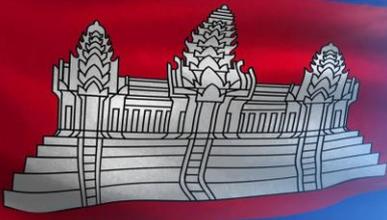


CAMBODIA OUTLOOK

ISSUE 20: 11 - 20 FEBRUARY 2021



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

TRADE COOPERATION TO BOOST BETWEEN CAMBODIA-LAOS AND CAMBODIA-PHILIPPINES

Cambodia and Laos, and Cambodia and the Philippines have been committed to further boosting their cooperation, particularly in the trade sector.

The commitment was made during separate meetings on 17 February 2021 between Cambodian Minister of Commerce H.E. Pan Sorasak and Ambassadors of Lao PDR and the Philippines to Cambodia.

Continued on page (2)

NEW ECO-TOURISM PLAN FOR MONDULKIRI PROVINCE

The twenty-year Monduliri Provincial Spatial Plan was officially endorsed by the Provincial Council in a meeting of the representatives of the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, Monduliri Provincial Council members, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), WWF-Cambodia, and the spatial planning technical team.

Prior to endorsement, relevant stakeholders from various ministries, provincial departments, district and commune administration offices, USAID, civil society organisations, and the private sector attended the final spatial plan consultation workshop on 17 February, 2021.

Continued on page (3)

CAMBODIA SEEKS TO PURCHASE 5 MILLION COVID-19 VACCINE DOSES FROM INDIA



Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation H.E. Prak Sokhonn held a phone conversation with Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs of India, on 18 February 2021.

Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation H.E. Prak Sokhonn held a phone conversation with Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs of India, on 18 February 2021.

According to a press release of the Cambodian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MFA-IC), both sides discussed the COVID-19 vaccine as well as the joint efforts in fighting COVID-19.

H.E. Deputy Prime Minister admired India's efforts regarding the successful development of two COVID-19 vaccines and appreciated India's international humanitarian gesture for providing donation and supply millions of COVID-19 vaccine doses to several countries.

H.E. Prak Sokhonn extended his sincere thanks to the Government of India for approving supply of 100,000 COVID-19 vaccine

doses to Cambodia through the Serum Institute of India on the contract basis despite innumerable competing requests from partner countries and domestic demands. He informed his Indian counterpart that Cambodia requested to purchase 5 million COVID-19 vaccine doses, with 1 million doses in the first phase.

He also underlined that Samdech Techo Prime Minister decided to purchase COVID-19 vaccine from India because the two countries have enjoyed history of closed relations and Cambodian people trust Indian medical care and health services which are affordable and efficient.

In response, H.E. Jaishankar informed that currently, India has faced a high demand for COVID-19 vaccine, both domestically and externally.

Continued on page (2)

TRADE COOPERATION TO BOOST BETWEEN...

During the talks with Lao Ambassador H.E. Amphay Kindavong, both sides reiterated their cooperation in the bilateral and ASEAN framework to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 at the common border of the two countries.

H.E. Minister encouraged the Lao side to organise the 13th CLV DTA JCC (Joint Coordination Committee on Cambodia-Laos-Vietnam Development Triangle Area) Meeting via Videoconference as soon as possible, and to resume the Cambodia-Laos Joint Committee Meeting to enhance bilateral trade and investment. He also suggested business matching between both countries' private sector through Videoconference or in post-COVID-19 crisis.

For his part, H.E. Amphay Kindavong pledged to take the suggestions to relevant ministries/institutions of Laos.

In the courtesy meeting with newly appointed Ambassador of the Philippines H.E. Ms. Maria Amelita C. Aquino, H.E. Pan Sorasak asked the Philippines side to consider the possibility to import Cambodian rice and other potential agricultural products, and to convince more Filipino investors to invest in agro-industrial product processing in Cambodia for export to the Philippines and other countries in the world.

Moreover, he encouraged the two countries' chambers of commerce to reach a MoU to promote the bilateral trade and investment, and invited the Philippines side to join Cambodia international trade fair to be organized after the end of COVID-19 pandemic. ■

THE KINGDOM SUPPORTS FEDEX'S CARGO FLIGHT PROJECT IN CAMBODIA

Cambodia welcomes the U.S. for FedEx's import and export cargo flight project to Cambodia to start in June 2021, according to State Secretariat of Civil Aviation (SSCA) spokesman Sin Chansereyvutha.

The support was made by H.E. Mao Havannall, Minister in charge of the SSCA during a meeting with H.E. W. Patrick Murphy, U.S. Ambassador to Cambodia here in Phnom Penh on 11 February 2021.

H.E. W. Patrick Murphy thanked Cambodia for the support of the project, stressing that the U.S. will help facilitate FedEx's with the project.

Both sides also discussed the progress of the civil aviation sector in the Kingdom, and the progress of Cambodia's preparation for the Cape Town Convention.

Cambodia is studying the Cape Town Convention and working hard to speed up the work to get a good result with the agreement.

Cape Town Convention is an international treaty that experts say will open access to the latest aviation technology and expand the international networks of local airlines. As of 2018, the agreement has been ratified by 77 states – including China, Bhutan, Fiji, Australia, and India – as well as the European Union. ■

PHNOM PENH READY TO ATTEND DUBAI EXPO IN OCTOBER

Cambodia is ready to attend the Dubai Expo to happen on October 1, 2021 until March 31, 2022, at the invitation of the Government of the United Arab Emirates, shared by H.E. Pan Sorasak, the Minister of Commerce.

The Dubai Expo is expected to attract 200 countries with some 25 million visitors. Cambodia national

pavilion will encompass a given 384,5 square metre space with two stories, housing sections in the order of the country's historical evolutions: pre-Angkor, Angkor, Longvek/Oudong and Chaktomuk/Current Phnom Penh. The Cambodian team will run the exhibition under the theme "Sustainability". ■

CAMBODIA SEEKS TO...

Furthermore, he stressed that because of Samdech Techo Prime Minister's request letter addressed to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and that India regards Samdech Techo as an outstanding figure and respectful leader, thus H.E. Jaishankar will report the Cambodia's request to purchase 5 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine to H.E. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and pledged to do his best to assist Cambodia to meet her demand. ■

AUSTRALIA PROVIDES MORE SUPPORT TO ECCC

Australia has announced to provide up to AUD 2 million over the next two years through the United Nations to help conclude the Khmer Rouge Tribunal (ECCC)'s legal proceedings and, importantly, to support the Tribunal's archiving and community outreach mechanisms.

The Australian Embassy in Phnom Penh made the announcement on 19 February 2021, underlining that this new commitment builds on Australia's previous contributions of over AUD 40 million to the Court since 2005, making the country the third largest international donor.

"Australia's support for the Khmer Rouge Tribunal reflects our strong commitment to international criminal justice and our faith that, by understanding and accounting for the horrific acts of the past, we can work with Cambodia and our region to ensure they are never repeated," the embassy said.

Australia is a major supporter of the Khmer Rouge Tribunal (ECCC), which is helping to secure justice for the many victims of the Khmer Rouge regime and their families. Approximately 83,000 Cambodians attended hearings during the Tribunal's most recent trial, which resulted in two senior Khmer Rouge leaders being convicted of genocide and crimes against humanity. ■



A CHINESE FIRM TO CONTINUE DEVELOPING DIGITAL TV SYSTEM AND 5G ACCESS IN CAMBODIA



A Chinese firm branded Cambodia Digital TV of Yunnan has pledged to continue cooperation with the Ministry of Information on the preparation of digital TV system and 5G project in Cambodia.

The pledge was made by Mr. Wang Weiyi, Vice President of Cambodia Digital TV of Yunnan city of the People's Republic of China during a meeting with H.E. Khieu Kanharith, Minister of Information at the ministry office here in Phnom Penh recently.

Mr. Wang Weiyi recalled that Cambodia Digital TV of Yunnan has cooperated with

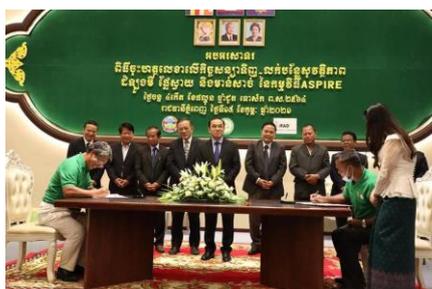
the ministry in that field for six years, adding that up to now, there are 70 digital TV channels in Phnom Penh, and the provinces of Kampong Cham and Battambang.

Toward the next step, the company will promote the access to the 5G system in Cambodia, he continued.

H.E. Khieu Kanharith spoke highly of good collaboration between the firm and the ministry, affirming that the ministry will continue the cooperation to further advance the development of digital TV in Cambodia.

He also underlined the ministry's plan to transform TV systems from analogue to digital by 2023, saying that this change requires technical cooperation from partner countries and private companies specializing in digital systems to boost the works successfully. ■

MINISTRY AND PRIVATE FIRMS COOPERATE TO BOOST CAMBODIA'S SAFE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS



Sixteen contracts and two Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) have been signed to boost Cambodia's safe agricultural products such as vegetables, cassava, yellow watermelon, mango, and chicken.

The agreements were signed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and representatives of private firms, under the presidency of H.E. Veng Sakhon, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in Phnom Penh on 15 February 2021.

Senior officials of the Ministries of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and

Economy and Finance, as well as delegates from IFAD, development partners, private sector, donors and vegetable production groups also witnessed the official signing.

The agreements are part of the so-called ASPIRE – Agriculture Services Programme for Innovation, Resilience and Extension.

Addressing the function, H.E. Meas Piseth, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, spoke highly of ASPIRE, stressing that this programme contributed significantly to safe food supply and market for domestic vegetables, reducing imported agricultural products.

It also sustains the quantity of food supply in Cambodia and further develops the agricultural sector, he added. ■

NEW ECO-TOURISM...

Spatial plan development included a multi-step stakeholder engagement process that was initiated in January 2017 through the creation of a governance structure. This launch was made possible through funding support from the European Union. Active development of the plan commenced in October 2018 with funding support from the USAID Wildlife Sanctuary Support Programme through WWF Cambodia. The planning process was conducted by a team consisting of the Monduliri Core Working Group for spatial planning, a technical consultant team hired by WWF-Cambodia, and technical experts from WWF-Cambodia.

The spatial plan is an important policy and strategic document that provides the vision and long-term development goals for the next 20 years (2021-2040), as well as specific directions for the spatial development of the province to ensure sustainable development that is compatible with a conservation focus. The plan was developed in response to the increasing needs of local communities, development challenges, and the significant transformation of the socio-economic, cultural, and environmental systems in the province. ■

CAMBODIA'S RUBBER EXPORT VALUED AT SOME US\$85 MILLION IN FIRST MONTH

Cambodia exported some 52,711 tonnes of rubber in January, generating around US\$85 million for the national income.

The update was shared on 15 February 2021 by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, adding that during the first month of this year, a tonne of rubber cost US\$1,603 on average, a year-on-year increase of 17 percent.

Cambodia has in total 404,159 hectares of land surface for rubber plantations, producing 57,972 tonnes of rubber latex, up 17 percent compared to January 2020, continued the source.

Some 340,000 tonnes of Cambodian rubber were exported in 2020 generating US\$459 million as income.

The Kingdom exports rubber mainly to Malaysia, Vietnam, Singapore and China. ■

13 February 2020-13 February 2021 marks the 1st commemoration of MS WESTERDAM berthing in Cambodia amid COVID-19 outbreak.

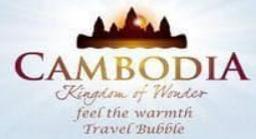
The MS WESTERDAM cruise with a total of 2,257 passengers and crew abroad was allowed to berth safely at a Sihanoukville Autonomous Port and received a warm welcome directly from Samdech Akka Moka Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia and many accompanying delegates. The passengers are well examined and provided with a warm hospitality from the Royal Government of Cambodia. In

This historic humanitarian event has been highly admired by the leaders of the world's top institutions, including World Health Organization (WHO) and the general public by naming **"Cambodia: Small Country, Big Heart"**.

In order to celebrate this one-year commemoration of the MS WESTERDAM cruise's berthing, the Ministry of Tourism has produced a video and posters for promoting to all relevant institutions. In this regards, tour operators, public-private development partners, relevant institutions, journalists and the public to participate in promoting this event more widely in order to attract more national and international tourists to visit Cambodia during the COVID-19 pandemic through campaign **"Cambodia is one of the Safest Countries to Visit amid COVID-19 Pandemic"**.



ONE YEAR COMMEMORATION FOR WESTERDAM TO VISIT CAMBODIA
CAMBODIA IS ONE OF THE SAFEST COUNTRIES TO VISIT AMID COVID-19



CAMBODIA BAY - THE MEMBER OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL BAYS IN THE WORLD



ASEAN Tourism Forum
16 - 22 January 2022
Phnom Penh, Cambodia



Southeast Asia
feel the warmth



ASEAN
A COMMUNITY OF PEACE AND SHARED FUTURE

