations (PC) between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam, which contributed to the strengthening of good neighbourliness, traditional friendship and comprehensive cooperation between the two countries and laid the groundworks for the upcoming official visit of **Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei HUN Manet**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, to Viet Nam in December 2023.

During the talks, **His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister** and **His Excellency Deputy Minister** expressed common aspiration to further enhance close cooperation between the two countries in bilateral and multilateral frameworks. **His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister** stressed the importance of promoting synergy of complementary cooperation between the two countries, particularly in agriculture, tourism, and industrial supply chains.

Prior to the courtesy call, on 26th October 2023, **Her Excellency Dr. SOEUNG Rathchavy**, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia, co-chaired the 8th Political Consultations between the two Ministries of Foreign Affairs with **His Excellency DO Hung Viet** in Sihanoukville in the most amicable and productive manner.



The two sides expressed satisfaction over the close and mutually beneficial relations between Cambodia and Viet Nam that continue to grow unceasingly in all dimensions. Both sides reiterated their strong commitments to further advance comprehensive cooperation based on the spirit of “good neighborliness, traditional friendship, comprehensive cooperation and long-term stability”.

Both sides briefed each other on the recent developments in Cambodia and Viet Nam, respectively, and had an in-depth discussion on many areas of cooperation, including political-security, defense, border affairs, trade and investment, tourism, education and culture, among others, with the aim to better serve the best interests of the two nations.

On political cooperation, the two sides underscored the importance of maintaining the good momentum of high-level exchanges and close interaction between the leaders of the two countries. Both sides noted with satisfaction that **Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei HUN Manet**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, has met with the Vietnamese leaders in several occasions within only two months since **Samdech Thipadei** took office.

On defense and security pillar, both sides agreed to intensify the information sharing and coordination between the relevant ministries and authorities to combat drug-related crimes and other transnational crimes.

With respect to border affairs, both sides expressed satisfaction with the achievements concluded by the Joint Border Commissions of the two countries for the demarcation and marker planting works of approximately 84% of the land boundary and praised their commitment to work closely together to find mutually acceptable solutions to finish the approximately 16% remaining works. Both sides reiterated their strong commitment to attain their common goal of establishing a boundary of peace, stability, friendship, cooperation and sustainable development.

On economic cooperation, both sides were pleased to note the substantial increase in bilateral trade despite the challenges posed by COVID-19 pandemic. The two co-chairs concurred that Cambodia and Viet Nam should set a new trade target up to 2030. The Vietnamese side agreed to enhance trade facilitation between the two countries through the effective implementation of the existing agreements as well as expediting the infrastructure connectivity, including the expressways and the railways linking Phnom Penh-Bavet-Moc Bai-Ho Chi Minh.



On tourism cooperation, the two sides shared the view that the Ministry of Tourism of Cambodia, Viet Nam and Laos should find ways and means to facilitate the flow of tourists between the three countries to harness the huge potential of the tourism sector as well as materialize **Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister's** initiative on **"One Journey, Three Destinations"**.

The two sides underlined the critical importance of the continued cooperation in education and culture between the two countries, and agreed to further enhance collaboration in human capital development and people-to-people connectivity through cultural and educational exchanges.

The two sides also exchanged views on regional and international issues of common interest and concern, such as US-China relations, Israel and Hamas conflicts, Russia-Ukraine crisis, South China Sea, and Myanmar issues. They agreed to further strengthen their multilateral cooperation, particularly in the UN, ASEAN, and other Mekong sub-regional frameworks of cooperation.

Both sides agreed to promote cooperation between the National Institute of Diplomacy and International Relations (NIDIR) of Cambodia and the Diplomatic Academy of Viet Nam (DAV) to contribute to human resource development and the deepening of the bilateral ties between the two countries. In this regard, they encouraged the two institutions to speed up the finalization of the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for its early signing.

The two sides also agreed to collaborate closely to ensure the success of the upcoming official visit of **Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei HUN Manet** to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in December.

During his stay in Sihanoukville, **His Excellency DO Hung Viet** had a meeting with **Mr. LONG Dimanche**, Deputy Governor of Preah Sihanouk Province, and paid a visit to the Sihanoukville Autonomous Port.

Both Ministries of Foreign Affairs agreed to convene the 9th Political Consultations in 2025 in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

On behalf of the Vietnamese delegation, **His Excellency Do Hung Viet** expressed his high appreciation to the Cambodian host for the warm welcome and cordial hospitality extended to the delegation during their stay in Sihanoukville and the excellent arrangements for the 8th Political Consultations between the two Ministries of Foreign Affairs.

Phnom Penh, 28 October 2023

