

CAMBODIAN FM: CICA TO RISE UP TO THE CHALLENGES POSED BY COVID-19

Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister H.E. Prak Sokhonn, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation has emphasised the need for the Member States of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) to rise up to the challenge posed by COVID-19.

At the 6th Ministerial Meeting of CICA hosted by Kazakhstan in hybrid format on 12 October, H.E. Prak Sokhonn highlighted the importance of preserving today's hard-earned global peace and prosperity and the need for CICA Member States to rise up to the immediate challenges

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IMF MEDIUM-TERM OUTLOOK SEES CAMBODIA'S GROWTH REBOUNDING TO 6.6%

Viet Nam, Cambodia and the Philippines are projected to have the fastest growing economies in Southeast Asia in five years, according to medium-term projections by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

In its World Economic Outlook released in Washington on 12 October, the IMF projected GDP growth at 6.9 percent for Viet Nam, 6.6 percent for Cambodia and 6.5 percent for the Philippines in 2026.

Among other emerging and developing ASEAN economies, the IMF projected growth rates of 5.8 percent for Laos, 5.2 percent for

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CAMBODIA MARKS 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF PARIS PEACE AGREEMENT



H.E. Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation represented Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen to preside over the 30th Anniversary of Paris Peace Agreement on 23 October 2021, in Phoom Penh

The Royal Government of Cambodia celebrated at the Peace Palace the 30th Anniversary of the Signing of the Agreements on a Comprehensive Political Settlement of the Cambodian Conflict, known as "the Paris Peace Agreements", on 23 October 2021.

H.E. Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation represented Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen to preside over the event.

Representatives from the Senate and National Assembly, the government, the diplomatic corps and the Office of the United Nations in Phnom Penh were also attended.

In his speech, the Cambodian deputy prime minister recalled major historical events towards the conclusion of the Paris Peace Agreement on Oct. 23, 1991 and laid stress on the development in all domains of Cambodia.

The Deputy Prime Minister said Cambodia has become a highly responsible actor in the international community with equal status, rights, and a government that is fully accountable to its citizens, particularly in shaping a future that is peaceful, stable, dignified while having continued development.

He added Cambodia has maintained its obligations under its Constitution to promote and uphold its core values and interests as reflected in its national and international policies and it will embrace and defend its independence, sovereignty, permanent neutrality, and territorial integrity, while being firmly committed to fulfilling all

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CAMBODIA MARKS 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF ...

of its international duties, both in the region and the world at large.

He said that in 2022, Cambodia will assume the role of ASEAN Chairmanship for the third time since the Kingdom became the youngest member of this Association.

"This will take place in the context where our region continues to battle the multi-fold crises caused by the Covid-19 and strive to recover socio-economically in the aftermath of the pandemic. Simultaneously, we are dealing with tense geopolitical rivalries between major powers with spillovers onto other fields including economy, trade, science, technology and ideology," said the Deputy Prime Minister.

He added: "Our region continues to face other deep-rooted issues like the rising tension on the Korean Peninsula due to missile tests and military exercises, despite the restoration of the official channel of communication between the two Koreas. We have seen also some muscle flexing in the South China Sea, which have added pressure on the stability of this region and affected the negotiation of the Code of Conduct for the South China Sea. The politicalsecurity crisis in Myanmar is also creating unprecedented difficulty both within ASEAN and between ASEAN and its dialogue partners".

As we commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the Paris Peace Agreements, H.E. Prak Sokhonn said they hope that the lessons learnt in Cambodia in obtaining peace and national reconciliation could contribute to resolving the crisis in Myanmar, a full member of the ASEAN family.

Given its Chairmanship theme, he added Cambodia will appeal to all members of the ASEAN community to unite in addressing the many complex challenges that they face.

H.E. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs of France, and H.E. Mrs. Retno L.P. Marsudi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, sent congratulatory messages highlighting the main roles of France and Indonesia as the Co-Chairs of the Paris Conference on Cambodia.

On behalf of the diplomatic corps, H.E. Mikami Masahiro, Ambassador of Japan to Cambodia, said that Japan hopes that Cambodia, standing firm on the principles enshrined in the Paris Peace Agreements and the Kingdom's Constitution, will continue its development for years to come. He also reaffirmed Japan's commitment to work closely with Cambodia to expand the bilateral cooperation and to address various issues together in the region and beyond.

TRANSFORMING PREAH SIHANOUK PROVINCE INTO MULTI-PURPOSE SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE



The Cambodian Ministry of Economy and Finance and the Urban Planning and Design Institute of Shenzhen, China, have entered a consultancy contract to transform Preah Sihanouk province into a model multi-purpose special economic zone.

The official contract signing took place virtually on 18 October between H.E. Phan Phalla, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Economy and Finance, and Mr. Sima Xiao, Director of the Urban Planning and Design

Institute of Shenzhen, in the presence of H.E. Aun Pornmoniroth, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance.

Under the contract, the institute will prepare a master plan that illustrates a model multipurpose special economic zone development vision and direction in line with Cambodia's political, economic, and social context.

H.E. Aun Pornmoniroth said that the goal of development of Preah Sihanouk province into a model multi-purpose special economic zone is to sustainably promote its development potentials.

It also aims to transform Preah Sihanouk province into a major economic zone in Southeast Asia using smart technology, and advanced industrial zone that serves as a regional and global production chains, he added.

CAMBODIA TO RESUME GRANTING TOURIST VISA TO FOREIGNERS



Cambodian Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced on 21 October the resuming of granting visas to travelers to enter Cambodia.

According to the announcement, the visa exemption policy and electronic visa application (e-Visa) will be resuming, except the visa on arrival.

Travelers must comply with the preventive and the new quarantine measures set by the Ministry of Health for travelers entering Cambodia.

Resumes direct flights from Malaysia, **Indonesia** and the Philippines

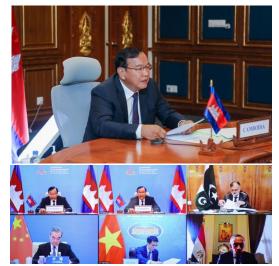
Cambodia has decided to lift the temporary ban of flights from Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines imposed since Aug. 1, 2020 to reduce the risk of imported COVID-19 transmission.

The decision is aimed to contribute to the resumption, step by step, of economic and social activities in the New Normal, underlined a press release of the Ministry of Health.

The move will help the rehabilitation of air transport and the cooperation in this sector, it added.

On 16 October, Cambodian Health Ministry announced new quarantine measures for Cambodian or international travelers. Cambodian and foreign investors, technical staffs, officers in charge of official development projects, diplomats, and government officials (including their family members) returning to Cambodia upon completing mission abroad will need to quarantine for only 3 days. Cambodian and foreign travelers in general will need to quarantine for seven days; those who have not yet fully vaccinated will guarantine for 14 days. ■

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posed by COVID-19 and those caused by persisting issues including great power rivalry, supply chain disruptions, and developmental gaps.

The Deputy Prime Minister called on CICA Member States to reinforce their cooperation in order to enhance CICA's international standing in promoting inclusive and constructive dialogue, facilitating trade and investment, and carrying out more innovative ways to enhance multifaceted cooperation across the region such as through Track 1.5 and Track 2 engagements.

The 6th Ministerial Meeting of CICA was chaired by H.E. Mukhtar Tileuberdi. Deputy Prime Minister. Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of

Kazakhstan, under the theme "Security and Sustainable Development in Asia in New Realities of the Post-Pandemic World".

In the meeting, the CICA Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their commitment in enhancing mutual confidence and trust building with the ultimate purpose of promoting peace, security, stability, and prosperity across the Asian region.

The meeting exchanged views and set out common directions on a number of important regional and global issues including the importance of upholding a rules-based multilateral trading system, environmental protection, the need to capitalize on the latest technologies to facilitate socio-economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, and the importance of upholding human rights in their entirety in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter and International Law.

The meeting concluded with the adoption of three key documents, namely: (1) Regulation of the CICA Council of Eminent Persons; (2) Updated CICA Catalogue of Confidence Building Measures; (3) Amendment of CICA Rules of Procedure.

THAILAND & VIET NAM REMAIN KEY MARKETS FOR CAMBODIAN **AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS**

H.E. Veng Sakhon, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, said that the National Phytosanitary Database of the General Department of Agriculture of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries showed the results of agricultural exports to 90 countries in the first nine months of 2021 with a volume of 5.93 million tons.

Among the 90 countries, Viet Nam and Thailand, which are adjacent to Cambodia, are the main markets for Cambodian agricultural products, of which Viet Nam received 64.11% of Cambodian agricultural products, Thailand 21.49%, and China 9.69%. % and the rest of the 87 other countries received only 4.71%.

The Minister of Agriculture has revealed that in the first nine months of this year, agricultural exports reached more than \$3 billion. Cambodia's agricultural exports include rice, dried cassava slices, fresh cassava, cassava flour, cassava waste, cashew nuts, corn, soybeans, fresh bananas, grapefruit, fresh mangoes, mango syrup, coconut oil, pepper, tobacco and mixed vegetables.

IMF MEDIUM-TERM OUTLOOK SEES ...

Indonesia, 5.0 percent for Malaysia, 3.6 percent for Thailand, 2.5 percent for Myanmar and 2.1 percent for Brunei.

In the shorter term, Cambodia is expected to be among the top five ASEAN economies in terms of growth in 2022 with GDP forecast to expand by 5.7 percent.

That compares with 6.6 percent in Viet Nam, 6.3 percent in the Philippines, 6.0 percent in Malaysia and 5.9 percent in Indonesia.

Growth is projected to be slower at 4.5 percent in Thailand, 4.2 percent in Laos, 3.2 percent in Singapore and 2.6 percent in Brunei whereas GDP is forecast to shrink by 0.1 percent in Myanmar.

ALMOST US\$95 MILLION INVESTMENT PROJECTS APPROVED

Seven more investment projects worth US\$94.9 million have been approved, according to a press release of the Council for the Development of Cambodia issued on Oct. 22.

The newly-approved projects are expected to generate in total 5,311 jobs for the locals, and cover garment and footwear, furniture, decorative light bulbs, and glove manufacturing.

These projects will be located in Phnom Penh capital city, and the provinces of Kampong Speu, Preah Sihanouk, and Svay Rieng.

From January to September, the CDC approved a total of 134 investment projects with a cumulative investment capital of US\$3.3 billion.

124 NEW INDUSTRIAL **PROJECTS REGISTERED** IN JAN-SEPT PERIOD

The Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology, and Innovation has registered a total of 124 new industrial projects in the first nine months of this year.

The new industrial projects bring the total active industrial factories to 1,843 with a total investment capital of US\$13,341 million, H.E. Heng Sokkong, the ministry's Secretary of State and Spokesperson, said on 18 October.

The total exports of the industrial factories were valued at US\$3,057 million while the supplies to domestic market at US\$1,123 million, he said.

Having new industrial investment projects registered reflects the firm confidence of investors in Cambodia, particularly the country's herd immunity as the government is reopening economic and social activities, he underlined.

Guarantee Mechanism for Travelers to Cambodia

Re-activated from 18 October 2021





WHO CAN APPLY?

Foreign or Cambodian travelers, who are investors, experts, and family members, that are guaranteed by a local business partner who is a legal entity having been registered and paid tax in Cambodia.

- Work permit (if needed)
- Validation Certificate on Guarantee (please visit CamDX via www.registrationservices.gov.kh)
- Valid Visa (if needed)
- Proof of Negative Covid-19 PCR test (72 hours prior to the departure)

Full Covid-19
Vaccination Certificate

PRE-DEPARTURE
Certificate Required Pre-requisites:

- Covid-19 Health Insurance Policy (can be purchased at https://www.forteinsurance.com/covid-19-insurance/)
- Hotel reservation confirmation (Proof of Online Booking). Hotel options are Sokha Phnom Penh Residence, Courtyard by Marriot, Raffles Hotel Le Royal, Sofitel Phnom Penh Phooketra and Himawari

ARRIVAL IN CAMBODIA

PASS THROUGH INSPECTION

Travelers shall present all pre-requisites listed in Pre-Departure.





UNDERGO COVID-19 TEST UPON ARRIVAL

Travelers have to receive the Covid-19 PCR test facilitated by Ministry of Health.

WAIT FOR COVID-19 TEST RESULT IN THE HOTEL ROOM OR QUARANTINE ACCOMMODATION



- If tested positive, the traveler will be sent to a treatment hospital facilitated by Ministry of Health. Guarantor is required to cover all medical expenses until the patient is fully recovered.
- If tested negative, the traveler must be quarantined for 3 days.

QUARANTINE APPLICATION

- Mandatory quarantine for 3 days for fully vaccinated traveler. S/he will be allowed to end his/her quarantine on Day 3 if tested negative (one PCR test only).
- Guarantor must be responsible for all expenses related to travelers' quarantine.



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