

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

General Department of International Cooperation

Mekong Cooperation Department

PRESS RELEASE

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"Mekong countries and US adopt new three-year action plan"

His Excellency SOK Chenda Sophea, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, took part in the Third Mekong-US Partnership Foreign Ministers' Meeting on the sidelines of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in Vientiane on 27 July 2024.

The meeting marked 15 years of cooperation between the two sides under the Lower Mekong Initiative in 2009, expanded to the Mekong-US Partnership (MUSP) in 2020. Ministers reviewed positive progress under the Partnership and applauded the substantive achievements of programs and activities under the MUSP Plan of Action 2021-2023. These ranged from economic connectivity, food security, health, education, governance and women's empowerment to environmental protection and transnational crime, addressing numerous challenges, narrowing development gaps and improving the livelihoods of Mekong citizens. Ministers expressed their appreciation to the US Government for its steady support and assistance for sustainable regional development under the MUSP framework.

His Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister lauded the many tangible benefits under the framework and welcomed the launch of the new MUSP Plan of Action 2024-2026. He expressed confidence in the new Plan of Action in strengthening long-standing cooperative ties and providing a concrete roadmap to realize the common aspiration of Mekong countries for dynamic, resilient, inclusive and sustainable socio-economics.

development.

Address: No 3, Samdech HUN Sen Street, Sangkat Tonle Bassac, Khan Chamkarmon Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia Ministers warmly congratulated Thailand as incoming co-chair of the Partnership in 2025 and looked forward to fruitful achievements under joint collaborative efforts.

The meeting concluded by adopting a Joint Co-Chairs 'Statement and the Mekong-US Partnership Plan of Action 2024-2026.

Phnom Penh, 30 July 2024