



## PM Outlines Points for Road to Peace



PPP/FEB 04

Prime Minister Hun Sen provided four key points in the pursuit of peace, security and the development of mankind at the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Peace Federation World Summit in Seoul, South Korea.

The summit was held under the theme *Peace, Security and Human Development*.

The Prime Minister said peace is the basic foundation of development. But the road to world peace today is full of obstacles and involves multi-faceted frameworks, competitions, self-interest and checks and balances of global power.

“I would like to share some viewpoints which are key in strengthening peace, security and the development of mankind.



“First, continue to promote the plurality system and international order, which depend on the regulations that strengthen and expand collaboration in guaranteeing absolute peace, security, safety and stability as well as peacefully solve regional issues and based on the principles of international law.

“Second, promote a culture of inter-religious dialogue to create awareness of one another, of mutual respect, trust, forgiveness and constant respect for the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

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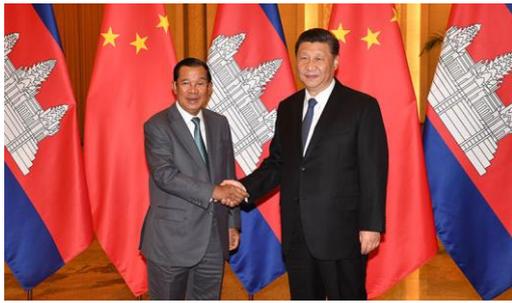
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## Outcome of PM's Visit to China



KT/FEB 08

Prime Minister Hun Sen paid a working visit to the People's Republic of China amidst the spread of the Coronavirus after his mission to the 2020 World Summit of Universal Peace Federation (UPF) in the Republic of Korea.

The premier had a bilateral meeting with Chinese Prime Minister Li Keqiang and paid a courtesy call on President Xi Jinping. He told the top Chinese leaders that his visit aims to show solidarity with the Chinese government and people in difficult times.

He also wishes to strengthen the spirit and belief of Cambodian people and students to keep staying in China while the Chinese authorities are taking concrete actions to tackle its challenges caused by the spread of Coronavirus.

The Prime Minister expressed his condolences and sympathy on the loss of lives of people infected with the virus, and expressed his support for and praised the Chinese government for taking concrete and effective measures to treat the victims and prevent the spread of the disease to other areas in China and around the world.

He also expressed his appreciation to the Chinese authorities for their continued care for the safety, health and accommodation of Cambodian people and students at all regions in China.

The Chinese leaders expressed appreciation for Cambodia's spirit of solidarity and cooperation with the government and the people of China as a steel-based friendship and a partnership in building communities with shared future. ●

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### PM Outlines Points for...

"Third, strengthen collaboration and continue to promote globalisation. Collaborative measures must maintain the spirit of openness, support multi-party trade systems and speed up connections between society and our economies.

"Fourth, boost development through a people-centric approach – especially in development work – and strengthen social welfare systems. Strengthen the quality of education, improve the quality of life, reduce poverty and the development gap in line with the non-stop development of economic and social structures," he said.

The Prime Minister stressed that the provision of equal opportunities for all citizens is part of maintaining peace and that human resource development is paramount to economic development. ●

## Huge Potential in Cambodia-US Agriculture

KT/FEB10

Cambodia's agriculture exports to the United States were \$157 million in 2018, a new record. Most were wood products, followed by pet food and rice.

U.S. exports of agricultural products to Cambodia meanwhile, were estimated a \$62 million in 2018. Leading categories include soybean meal, distillers grains, prepared food. Agricultural exports – including rice, cassava, maize, pepper, fresh mango, and raw palm oil – reached 4.2 million tons in 2018.

The U.S.-Cambodia agriculture trade is about \$220 million per year and offers lots of potential for growth.

Cambodia is one of the top 10 rice exporters in the world – exported 620,000 tons in 2019.

Programs including USAID's Feed the Future Harvest II works to boost commercial production of horticulture products – including mango, cashew nuts, and pepper.

CAST (Commercial Agricultural for Sustainable Trade) is a USDA Food for Progress project designed to develop a lasting aquaculture industry in Cambodia to help meet the growing the demand for animal and aquaculture-sourced protein.

The country's aquaculture industry demand for soybean protein is projected to reach 100,000 metric tons per year by 2030. ●

## Polish Delegation Explores Rice Business



KT/FEB 03

A delegation of business and academic leaders from Poland were in Cambodia recently to establish stronger economic and educational ties between the two countries.

The Polish delegation was led by Andrzej Lyko, president of the Polish Chamber of Commerce of Importers, Exporters and Cooperation. During their visit to the Kingdom, the delegation had meetings with various business organisations in Battambang and Siem Reap respectively.

In the past, Poland has expressed a strong desire to import Cambodian rice, which is considered to be among the best in the world. A few years ago, a Cambodian delegation composed of government officials and representatives of various rice milling companies visited Poland for talks on rice exports.

Battambang produces most of the Kingdom's rice and is known as the "Rice Bowl" of Cambodia.

While the value of trade between Cambodia and Poland is still low, there have been bilateral attempts to strengthen it in recent years. ●

## Cambodia-Turkey Forging Military Ties



KT/FEB 03

Cambodia and Turkey have agreed to study the possibility of forging military ties, beginning with the training of Cambodian troops in Turkish military academies.

The agreement was made during a five-day visit to Turkey by Defence Minister General Tea Banh when he met his Turkish Counterpart General Hulusi Akar in Ankara.

During their meeting, Gen Akar noted that he considered Gen Banh's visit as an important step in opening up avenues of cooperation between both countries' armed forces.

## Japan's FDI in Cambodia Peaks

KT/FEB 02

Between 1994 and 2019, Cambodia welcomed 137 Japanese investment projects worth US\$2.5 billion under the framework of Japan's direct investment (FDI).

The investment projects, focused on electronic parts, electricity, vehicle auto parts, technical equipment, agro-industry, processing food, hotels, tourism, hospitals, shopping malls and beyond. There are also Japan's 1,799 small and medium enterprises (SME) investing in areas such as banking, aviation, and catering.

Bun Chanthy, Undersecretary of State for the Ministry of Commerce, said that Japanese businesses and investment in Cambodia are renowned for their quality. They add value to local goods, generate jobs and help improve the living standards of Cambodian workers, which is in line with the vision and mission of the Royal Government of Cambodia.

"The number of Japanese firms doing business in the Kingdom increases every year. Their decision to invest and expand their operations in the Kingdom signals strong confidence on the Cambodian government and in its investment environment," he added. ●



## Bambu Stage Brings Shadow Puppetry to Life in Siem Reap



PPP/FEB 03

Fifteen years ago, Nick Coffill and Jon De Rule visited Siem Reap to explore business opportunities. They ended up falling in love with shadow puppetry – one of Cambodia’s most beloved art forms.

The result of that infatuation is Bambu Stage, a performing venue for local puppeteers and other artistes.

Cambodian shadow puppetry, which is also known as shadow theatre, is a form of shadow play in which the performers use leather puppets. The two main genres are Sbek Thom, which features the Reamker, and Sbek Touch, which uses smaller puppets and a wide range of stories.

The art form is believed to be losing followers in today’s world as more people turn to their smartphones for entertainment. Hoping to reverse the trend and contribute to a sustainable arts sector in Cambodia, Coffill and De Rule created Bambu Stage in 2015.

Their vision was to use technology to help visitors engage at a deeper level with the performers and explore the richness of Cambodian culture. •

## PM to South Korea: Invest in the Kingdom

PPP/FEB 05

Prime Minister Hun Sen urged South Koreans and companies to consider investments in Cambodia and to take advantage of several deals signed between the two nations, including the double tax avoidance (DTA) agreement reached last year.

The Prime Minister made the appeal during a bilateral meeting with South Korean President Moon Jae-in on the sidelines of the World Summit 2020 in Seoul.

He highlighted the strong ties between Cambodia and South Korea after resuming diplomatic relations in 1996. Many agreements have been signed between the countries to promote trade and investment.

After undergoing a series of institutional reforms, Cambodia is now a much more enticing investment destination for South Koreans. He noted that Cambodia already started exporting fresh mango to the Korean market earlier this year.

Moon said the relationship between the countries is becoming stronger and that Korea will continue to support the development of Cambodia’s agriculture industry. He agreed to encourage Koreans to seize opportunities in the Kingdom’s thriving economy. •

## German Firm Studies Feasibility of Exporting Processed Bamboo Products

KT/FEB 10

After four-year growing of bamboo in Cambodia, a German company is studying the feasibility of export of processed bamboo products to international markets.

The intention was shared by Mr. Thureing Aung, Director of LIPP Engineering Sdn Bhd who said that the company is fully capable of planting, processing and finding the markets for the bamboo.

The processing of the products utilises imported technology from Germany and financial support from the European Union.

He continued that through the support of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, his firm has invested US\$750 million in the bamboo planting and processing project.

His bamboo plantation currently encompasses a total of 25,000 hectares of land surface in Cambodia.

The investment does not only increase added value to the resource, diversifying bamboo products, but also promotes the development of people’s living condition and local communities. •