

CAMBODIA OUTLOOK

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Royal Embassy of Cambodia accredited to the Republic of Turkey, the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and the Republic of Tajikistan

CAMBODIA DONATES \$13 MILLION AND 500,000 DOSES OF COVID-19 VACCINES TO LAOS

Cambodia has decided to donate US\$13 million, 500,000 doses of Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine and two refrigerated vaccine transport vehicles to Laos.

The donation was made known by H.E. Eang Sophalleth, Assistant to the Cambodian Premier, following the bilateral meeting between Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia and his visiting Lao counterpart H.E. Dr. Phankham Viphavanh at the Peace Palace on 29 November.

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VIRTUAL ASEM13 KICKS OFF UNDER THE THEME "STRENGTHENING MULTILATERALISM FOR SHARED GROWTH"



Cambodia hosted the 13th Asia-Europe Summit (ASEM13), under the theme of "Strengthening Multilateralism for Shared Growth", on 25-26 November 2021 via videoconference.

"THE TASTE OF ANGKOR" CROWNED "BEST ASIAN COOKBOOK" AT THE GOURMAND WORLD COOKBOOK AWARDS 2021



"The Taste of Angkor", a cookbook prepared and published by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation as part of its cultural diplomacy, has been

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Cambodia hosted the 13th Asia-Europe Summit (ASEM13), under the theme of "Strengthening Multilateralism for Shared Growth", on 25-26 November 2021 via videoconference. The ASEM13 was chaired by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia and attended by the Heads of State/Government or their high-level representatives of ASEM Partners, the President of the European Council, the President of the European Commission, and the Secretary-General of ASEAN.

At the Summit, Samdech Techo Prime Minister stressed that, over the past 25 years, Samdech emphasized that ASEM Partners need to double down their commitment to an effective multilateralism, an inclusive and resilient post-COVID-19 recovery, and a more visible and robust ASEM in global governance.

To this end, Samdech Techo Prime Minister called for a deepened inter-regional connectivity

for sustainable development and shared growth; enhanced inter-regional partnership for global governance; more effective rules-based multilateral system; the need for further harnessing innovation, digital connectivity; and industrial revolution 4.0; the promotion of ASEM's visibility and relevance; and collective efforts to address cross-cutting issues, including climate change, poverty, women empowerment and other transnational challenges.

ASEM Leaders had an opportunity to listen to and take note of the recommendations from the outcome presentation of five Side Events, namely the 11th Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting (ASEP11), the 4th ASEM Young Leader's Summit (ASEFYLS4), the Asia-Europe Economic and Business Forum, the Asia-Europe Forum on Women, Peace and

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VIRTUAL ASEM13 KICKS OFF UNDER THE ...

Security, and the Asia-Europe Peoples' Forum. They also expressed their appreciation to Cambodia for organizing the ASEM Cultural Festival (ASEMFest) to showcase the richness of artistic creativity and diversity in Asia and Europe and for initiating the Forum on Women, Peace and Security.

At the end of the Summit, ASEM Leaders adopted the three significant ASEM13 outcome documents, namely: (1) the ASEM13 Chair's Statement; (2) the Phnom Penh Statement on the Post-COVID-19 Socio Economic Recovery; and (3) the Way Forward on ASEM Connectivity.

ASEM Leaders expressed high appreciation to the Royal Government of Cambodia for excellent arrangements and sincere congratulations to Samdech Techo Prime Minister on successfully chairing the Summit which will contribute towards a strengthened multilateralism, more robust ASEM process and a resilient, inclusive and sustainable post-COVID-19 era. ASEM Leaders looked forward to attending the 14th ASEM Summit in Europe in 2023.

ASEM is an intergovernmental process established in 1996 to foster dialogue and cooperation between Asia and Europe. It addresses political, economic, financial, social, cultural, and educational issues of common interest in a spirit of mutual respect and equal partnership. Its foremost event, the ASEM Summit, is a biennial meeting between the Heads of State and Government, the President of the European Council, the President of the European Commission, and the Secretary-General of ASEAN. In addition, ASEM Ministers & Senior Officials also meet in their respective sectoral dialogues.

The initial ASEM Partnership in 1996 consisted of 15 EU Member States, 7 ASEAN Member States, China, Japan, Korea and the European Commission. Today, ASEM comprises 53 partners, including 30 European and 21 Asian countries, the European Union and the ASEAN Secretariat. Cambodia joined ASEM in 2004 at the 5th ASEM Summit in Hanoi, Vietnam. ■

REAL ESTATE SECTOR EXPECTED TO RECOVER NEXT YEAR, AS NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND GLOBAL GROWTH INCREASE



Cambodia's real estate sector is projected to recover, supported by a gradual increase in foreign investment inflows, while domestic investment and demand for low- and medium-cost real estate are on the rise.

The remark was made by H.E Aun Pornmoniroth, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Economy and Finance, at the 23rd virtual ASEAN Valuers Association Congress on Nov. 25.

Similar to global trend, Cambodia's economy in 2021 is forecast to recover at a rate of 2.4 percent due to the continued threats of Covid-19 and the slower than expected recovery of global demand, the removal of administrative

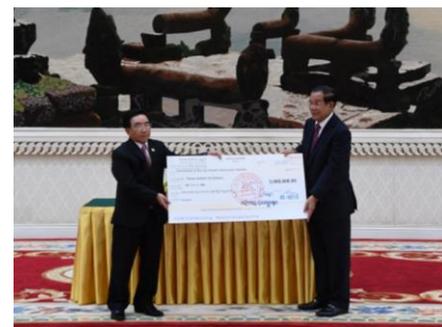
measures, and the transition to the "new normal" of socio-economic activities, he said.

"At the same time, the real estate sector in Cambodia is forecast to recover at a rate of 2.4 percent in 2021 and 4.8 percent in 2022 in the wake of a weaker FDI but domestic investment and demand in affordable housing continues to show strong growth," he added.

The Cambodian deputy prime minister also emphasised that these forecasts remain as estimates due to the risk of new waves of new variant of Covid-19 that are more virulent and continue to pose challenges to global and regional development.

According to H.E. Aun Pornmoniroth, Cambodia has already introduced 10 rounds of highly effective intervention measures, aiming at stabilising businesses and livelihoods of the people, especially workers-employees, poor families, and those who are most vulnerable to the impact of Covid-19. ■

CAMBODIA DONATES...



According to the assistant, US\$3 million of the total budget is from the Royal Government of Cambodia while the rest US\$10 million is from private companies.

In the meeting, both leaders lauded the long-lasting relations and cooperation between the two neighbouring countries and agreed to further boost their cooperation in the fields of trade, investment, education, culture, tourism and other potential areas.

They also agreed to continue the visit exchange, the negotiations for completion of draft agreement on comprehensive partnership of cooperation, and the work of the Joint Border Committee.

H.E. Dr. Phankham Viphavanh congratulated Cambodia on the success of hosting the 13th ASEM Summit and reaffirmed Laos' support and cooperation with Cambodia for the success of its ASEAN chairmanship in 2022.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen asked the Lao side to consider allowing the two peoples to travel back and forth between both countries to boost tourism.

Moreover, Samdech Techo Prime Minister expressed his support for the investment promotion between the two nations as investment is a foundation to strengthen and expand their political and economic cooperation.

H.E. Dr. Phankham Viphavanh arrived in Cambodia on 29 November for a two-day official visit at the invitation of Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen. ■

"THE TASTE OF ANGKOR" CROWNED "BEST ASIAN COOKBOOK" ...



Num Banh Chok Khmer ស្រូវប្រាំង
Cambodian Rice Noodles សម្រាប់ ៤-៦ បរិមាណ

Ingredients:
 1½ kg num banh chok (cooked Khmer rice noodles)
 500-700 g freshwater fish kroeung (see pg 8)
 ¼ cup coconut milk
 50 g prahok (fermented fish) or anchovy
 1½ tbsp palm sugar
 2 tbsp white sugar
 3 tbsp fish sauce
 3 tbsp salt

Vegetables:
 Banana blossom, sriambok, cucumber, long green bean, bean sprouts, water lily and cabbage are most commonly used.

Condiments:
 Salt, bird's eye chili, dried chili flakes or powder and lime.

Instructions:
 Bring 2-2.5 l water to a boil, lower heat and add in the fish. Once the fish is cooked, remove it from the stock. Set the stock aside and debone the fish. Pound the kroeung, sugar, salt and fish flesh together.

Next, bring the fish stock to a boil, then add in the prahok, coconut milk, fish mixture, salt, fish sauce and palm sugar. Bring the broth to a boil once more. Serve hot with fresh vegetables, cooked Khmer noodles "Num Banh Chok" and condiments.

distinguished as the "Best Asian Cookbook" at the Gourmand World Cookbook Awards 2021. The award ceremony is currently being held in Paris from 29 November to 6 December 2021.

The Gourmand World Cookbook Awards was founded in 1995 by Edouard Cointreau with the goal of supporting culinary traditions from around the globe. Every year, they honour the best food and wine books as well as food television. In 2021, there were 198 countries entering the competition with a total submission of 4000 cookbooks.

The Taste of Angkor, which was unveiled on 18 January 2021 by His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister Prak Sokhonn, contains a selection of 38 recipes of Khmer dishes and desserts. Easy-to-follow detailed instructions, encompassing ingredient substitutions of Khmer ingredients that may be hard to source abroad, were the highlight of this artistic culinary book.

The Taste of Angkor, which were provided for the use of Cambodian diplomats and to be presented as gifts to foreign dignitaries, is a great contribution of the Royal Government of Cambodia's advancement of its food and cultural diplomacy.

The Gourmand World Cookbook Awards 2021 is a fresh source of pride and honour for the Kingdom of Cambodia's efforts to get the world to know and truly appreciate the great legacy of Cambodia's thousand-year-old culinary heritage.

Food diplomacy is one of the cornerstones of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation's Economic Diplomacy Strategy 2021-2023. The aim of the Strategy is to enhance Cambodia's prestige on the international stage and to contribute to the realisation of the Royal Government of Cambodia's vision for 2030 and 2050. ■

INDONESIA URGES FOR DIRECT FLIGHT CONNECTION WITH CAMBODIA



Indonesia has urged for direct flight connection with Cambodia to facilitate mutual vaccination tourism movement in the near future.

The news was shared by H.E. Sok Sangvar, Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of Tourism who represented Tourism Minister H.E. Thong Khon at a Famtrip themed "Exploring the Land of Sunda" at the Embassy of Indonesia to Phnom Penh recently.

Speaking on the opening ceremony of Famtrip, H.E. Sudirman Haseng, Ambassador of Indonesia to Cambodia, spoke highly of Cambodia's effort in fighting against COVID-19, especially in building the community immunity.

He also thanked the Government of Cambodia for vaccinating against COVID-19 to Indonesian people in Cambodia.

Famtrip was organised to promote the good collaboration between the two nations in diplomacy, trade, tourism and beyond. ■

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN CAMBODIA UP 9.6 PERCENT IN FIRST SEMESTER

Cambodia attracted new foreign direct investment (FDI) of US\$39 billion in capital at the end of the first semester of this year, a year-on-year increase of 9.6 percent, the National Bank of Cambodia's statistics showed on 28 November.

China was the largest source of registered FDI with US\$17.3 billion or 44.2 percent of the total registered investment capital among countries with newly licensed investment projects in Cambodia during the period.

South Korea and Vietnam were placed second and third with registered capital of

US\$4.1 billion and US\$2.5 billion, respectively.

Singapore, Japan, Malaysia, Thailand, the UK, Canada, and the U.S. were also among the top investment countries in Cambodia.

The licensed FDI covered mainly the areas of finance, manufacturing, real estate, hotel and restaurant, agriculture, electricity, and construction. ■

CAMBODIA TEMPORARILY BANS TRAVEL FROM 10 AFRICAN COUNTRIES OVER OMICRON CONCERNS

Cambodia has decided to impose temporary travel ban on passengers coming from or transiting through 10 African countries following the outbreak of Omicron COVID-19 variant.

The travel restrictions were announced in a press release of the Ministry of Health made public on 29 November 2021.

Those who have travel history to those 10 countries in the past three weeks are also banned from entering Cambodia even by air or land or waterway.

The ten African countries are Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Angola, and Zambia.

The new measure will take effect 48 hours after the issuance of this press release. Amid the world's concerns over the Omicron variant, Cambodia's Ministry of Health has recently reminded the citizens of strict application of the health safety rules, particularly the Three Dos, Three Don't, and the necessity of vaccination against the pandemic.

APSARA NATIONAL AUTHORITY TO HOLD "ANGKOR THANKSGIVING" IN MID-DECEMBER

APSARA National Authority is planning to hold the event of "Angkor Thanksgiving" in mid-December, according to the authority's news release.

The event, to take place from Dec. 14 to 16, is aimed to commemorate the ancestors, the previous kings, and queens who built many temples in the Angkor site as well as all generations of the conservation teams in Angkor's temples for the benefit of the society.

The Angkor Thanksgiving will feature different programmes such as religious programmes, nightly art performances, and the exhibition of the general achievements of the APSARA National Authority for the conservation and sustainable development in Angkor, a World Heritage Site, said H.E. Chum Sopheakmakara, Deputy Director-General of APSARA National Authority.

Separately, he added, there will also be religious events and art performances entirely sponsored by the private sector on Dec. 12-13 before the opening ceremony.

The event will also provide an opportunity for the public to visit and learn about the work at the temple restoration sites where the APSARA National Authority is operating, said the news release, stressing that the public can be more aware of the conservation and sustainable development activities in Angkor.

