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NATION RELIGION KING

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

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PRESS RELEASE

**Prime Ministers of Cambodia and Singapore to Further Deepen
Long-Standing Relations and Close Cooperation**

At the invitation of **Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei HUN Manet**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, **His Excellency Lawrence WONG**, Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore, accompanied by his spouse, **Madam Lawrence WONG**, paid his first official visit to the Kingdom of Cambodia on 2 July 2025. The visit reaffirmed the shared commitment of both countries to further strengthen and deepen bilateral ties, while exploring new avenues for cooperation. The visit holds particular significance as Cambodia and Singapore commemorate the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations this year.

During the visit, **Prime Minister Lawrence WONG** laid wreaths at the Independence Monument and paid tribute to the nation's heroic forebears. He also paid his respects at the Royal Memorial of **His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah NORODOM SIHANOUK**, "**Preah Borom Ratanak Kaudh**," the Late King-Father of Cambodia.

Prime Minister WONG and **Madam WONG** were granted a royal audience with **His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath NORODOM Sihamoni**, King of Cambodia. **Prime Minister WONG** also paid a courtesy call on **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN Sen**, President of the Senate of Cambodia.

In a spirit of friendship, mutual respect and understanding, **Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister HUN Manet** and **Prime Minister Lawrence WONG** held comprehensive and constructive discussions aimed at advancing bilateral cooperation covering a wide range of shared interests. Both leaders lauded the excellent state of bilateral relations and reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening ties at the leadership, business, and people-to-people levels. They also agreed to broaden cooperation across multiple sectors to foster deeper and more mutually beneficial engagement.



The two Prime Ministers fondly recalled the historic friendship between His Majesty the Late King-Father of Cambodia and the Late Prime Minister LEE Kuan Yew of Singapore, which laid the foundation for today's strong relations between the two nations.

Political cooperation

Both Prime Ministers emphasized the importance of maintaining regular exchanges at all levels, including between executive and legislative bodies, to deepen political ties and explore new areas of collaboration. They welcomed the successful convening of the 2nd Political Consultations between the Foreign Ministries of Cambodia and Singapore on 5 June 2025 in Singapore, and agreed to promote this mechanism for regular political dialogue.

Defense and Security Cooperation

The two Leaders reaffirmed their strong commitment to enhancing cooperation in defense and security, particularly in addressing transnational crimes such as cybercrime, online gambling, money laundering, and drug trafficking. They looked forward to the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Preventing and Combating Transnational Crimes to deepen cooperation in this field and agreed to facilitate regular exchanges between defense and law enforcement officials, along with information-sharing and capacity-building efforts.

Economic and Investment Cooperation

Amid ongoing global market volatility and uncertainty, both sides concurred that it was imperative to intensify bilateral and intra-regional trade. The two leaders expressed satisfaction with the steady growth in trade between Cambodia and Singapore and affirmed their commitment to exploring new areas of mutually beneficial economic cooperation. To sustain this positive momentum, both sides encouraged relevant stakeholders to redouble their efforts in jointly identifying potential and emerging areas of economic complementarity. It is noteworthy that Singapore remains a leading investor in Cambodia—ranking first among ASEAN member states and third overall in foreign direct investment in 2024.

Education and Capacity Building

The two leaders underscored the importance of collaboration in capacity building and human resource development, identifying Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) as one of key areas of focus. Prime Minister HUN Manet expressed his appreciation for Singapore's longstanding support through the Singapore Cooperation Programme (SCP) and the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI), which have contributed meaningfully to the development of Cambodia's human capital.



Energy Cooperation

Both sides recognized the importance of enhancing energy connectivity in the region and encouraged the relevant ministries to accelerate the implementation of commitments made during the 1st Cambodia–Laos–Singapore Energy Ministers’ Meeting, held on 29 May 2024. They also encouraged other relevant regional stakeholders to join these efforts aiming to facilitate cross-border electricity trade and strengthen regional energy security.

Both leaders also discussed other areas including digital cooperation, banking, people-to-people exchange and environment. They welcomed the progress of the implementation of the MoU on Digital Government Cooperation signed last June and urged relevant agencies to promote digital tools for public service delivery. They commended the progress of the Financial Transparency Corridor initiative, launched by the National Bank of Cambodia and the Monetary Authority of Singapore in June 2024, as a key step toward enhancing financial connectivity and facilitating cross-border trade. They also noted the steady growth in tourism between the two countries, noting that Singapore is a popular destination for medical tourism as well as education, among Cambodian citizens.

Regional and International Cooperation

Beyond bilateral matters, the two leaders exchanged views on key regional and global developments. They underscored the ASEAN centrality and unity, and expressed their determination to advancing ASEAN Community-building while deepening engagement with external partners. They also reaffirmed their shared commitment to supporting each other’s core interest and to working together to promote peace, security, and stability, and to supporting each other in international fora.

Prime Minister Lawrence WONG and his spouse, **Madam Lawrence WONG**, extended their heartfelt appreciation to **Samdech Thipadei HUN Manet** and the **First Lady**, as well as their supporting teams for the excellent arrangements and warm hospitality extended to the Singapore delegation during the official visit.



Phnom Penh, 02 July 2025