



Hungary Opens Embassy Office, Inks Cooperation Docs



Phnom Penh Post/03 November

Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Peter Szijjarto signed three bilateral cooperation documents with Cambodia. The documents – which include cooperation on water management, agriculture, and air services – were inked as Szijjarto officially opened Office of Hungary Embassy in Phnom Penh during his official visit.

Cambodian Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Prak Sokhonn said Szijjarto’s visit during the COVID-19 pandemic reflects Hungary’s strong commitment to strengthening ties and boosting cooperation between the two countries. Cambodia shares the same commitment.

The minister said both countries have always stood on the legal principles enshrined in the Charter of the UN and hold strong positions in promoting multilateralism based on sovereignty.

Hungary is one of Cambodia’s close friends and has extended assistance and support to Cambodia after the Khmer Rouge regime’s fall. Hungary’s peacekeepers also served under the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia.

He also thanked Hungary for supporting Cambodia before the EU withdrew 20% of its “Everything But Arms” scheme in February.

Continued on page (4)

INSIDE IS

Gov’t Reform Plan Enters 2nd Phase
Page 2

Assets Frozen By Court for Those on UN Sanctions List
Page 2

Cambodia Winning the Fight Against Malaria
Page 2

Minister Encourages Disabled Students to Strive for Employment
Page 3

Thirteen New BEEP Learning Centres to Open
Page 3

National Assembly Endorses Six Draft Laws
Page 3

Cambodia Exports More Than 1.5 Million Bicycles in First Nine Months
Page 4

Gov't Reform Plan Enters 2nd Phase



Phnom Penh Post/09 November

The government has unveiled its second-phase 10-year action plan to continue its implementation of the National Programme for Sub-National Democratic Development (NP-SNDD) for 2021-2030. The first phase will conclude at the end of this year.

Minister of Interior, also Chairman of the National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development (NCDD), unveiled the plan during an opening ceremony of a national consultation workshop on the 6th of November. The government aims to transform Cambodia into a high-middle-income Country by 2030.

The second phase of the national programme will clearly define the responsibilities between ministries and institutions at the national and sub-national levels to avoid ambiguity.

The minister also outlined four key goals for the next 10 years – reviewing the functions and management structure of public administrations, organising necessary resources and related tasks, improving electronic governance and prioritising gender and social equality, climate change and disaster prevention. ●

Assets Frozen By Court for Those on UN Sanctions List

Phnom Penh Post/05 November

The Phnom Penh Municipal Court has issued an order to freeze the assets of individuals and entities who were named on the UN Security Council's sanctions list following a request from the Ministry of Justice.

Justice Ministry said that the court's order was an implementation of legal procedure based on the new law recently passed by the National Assembly on the anti-financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

In the UN Security Council resolution, Cambodia is required to freeze the assets of individuals and entities on the UN Security Council's sanctions list. These assets include budgets and real estate.

According to the municipal court's order, it received the ministry's letter No 1559 released on October 2, with attachment of 11 decisions of the UN Security Council. ●

Cambodia Winning the Fight Against Malaria

Phnom Penh Post/03 November

During the first nine months of this year, 7,668 malaria cases were reported, representing a 70% drop compared to the same period last year. Last year, there were 25,499 malaria patients.

The country has not reported a malaria-related death for three consecutive years.

Minister of Health said Cambodia has been successful in its malaria prevention. The prior goal was to eliminate malaria-related deaths by 2020, which has been achieved.

The government's new goal is to eliminate Plasmodium falciparum by 2023.

The province with the highest rate of Plasmodium falciparum is Mondulkiri province (0.73), followed by Kampong Speu (0.49), Ratanakkiri (0.46) and Stung Treng (0.36), the minister said.

To be able to entirely eliminate Plasmodium falciparum successfully, we have to practise the measure entitled "Eliminate the Last Stage of Plasmodium Falciparum, 2020-2023".

The initiative will start in Kampong Speu and then will be extended to other provinces after three months of evaluation. ●

Minister Encourages Disabled Students to Strive For Employment



Phnom Penh Post/05 November

Minister of Information encouraged disabled students not to view physical handicaps as obstacles to education.

He said the same applied for jobs as state and private institutions have earmarked 2% of their workforce to hire disabled people.

Recruitment exams for state officials are not being held this year because of COVID-19, but the government is handing out cash to the disabled in need.

He added his working group has helped the Kampong Cham Special Education High school (KCSEHS) for 17 years. In the last four years, the group has also helped orphans with disabilities.

There are 171 students with disabilities at KCSEHS. Among the students, 59 are blind and 112 are deaf; 29 of them are studying at colleges in Kampong Cham and Phnom Penh.

Special education schools teach students with disabilities according to the curriculum of the Ministry of Education, but also add another disability skill to students. The schools also teach music and art, and provide listening and speaking training for hearing-impaired students. •

Thirteen New BEEP Learning Centres to Open



Khmer Times/November 04

UNESCO, the Ministry of Labour (MoLVT) and the Ministry of Education (MoEYS) will create 14 new Basic Education Equivalency Programme (BEEP) Learning Centres by 2023, adding to the current 21 centres, for students who have dropped out of school to have a chance to continue studying.

BEEP was launched by UNESCO in 2016 in partnership with MoEYS and MoLVT to provide flexible alternative education to out-of-school youth to complete lower secondary/basic education equivalent to Grade 9.

A new BEEP learning centre has recently launched in Koh Kong.

According to UNESCO, so far 21 BEEP learning centres have been established in Phnom Penh, Siem Reap, Battambang and Kandal.

So far, a total of 535 learners (38% women) have enrolled and benefitted from the 11 subjects. By 2023, at least 1,000 learners are expected to enroll and graduate.

UNESCO and the ministries have linked BEEP with the Factory Literacy Programme (FLP) which allows young women and men working in factories to acquire basic literacy skills and empowers them to realise their fundamental rights.

Continued on page (4)

National Assembly Endorses Six Draft Laws

Khmer Times/03 November

The National Assembly (NA) has unanimously approved six important draft laws to strengthen and expand the cooperation with foreign countries.

The newly approved legal documents include the draft law on approval of Protocol on Border Demarcation and Marker Planting of Land Boundary between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the draft law on approval of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and the draft law on approval of the First Protocol to Amend the Agreement on ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership.

The draft law on approval of Protocol to Implement the Tenth Package of Commitments under ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services, the draft law on approval of the Agreement on Investment under Framework Agreement on ASEAN-India Comprehensive Economic Cooperation, and the draft law on approval of the Agreement on Investment among the Governments of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China and the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations were also among the six approved documents. •

Cambodia Exports More Than 1.5 Million Bicycles in First Nine Months



Khmer Times/05 November

Over 1.5 million units of Cambodian bicycles have been exported to foreign markets as of the third quarter of this year, generating nearly \$400 million, according to figures from the Ministry of Commerce.

From January to September this year, Cambodia exported half of million bicycles to the U.S. market, 360,000 others to Germany, while 270,000 units and 150,000 units were shipped to the UK and Belgium, respectively.

Other main markets for Cambodian bicycles were the Netherlands and Australia with 90,000 and 100,000 units, respectively.

In the first half of this year, Cambodia exported 1.1 million bicycles, earning \$241million. More than half of exported bicycles were sent to EU countries and the rest to the U.S., Britain, Japan, and so on.

Cambodia became the largest bicycle supplier for the EU market since 2017, overtaking China's Taiwan, which had held the number one spot for two decades. •

Continued from page (1)

Hungary Opens Embassy Office...

Both countries are preparing for the visit of King Norodom Sihamoni to Hungary, which is expected to take place in the second half of 2021 or early 2022 and will mark the 65th anniversary of diplomatic relations.

Diplomatic relations between the two countries began on in 1956, but were interrupted during the Khmer Rouge regime. Relations resumed in 1979 and Hungary extended assistance to Cambodia. •

Continued from page (3)

Thirteen New BEEP Learning...

It added that a total of 11 e-learning courses are available for students to choose and learn from. Enrolled learners will be given free internet access by Smart Axiata to the e-learning courses, and will be able to study their own chosen subjects at their own pace.

Successful students who complete all required subjects and pass required assessments will be awarded a basic education certificate and have a chance to continue their education either at the TVET institute or Technical High School. •

Happy 67th Independence Day (09 November 1953- 09 November 2020)

