KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

No. PR 150 /2026 MFA.IC

PRESS RELEASE

Outcomes of the 4th 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

H.E. Mr. Meas Kim Heng, Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and **Mr. Mark Gooding**, Director for Asia-Pacific, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), co-chaired the 4th Cambodia-UK Bilateral Political Consultations, held in London, United Kingdom, on 22-23 October 2026.

As a result of the discussion, both sides expressed satisfaction with the progress and sustained momentum of bilateral relations and cooperation, as evidenced by high-level visits, the growth of bilateral trade and investment, and ongoing development programs. With a view to further deepening their partnership, both sides exchanged views on recent political and economic developments in their respective countries and discussed opportunities to expand cooperation across various potential areas such as education, healthcare, culture, people-to-people exchanges, tourism, environment, human rights, skills development, digital technology, demining, and sustainable development.

Both sides highlighted their respective national priorities and explored new opportunities to boost trade and investment, strengthen business-to-business ties, and support sustainable economic development as Cambodia prepares to graduate from Least Developed Country (LDC) status by 2029. Both sides also emphasized the importance of the Joint Trade and Investment Forum (JTIF), which scheduled to take place in 2027,

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and the Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS) in continuing to strengthen the economic partnership between Cambodia and the UK.

Both sides welcomed recent progress in defense and security cooperation, particularly through the exchange of visits and capacity-building programs for Cambodian military officers. They also reaffirmed their commitment to continuing joint efforts to combat online scams and transnational crime, as well as to implementing the Memorandum of Understanding related to online scams signed in September 2026.

Both sides shared their commitment to respecting international law, upholding peace, and constructive dialogue in addressing regional and global challenges. In this context, the Cambodian side briefed the British side on the effort to resolve the Cambodia-Thailand border dispute, including the settlement of maritime boundary issues through a conciliation commission under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The Cambodian side also reiterated Cambodia's commitment to resolving disputes peacefully through the existing agreed mechanisms and agreements, in accordance with international law.

During his stay in London, **H.E. the Secretary of State** paid courtesy calls on **Lord Hanson**, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Home Office, and **Lord Ed Vaizey**, Chair of the ASEAN-UK Business Council, at the House of Lords in London. **H.E. the Secretary of State** also met with **Ms. Katy Reid**, Head of the Geography and Language Department at the Diplomatic Academy of the FCDO, to explore potential cooperation between Cambodia's National Institute of Diplomacy and International Relations (NIDIR) and the FCDO's Diplomatic Academy, particularly in capacity-building and professional development for diplomatic officials.

H.E. the Secretary of State and the Cambodian delegation also took the opportunity to visit De Montfort University (DMU) in London, where they met with Cambodian students currently pursuing their studies in the United Kingdom, together with **H.E. Dominic Williams**, British Ambassador to Cambodia.

The 4th Bilateral Political Consultations concluded successfully in a warm and cordial atmosphere. The 5th Bilateral Political Consultations will be held in Phnom Penh in 2027.

Phnom Penh, 30 October 2026