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PRESS RELEASE

**Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister HUN Manet Concluded Official Visit to
Azerbaijan and Attended the 7th CICA Summit**

Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei HUN Manet, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, accompanied by **Lok Chumteav Dr. Pich Chanmony HUN Manet** and a delegation of senior government officials, concluded his official visit to the Republic of Azerbaijan from 12 to 14 October 2026. The visit was followed by his participation in the 7th Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), held in Baku on 15 October 2026.

During the visit, **Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister** held a fruitful bilateral meeting with **His Excellency Ilham Aliyev**, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, following the official welcome ceremony. He also paid a courtesy call on **Her Excellency Sahiba Gafarova**, Speaker of the National Assembly (Milli Majlis), and met with **His Excellency Ali Asadov**, Prime Minister of Azerbaijan. During these meetings, the leaders exchanged views on a wide range of issues concerning Cambodia–Azerbaijan relations. **Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister** also laid a wreath at the Victory Monument and paid tribute to Azerbaijan’s National Leader, the late President Heydar Aliyev, at the Alley of Honour.

Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister and the Azerbaijani leadership recalled the official visit of **Samdech Techo Hun Sen** to Azerbaijan in 2014, which laid a strong foundation for the longstanding friendship and fruitful cooperation between the two countries. Both sides underscored the importance of high-level exchanges in recent years, particularly between their legislative and executive branches. They expressed satisfaction with the progress achieved and reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening bilateral cooperation under regional and international frameworks. They also emphasized the importance of holding political consultations between their respective foreign ministries to further expand cooperation and consolidate friendly ties.

On economic and trade cooperation, the two leaders stressed the importance of expanding collaboration to increase bilateral trade, promote investment, and strengthen business linkages in line with the economic potential of both countries. To this end, they agreed to establish a Joint Economic Commission to identify potential areas for cooperation and develop concrete initiatives. They recognized promising opportunities in energy security, mining, logistics and air connectivity, industrial production, agro-industry, and tourism. They also agreed to task their relevant institutions with working



together to advance cooperation in these areas.

To strengthen people-to-people ties and bring the two peoples closer together, the leaders emphasized the need to establish a framework for cooperation in education, digital technology, innovation, and technical studies, particularly in engineering, medicine, and nursing. They also highlighted the importance of promoting student exchanges and scholarship opportunities.

On defence and security, both sides reaffirmed their readiness to work together to strengthen cooperation, including in humanitarian demining through the exchange of experience, expertise, and technical know-how. This cooperation is particularly relevant given that both countries have faced similar challenges in clearing land contaminated by mines and other explosive remnants of war.

Both sides also exchanged views on reforms and efforts to improve the efficiency of public administration and public service delivery in their respective countries. They agreed to establish cooperation in this area to facilitate the sharing of experiences and best practices.

The two sides also discussed regional and international issues of mutual interest and concern. They reaffirmed their shared commitment to multilateralism and underscored the importance of strengthening cooperation on regional and international platforms to promote lasting peace, stability, and sustainable development in their respective regions and beyond. **Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister** also briefed the leadership of Azerbaijan on the latest developments concerning the Cambodia–Thailand border situation.

During the visit, **Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister HUN Manet** and **His Excellency President Ilham Aliyev** witnessed the exchange of three agreements signed between the two countries:

1. Agreement for the Elimination of Double Taxation with Respect to Taxes on Income and the Prevention of Tax Evasion and Avoidance;
2. Framework Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation; and
3. Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between the National Institute of Diplomacy and International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia and ADA University of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

As part of his official visit, **Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister HUN Manet** delivered a keynote address at the Cambodia–Azerbaijan Business Forum, attended by representatives of 80 Azerbaijani companies and Cambodian business representatives. Her Excellency Cham Nimul, Minister of Commerce of Cambodia, and His Excellency Mikayil Jabbarov, Minister of Economy of Azerbaijan, also addressed the forum.



Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister HUN Manet thanked Azerbaijani leadership for the cordial hospitality extended to the Cambodian delegation and expressed hope to warmly welcome them to Cambodia in the near future.

On 15 October 2026, **Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister HUN Manet** joined other leaders in delivering national statements at the 7th Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), held in Baku.

In his address, **Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister** emphasized the need to consistently and equally uphold the principles enshrined in the Baku Declaration, including respect for the Charter of the United Nations, international law, sovereign equality, territorial integrity, and the peaceful settlement of disputes. He also addressed the Cambodia–Thailand border situation, stressing that the dispute should be resolved through peaceful means and dialogue, in accordance with international law, and underscoring that borders and sovereignty must never be altered by force or fait accompli.

Moreover, **Samdech Thipadei** outlined Cambodia's key priorities for CICA cooperation, including advancing CICA's transformation into a full-fledged international organization; deepening economic cooperation, connectivity, energy security, and sustainable development; promoting people-to-people exchanges; strengthening collective efforts to combat cybercrime and online scams; enhancing cyber resilience; and reinforcing CICA's complementarity with the United Nations and other regional and international organizations.

Under the theme "**Stronger CICA: Connectivity, Digitalization and Sustainable Growth in Asia,**" the Leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the UN Charter, international law, and CICA's core principles, emphasizing dialogue, mutual trust, equal partnership, consensus, and voluntary confidence-building measures to promote peace, security, stability, and development in Asia. They agreed to deepen cooperation in connectivity, digitalization, AI, energy security, trade, finance, education, innovation, tourism, and climate change. They also welcomed Cambodia's ratification of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the CICA Secretariat, its Personnel and Representatives, marking an important milestone in strengthening CICA's institutional framework, alongside Lao PDR's accession as a Member State and the appointment of the new CICA Secretary General. The Summit concluded with the adoption of **the Baku Declaration of the Seventh CICA Summit and the CICA Statement on Cooperation in the Field of Occupational Safety and Health.**



Phnom Penh, 15 October 2026