



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**  
**NATION RELIGION KING**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Outcomes of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Interface with  
the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights Representatives and  
Meeting of the Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Commission**

At the invitation of His Excellency Dato' Seri Utama Haji Mohamad Bin Haji Hasan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia, Chair of ASEAN, His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, attended the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Interface with the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) Representatives and Meeting of the Commission of the Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 8 July 2025.

**ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Interface with the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission  
on Human Rights (AICHR) Representatives**

The Interface took note of the 2025 Annual Report ( July 2024 to June 2025 ) of the AICHR and approved AICHR's Priority Programmes/Activities 2026. The Interface looked forward to the approval of the Five-Year Work Plan of the AICHR ( 2026-2030 ) at the upcoming 58th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting with the view to further forging collaboration among ASEAN Member States to strengthen the promotion and protection of human rights in the region.

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister commended the steady and meaningful progress made by AICHR in mainstreaming human rights across the three ASEAN Community pillars, which have significantly contributed to building a more inclusive, just, and people-centred ASEAN. He encouraged AICHR to further build partnerships with ASEAN Dialogue Partners, ASEAN Sectoral Bodies, civil society, and international institutions.



His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister also urged AICHR to build on this positive momentum and further enhance its work through the upcoming Five-Year Work Plan (2026–2030), which provides an opportunity for AICHR to consolidate past achievements, address emerging challenges, and align its goals with broader regional priorities in line with ASEAN Vision 2045 in order to advance shared goals and strengthen ASEAN's reputation as a Community committed to protecting human dignity and promoting universal human rights.

#### Meeting of the Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Commission

The Meeting reaffirmed ASEAN's commitment to preserving Southeast Asia as a region free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction in accordance with the ASEAN Charter and the SEANWFZ Treaty. In this endeavour, the Meeting underscored the importance of the full and effective implementation of the SEANWFZ Treaty through its Plan of Action (2023–2027). The Meeting also welcomed ongoing progress toward the biennial resolution on the SEANWFZ Treaty at the 80<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly, and emphasised the need to sustain this positive momentum in promoting the Treaty's profile internationally.

During the Meeting, His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister highlighted the growing significance of the SEANWFZ Treaty in the context of the current global geopolitical landscape and rising challenges to the non-proliferation regime. He reiterated ASEAN's collective call for the Nuclear Weapon States (NWS) to formally recognise the SEANWFZ Treaty, and in this regard, he welcomed China's readiness to sign the Protocol without reservations. He also commended the progress toward Timor-Leste's accession to the Treaty at the 47<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in October this year.

#### Bilateral Meetings on the Sidelines of the Meetings

His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister and Her Excellency Ma. Theresa P. Lazaro, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines, discussed preparations for the upcoming state visit to Cambodia by His Excellency Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., President of the Philippines, emphasising the significance of the visit. His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary Lazaro also touched upon the further deepening and strengthening of cooperation between the two countries and exchanged views on regional cooperation of common interests.





His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister and His Excellency BUI Thanh Son, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, highly commended the growing cooperation and frequent high-level exchange of visits and interactions between the two countries. Both Foreign Ministers exchanged views on key areas of cooperation, including, among others, investment, tourism, people-to-people exchanges, and connectivity. The two sides also discussed preparations for the upcoming 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Joint Commission between Cambodia and Viet Nam, scheduled to be held later this year in Cambodia.

Phnom Penh, 9 July 2025

