



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Department of United Nations

PRESS RELEASE

**Outcomes of the Participation of Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister
in the Third United Nations Ocean Conference in Nice, France**

At the invitation of H.E. Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Republic, and H.E. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, **Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei HUN Manet**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, participated in the Third United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC3), held in Nice, France, from 9 to 11 June 2025, under the theme “Accelerating action and mobilizing all actors to conserve and sustainably use the ocean”.

During the General Debate, **Samdech Thipadei** expressed Cambodia’s deep concern by the escalating threats to the world’s ocean: rising sea levels, relentless erosion of coastlines, and pervasive plastic pollution, a rapid decline in marine biodiversity, and the overexploitation of our marine resources, and called for immediate and decisive action, as well as unwavering collaboration to address these challenges.

Cambodia is dedicated to enhancing its national capacities in ocean protection, including the expanding of marine protected areas, strengthening regulations for sustainable fisheries, and intensifying actions against marine pollution, particularly the devastating impact of marine plastics. Further demonstrating Cambodia’s dedication, **Samdech Thipadei** highlighted the Circular Strategy on Environment 2023–2028, which focuses on three fundamental pillars—**Clean, Green, and Sustainable**—that will significantly contribute to the health and long-term protection of Cambodia’s marine ecosystem.



Reaffirming Cambodia's commitment to multilateralism, **Samdech Thipadei** emphasized that Cambodia has consistently voted in favor of the Resolution on the 'Ocean and the Law of the Sea,' which garnered overwhelming support at the 79th session of the UN General Assembly. **Samdech Thipadei** called upon the international community to provide technical and financial support to developing countries, including through access to scientific knowledge, marine technologies, and resources for sustainable fisheries management and marine conservation, ensuring that "no nation is left behind in our collective effort to protect our oceans." **Samdech Thipadei** also expressed Cambodia's full support for and readiness to join the consensus on the UNOC3 Political Declaration, underscoring its continued commitment to multilateral cooperation and collective ocean action based on science, innovation, and equity.

During the conference, Cambodia officially signed the **Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement)** at the **Special Treaty Event** on **9 June 2025**. This landmark agreement affirms the Kingdom's support for protecting marine biodiversity and ensuring fair and sustainable use of marine genetic resources in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

Additionally, Cambodia joined the global call to combat plastic pollution by supporting the **Nice Wake-Up Call**, initiated by most members of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution (INC). This effort urges all parties to seize the historic opportunity to conclude an ambitious, universal, effective and legally binding plastics treaty at the next INC session that demonstrates our collective resolve to end plastic pollution for the benefit of present and future generations and our planet.

On the sidelines of the UNOC3, **Samdech Thipadei** held bilateral meetings with leaders and heads of delegation from several countries and institution to strengthen bilateral cooperation and relation as follows:

- With **His Excellency Emmanuel MACRON**, President of the French Republic.

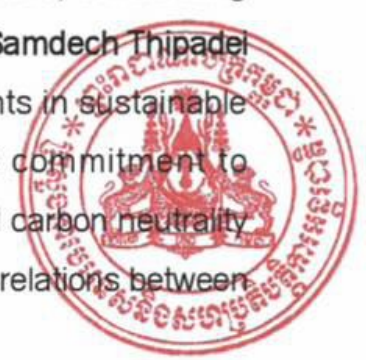
Samdech Thipadei congratulated France on its successful hosting of the



Third United Nations Ocean Conference. He reaffirmed Cambodia's strong commitment to environmental protection, as demonstrated by Cambodia's signing of the BBNJ Agreement. **His Excellency the President** encouraged Cambodia and other Member States to ratify the Agreement at the earliest opportunity, prior to the 80th Session of the UN General Assembly. While committed to taking further step to ratify this Agreement, **Samdech Thipadei** expressed deep appreciation for France's continued support to Cambodia's socio-economic development.

Both leaders welcomed the growing bilateral cooperation and reaffirmed their commitment to finalizing a roadmap for France–Cambodia relations, with the aim of establishing a strategic partnership. **His Excellency the President** commended Cambodia's UN Peacekeeping Operations and recognized its expertise in demining. **His Excellency the President** will send a delegation headed by Trade Minister to visit Cambodia in order to promote trade and economic partnership. The two sides also discussed their cooperation within multilateral framework, including France's active role as an ASEAN Development Partner and its technical support for Cambodia's hosting of the 20th Francophonie Summit in Siem Reap in 2026. **Samdech Thipadei** emphasized that **His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath NORODOM Sihamoni, King of Cambodia**, and **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, President of the Senate** also look forward to warmly welcoming **His Excellency the President** on a State Visit to Cambodia on the occasion of the 20th Francophonie Summit. Both leaders also exchanged views on regional and international issues of mutual interest.

- With **H.E. Mr. António Costa**, President of the European Council, **Samdech Thipadei** emphasized that Cambodia has enjoyed dynamic cooperation with the EU and EU member states across a wide range of sectors, contributing significantly to Cambodia's socio-economic development. **Samdech Thipadei** took the opportunity to highlight Cambodia's advancements in sustainable fisheries management, while expressing Cambodia's commitment to achieving the use of renewable energy of 70% by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050. In response, **H.E. Costa** spoke highly of the good relations between



EU-Cambodia as well as with ASEAN, and Cambodia's efforts in building legal framework, particularly the recent progress on the Law on Fisheries. Before concluding, **H.E. Costa** extended an invitation to **Samdech Thipadei** to visit the European Union institutions in Brussels to discuss new opportunities for strengthening and expanding Cambodia-EU relations, an invitation which **Samdech Thipadei** delightedly accepted.

- With **H.E. Mr. Emomali Rahmon**, President of the Republic of Tajikistan, **Samdech Thipadei** fondly recalled the warm bilateral meeting between **Samdech Techo Hun Sen**, then Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and **His Excellency President Rahmon** in 2019 in Tajikistan. As this year marks the 30th Anniversary of diplomatic relations, both leaders expressed deep satisfaction with the warm friendship and good cooperation between the two nations over the past years. They encouraged the early convening of the first round of Bilateral Consultations to chart a forward-looking path to further enhance bilateral ties. They reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen cooperation in various sectors, including clean energy, agriculture, education, among other. To conclude, **His Excellency President Rahmon** extended a cordial invitation for an official visit to Tajikistan, which **Samdech Thipadei** gladly accepted.
- With **His Excellency Robert Beugré Mambé**, Prime Minister of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, **Samdech Thipadei** reaffirmed Cambodia's commitment to further strengthening bilateral relations with Côte d'Ivoire and recalled with appreciation **His Excellency Prime Minister Mambé's** visit to Phnom Penh in 2019. The two leaders also discussed and exchanged views on a number of potential cooperation, especially in the industrial and agricultural sectors. **His Excellency Prime Minister Mambé** conveyed that the Minister of Industry of Côte d'Ivoire will pay a working visit to Cambodia to explore the possibility of expanding cooperation with Cambodia. To conclude the discussion, **Samdech Thipadei** extended a warm invitation to **His Excellency Prime Minister Mambé** to pay an official visit to Cambodia and participate in the 20th Francophonie Summit in Cambodia in 2026, to which **His Excellency Prime Minister Mambé** expressed his willingness to visit Cambodia and attend the Summit.



- With **H.E. Mrs. Annelies Verlinden**, Minister of Justice of the Kingdom of Belgium, **Samdech Thipadei** expressed his appreciation for the robust partnership between Cambodia and Belgium and thanked the government and people of Belgium for their invaluable support in key areas such as mine clearance, education, and the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC). He also underscored the significance of the bilateral consultation mechanism between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs as a vital tool to further strengthen and expand cooperation across multiple sectors. In response, **H.E. Mrs. Annelies Verlinden** conveyed her satisfaction with the strong relations between Cambodia and Belgium and warmly acknowledged the fruitful cooperation between their respective Ministries of Justice.
- With **H.E. Mr. Sepp Schellhorn**, State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs of the Republic of Austria, **Samdech Thipadei** expressed satisfaction with the longstanding Cambodia-Austria relations and appreciation for Austria's continued support, including scholarships and assistance to key institutions such as the Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC). **Samdech Thipadei** and **His Excellency Sepp Schellhorn** encouraged both countries to explore new avenues for cooperation across various sectors of shared interest. They also exchanged perspectives on multilateral cooperation, particularly climate change. **Samdech Thipadei** highlighted Cambodia's active engagement in addressing climate change through the launch of several initiatives to ensure environmental sustainability and energy transition. Notably, Cambodia has achieved 62% of renewable energy and has set the goal of achieving 70% clean energy by 2030.



Phnom Penh, 11 June 2025