



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING



**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

No. PR 40/2026 MFA.IC

PRESS RELEASE

**Outcomes of the Official Visit of His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister PRAK Sokhonn
to Australia**

At the invitation of **Senator the Hon. Penny Wong**, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia, **His Excellency PRAK Sokhonn**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, paid an official visit to Australia from 15 to 16 March 2026.

During the visit, **His Excellency PRAK Sokhonn** paid a courtesy call on **the Hon. Milton Dick MP**, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and held separate meetings with **Senator the Hon. Penny Wong** and **the Hon. Richard Marles MP**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence. The meetings provided an opportunity for both sides to review the progress of Cambodia-Australia relations and explore ways for further strengthening bilateral cooperation.

Political and Parliamentary Cooperation

The Australian leaders warmly welcomed **His Excellency PRAK Sokhonn's** visit and reaffirmed the longstanding friendship between Cambodia and Australia. Both sides underscored the importance of maintaining regular high-level exchanges and further strengthening cooperation between the two countries' executive and legislative branches, including parliamentary diplomacy.

Trade and Economic Cooperation

Both sides welcomed the steady growth of bilateral trade and economic cooperation in recent years while recognizing the potential for further expansion. Australia remains an important economic partner for Cambodia, with bilateral trade reaching approximately USD 1.2 billion in 2025. **His Excellency PRAK Sokhonn** encouraged Australian businesses to explore investment opportunities in Cambodia's priority sectors, particularly education, agriculture, agro-processing, energy, minerals, and health services.



Development Cooperation and Human Capital Development

His Excellency PRAK Sokhonn expressed Cambodia's gratitude for Australia's longstanding development assistance, which has significantly contributed to Cambodia's post-conflict recovery and subsequent socio-economic development. Australia's development cooperation, including support in agriculture, education, health, and mine action, has totaled approximately USD 1.4 billion since 1992. His Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister also acknowledged Australia's ongoing support for human resource development through the Australia Awards Scholarships, which have enabled more than 1,100 Cambodian students to pursue postgraduate studies in Australia.

Security and Defence Cooperation

During the meeting with the Hon. Richard Marles, both sides discussed the progress of security and defence cooperation between the two countries. They noted ongoing collaboration in areas such as counter-terrorism, combating transnational crimes, and defence capacity-building. The Cambodian side also expressed appreciation for Australia's continued support in training and professional development for Cambodian military personnel.

Regarding the Cambodia-Thailand border situation, the Deputy Prime Minister had an in-depth discussion with Australia's Leaders on recent developments and expressed appreciation to Australia for its support for a peaceful resolution.

During his visit, His Excellency PRAK Sokhonn also met with the Cambodian community and students living and studying in Australia, and highly valued their contributions to Australia's multicultural society.

His Excellency PRAK Sokhonn expressed his heartfelt appreciation to the Government of Australia and Senator the Hon. Penny Wong for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements extended to him and his delegation during the visit. Both sides expressed confidence that the visit would further enhance the friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation between Cambodia and Australia.



Phnom Penh, 16 March 2026