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**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

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PRESS RELEASE

**Outcomes of the 3rd Session of Bilateral Political Consultations
between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
of the Kingdom of Cambodia and
the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office of the United Kingdom**

On 10 December 2025, **Her Excellency Chring Botumrangsay**, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and **His Excellency Dominic Williams**, His Majesty's Ambassador of the United Kingdom to Cambodia, successfully co-chaired the third Session of Bilateral Political Consultations between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office of the United Kingdom in Phnom Penh.

At the outset, Her Excellency the Secretary of State shared the progress made in implementing Cambodia's national development policies, institutional reforms, and measures to strengthen economic resilience amidst global challenges and uncertainty. On the UK's part, His Excellency the Ambassador provided an update on the UK's policy priorities, trade and investment climate, and prioritized sectors of the UK to support national growth.

On the bilateral front, both co-chairs expressed satisfaction with the growing relationship and reaffirmed their commitment to further enhance cooperation in political, defense, economic, development, and security cooperation, among others. They underscored the importance of holding regular consultations and promoting high-level exchanges, which contribute to strengthening mutual trust and deepening understanding between the two countries. The UK acknowledged Cambodia's progress in advancing human rights. The two countries also reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing defense cooperation, including capacity-building for officials, and continued the UK naval ship visits to Cambodia.

In the economic sphere, both sides expressed optimism about strengthening trade and investment relations under the Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS) and shared



the view that collaboration between the public and private sectors should be further promoted. They looked forwards to the upcoming Joint Trade and Investment Forum next year while agreeing to foster greater engagement in tourism cooperation for mutual growth and enhanced people-to-people exchange.

Her Excellency Secretary of State, expressed Cambodia's sincere appreciation for the United Kingdom's vital support in education, women's empowerment, demining efforts, healthcare, climate change, and the Green Special Economic Zone in Cambodia. She added that the United Kingdom is a key development partner whose support provides tangible benefits to Cambodia's socio-economic development. This support has been demonstrated through various forms of cooperation, such as academic exchanges and scholarships, as well as initiatives that promote gender equality and women's empowerment – illustrated by the Girl Takeover Program in October and the recent Women of the Future Awards Southeast Asia in Singapore. In response, Ambassador reaffirmed the UK's continued commitment to supporting Cambodia in the areas of demining, education, healthcare and climate change.

Both sides discussed joint efforts to combat online scam networks, human trafficking, and cybercrime in accordance with national priorities and international obligations. They also emphasized the need for strengthened cooperation and collective action to effectively address these global challenges and expressed shared concern over the growing spread of disinformation and misinformation.

They also discussed multilateral cooperation, including mutual support in international platforms, and ways to enhance the ASEAN-UK dialogue partnership as well as the commemoration of 5th Anniversary of ASEAN-UK Dialogue Relations in 2026.

Both sides exchanged views on ongoing regional and international issues of common concern, particularly the renewed armed conflict between Cambodia and Thailand, noting the urgent need to have a ceasefire to save civilian lives and prevent further destruction. Her Excellency Secretary of State reiterated Cambodia's sincere and unwavering commitment to a peaceful settlement of the dispute and to implementation of the Joint Declaration signed in Kuala Lumpur on 26 October 2025 and appealed to the international community to urge Thailand to stop the aggression against Cambodia and respect the peace agreement and go back to the negotiating table.

The successful convening of this Bilateral Consultation marks meaningful progress in advancing mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries. Both sides remain committed to maintaining regular dialogue and convening the Fourth Bilateral Political Consultation in London next year.



Phnom Penh, 15 December 2025