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Cambodia's Appeal for International Conference on Border Issue with Thailand



Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen addresses the audiences over the launching ceremony of the National Program for Sub-National Democratic Development (2010-2019)

Phnom Penh, August 10, 2010 AKP —

Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia,

has called for an international conference on Cambodia-Thailand border issue.

The appeal was made a day after he

sent letters to UN General Assembly President Ali Abdussalam Treki and UN Security Council President Vitaly Churkin complaining about Thailand's threat to use both diplomatic and military means to resolve the border dispute with Cambodia.

"I am appealing to hold an international conference on Cambodia-Thailand border conflict," said the Cambodian pre-

mier while presiding over the dissemination ceremony of the National Program for Sub-national Democratic Development held here on Aug. 9 at Koh Pich conference center.

"The bilateral mechanism would not work anymore. We need to resort to multilateral mechanism. We call upon the ASEAN member countries, the UN and other countries including the country members of the Paris Peace Accords," he explained...

To be continued to page

Cambodian Premier Presides Over the Closing of the 5th CRC General Assembly



Samdech Techo Hun Sen presents a bunch of flowers to Madame Bun Rany Hun Sen while she is being re-elected President for the fifth term of the Cambodian Red Cross

Phnom Penh, August 6, 2010 AKP —

Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen called on the government institutions,

private sectors, civil societies, NGOs and associations to join all together to reach the strategic plan of the Cambodian Red Cross (CRC)...

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PM: Cambodia Has Opened Its Economy to All Investors

Phnom Penh, May 11, 2010
AKP —

“Cambodia has great potential in many sectors and it has opened its economy to all investors and treats both local and foreign investors equally,” Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen said Monday.

“We have opened our economy for foreign direct investments in all sectors including banking, insurance, and telecommunications when in many countries, in such sectors, foreign investors are not allowed to control 100% of the shareholding, without



lo- Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen. Photo - AKP

participation requirement,” the Cambodian premier told a Cambodia-Malaysia Business Forum held here on May 10.

Cambodia has great

potential in several important sectors such as agriculture, agro-industry, infrastructure, labor intensive industries, export oriented industries, oil and gas, min-

ing and tourism, said Samdech Techo Hun Sen, stressing that these sectors have not been fully capitalized and still offer many investment opportunities.

“In that context, I wish to invite the Malaysian businessmen who have not yet visited Cambodia to come for fact findings, to explore investment opportunities, to meet and discuss with the Cambodian business community looking for partnership, to join hands together to ensure the success of their ventures,” he added....

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147th Anniversary of World Red Cross and Red Crescent in Cambodia

Phnom Penh, May 10, 2010
AKP —

Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen presided over here on May 8 the celebration of the 147th Anniversary of the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day under the theme of “Save Life, Change Behavior”.

Based on the dialectics, humanity is the spirit of Cambodian ancestors prescribed in our history centuries ago, said Samdech Techo Prime Minister, this spirit is blossoming in today’s Cambodians and has transformed into what we call “the culture of sharing”.



Cambodia’s first lady, Cambodian Red Cross President Lok Chumteav Bun Rany Hun Sen . Photo - Redcross

Cambodia’s first lady, Cambodian Red Cross President Lok Chumteav Bun Rany Hun Sen, ex-

pressed her thankfulness to the government under the leadership of Samdech Techo Hun Sen and to the

kind heart of the King, King-Father and Queen-Mother of Cambodia who have been supporting the Cambodian Red Cross both in kind and cash.

The Cambodian Red Cross was officially established on February 18, 1955 with an increasingly active humanitarian role to play with disaster victims, the spread of deadly diseases, and sanitation at the grassroots communities, as well as other charitable missions.

On the occasion, the Cambodian Red Cross raised, according to the primary calculation, more than US\$7 million from charitable people. —AKP

Cambodian Foreign Minister Presides Over Asia-Europe's Senior Officials Meeting

Phnom Penh, May 7, 2010
AKP —

An Asia-Europe's senior officials meeting was held at Inter-Continental Hotel in Phnom Penh on May 6 in the presence of Deputy Prime Minister H.E. Hor Namhong, minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

The meeting aimed to

prepare for the 8th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) to be held in Brussels, Belgium in October 2010, said Foreign Minister H.E. Hor Namhong.

Since 1996, ASEM has had a good success in cooperation between Asia and Europe as well as the expansion of the membership, he said.

Presently, there are 45

ASEM partners and the 8th ASEM summit in Brussels is expected to admit new members up to the number of 48, representing 58 percent of global population, 50 percent of global GDP and over 60 percent of global trade, he said.

At present, the world is in the face of financial and economic crisis and many issues, namely cli-

mate change, food security, terrorism and other international predicaments, the minister said.

He also called on Asia and Europe to join together with the international communities to deal with the problem of global threat. —AKP

Cambodian Commerce Minister Meets UNDP Country Director

Phnom Penh, May 7, 2010
AKP —

Senior Minister H.E. Cham Prasidh, minister of Commerce met here on May 4 with Ms. Elena Tischenko, United Nations Development Program (UNDP) country director.

In the meeting, the UNDP country director told the Cambodian minis-

ter of commerce of the remarkable achievements through a four-year assistance provided by UNDP to the Ministry of Commerce in the TRADE project (Trade Related Assistance for Development and Equity).

She asked the senior minister to give some comments on the project

and the demand to be needed before the project is completed.

In reply, the senior minister thanked UNDP for the project, saying that it focused on developing the national capacity to get much benefit from WTO.

He also urged UNDP to continue giving its assistance to Cambodia, mainly

Cambodian officials with their capacity to carry out the project when completed.

TRADE project worked to contribute to the achievement of National Strategy Development Plan which is a core to the development of Cambodia Socio Economy. —AKP

Agriculture Ministry Signs Contracts on Agro-industrial Plantation with Six Private

Phnom Penh, May 7, 2010
AKP —

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries signed contract on land concessions of agro-industrial plantation with six private companies on May 5 in the presence of its minister, H.E. Chan Sarun.

The six private companies with land concessions from the ministry include PNT Co., Ltd, CRCK Co., Ltd, Hua Lin Cambodia International Insurance, CCV Co., Ltd, IPD Instant Pro Trading Co., Ltd, and Camtree Corporation.

PNT Co., Ltd. got a title to the land conces-

sions with land area of 7,900 ha for rubber plantation in Preah Vihear province; CRCK Co., Ltd. with land area of 6,044 ha for rubber plantation in Kampong Thom province; Hua Lin Cambodia International Insurance of 7,773 ha for pine tree plantation in Mondulkiri province;

CCV Co., Ltd. of 5,730 ha for eucalyptus tree plantation in Kampong Thom; IPD Instant Pro Trading Co., Ltd. of 937 ha for rubber plantation in Kratie province; and Camtree Corporation of 2,409 ha for gum tree plantation in Kampot province. —AKP

Cambodia: Ta Krabey Temple and Cabin Rail Are Located Within Cambodian Territory

Phnom Penh, May 5, 2010
AKP —

The Cambodian Embassy in Bangkok has sent a diplomatic note to the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs, reiterating that the Temple of Ta Krabey and the construction of a cabin rail are inside Cambodia's territory.

The following is the full diplomatic note dated April 30:

“The Royal Embassy of Cambodia in Bangkok presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand and, with reference to the latter's Note No.0803/309 dated 09 April 2010, regarding the recent construction work in the area of the Temple

of Ta Krabey, has the honor to communicate to the latter as follows:

- The recent construction of a small cabin rail was conducted deep inside the territory of Cambodia at 500 meters away from the Temple of Ta Krabey.

- As stated in earlier Notes of the Royal Embassy of Cambodia in Bangkok (1) N°1067/08/REC/BKK dated 3 December 2008, (2) N° 0782/08/REC/BKK dated 22 September 2008, (3) N° 0282/09/REC/BKK dated 23 March 2009 and Note N° 1613 MFA-IC/LC4 dated 10 October 2008 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia, the Temple of Ta Krabey

is clearly located within the territory of Cambodia in accordance with the following:

The Treaty between Siam and France of 1907 and the Protocol annexed to the said Treaty which determined the border line between Cambodia and Siam, as well as the process verbal d'abornement produced in the period of 1908-1909 and the Revision of 1919-1920.

The map of 1:50,000 scale, Series L7016, Edition 1-DMATC (attached with Note N° 1613 MFA-IC/LC4 dated 10 October 2008), used by the Cambodian-Thai Technical Team for fact-finding mission on the physical conditions and locations of the

73 BPs.

Even plotted on the map 1:50,000 scale, Series L7017 (attached with Note N° 1613 MFA-IC/LC4 dated 10 October 2008), produced unilaterally by Thailand, the Temple of Ta Krabey is also situated inside the territory of Cambodia.

- Cambodia, therefore, totally rejects the baseless allegation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand.

- The Royal Embassy of Cambodia avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand the assurances of its highest consideration.” —AKP

NA Approves Cambodia-China Consulate Convention

Phnom Penh, May 10, 2010
AKP —

The National Assembly unanimously approved here last Friday a consular convention between Cambodia and China by 89 votes in favor out of the total 89 parliamentary representatives present at the session.

The Royal Government of Cambodia and the Government of China signed the consu-

lar convention in Phnom Penh on February 25, 2010.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Hor Namhong told the meeting that the purpose of the convention is to strengthen and boost up the long-term relations and cooperation between the two countries – Cambodia and China and to allow

the consular officials to defend the rights and interests of their own peoples in each country. Moreover, he said, the convention will also help expand the trade, economic, investment, culture, tourism, science cooperation between the two nations.

The convention is based on the norm of the 1963 Vienna Convention, which was approved by Cambodia's

National Assembly on February 24, 2005 and signed by the King on April 2, 2005.

The convention will also allow each country to open more consulates in their respective countries. Cambodia will open six new consulates in some major cities in China in addition to the six existing ones and an Embassy in Beijing. —
AKP

From page 1

Cambodia's Appeal for International Conference...

Samdech Techo Hun Sen further stressed that Thailand has violated the joint discussion [agreed by the two countries] to settle bilaterally the border problem. "Thailand has internationalized the border issue at the Preah Vihear Temple area in Spain in 2009 and in Brazil this

year," he recalled.

"It is not a joke when a country's prime minister mentions about using military forces against other country," said the Cambodian premier, adding that Thai prime minister has violated the articles 2.3 and 2.4 of the UN Charter when he threatened to use military forces against Cambodia.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen reaffirmed Cambodia's constant policy not to use armed forces to settle

any problem with neighboring countries, but, he said, Cambodia reserves its legitimate rights to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity in case of deliberate acts of aggression.

The Cambodian prime minister took the opportunity to deny an information saying that he has authorized the organization of the hatred day against Thailand. "Cambodia has no hatred day against Thailand," he

said, affirming that any gathering to demonstrate against Thailand is not allowed in Phnom Penh.

He finally underlined that the border tension between the two neighboring countries was not due to the listing of the Khmer sacred Preah Vihear Temple as a World Heritage Site, but to the Thai encroachment on Cambodia on July 15, 2008. —AKP

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From page 2

PM: Cambodia Has Opened...

"The path Cambodia's economy is taking is not different from the one Malaysia's economy and investors used to move on previously in Malaysia. Thus, I believe that experienced Malaysian investors can seize successfully the many investment opportunities still available here as have already done so among others, Tan Sri Dr. Chen Lip Keong for Naga World, AXIATA in telecommunications, Cambodia Utilities in power generation or CAMBREW-Angkor Beer," he said. "On this auspicious occasion, I am pleased to in-

form the forum of a recent encouraging news: on May 6, 2010, the National Bank of Cambodia has issued a Letter of Approval in Principle for the establishment and operation of the CIMB (Cambodia) PLC Bank, a subsidiary of CIMB Bank Berhad of Malaysia. I warmly welcome this new investment and wish CIMB (Cambodia) many successes in its operation in the future."

The Cambodian premier warmly welcomed the visit of the Malaysian prime minister, saying it reflects Malaysia's attention on the friendship and close cooperation between the two countries. "The presence of Your Excellency Prime Minister and

of all the Malaysian delegates and business community representatives will add a new dimension to Cambodia's socio-economic development effort, through the expansion and strengthening of both countries' cooperation in the field of politics, security, economy, social affairs, and culture. In this context, we are pleased to see the continuous progress of our friendship and cooperation," he said.

For his part, the Malaysian premier, Dato' Sri Mohamad Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak, who co-chaired the forum, said Malaysia has been the biggest investor in Cambodia for 14 consecutive years with investments totaling US\$2.19 billion.

Cumulative Malaysian investments in Cambodia during the past two years totaled US\$118 million.

Anyway, he called on both sides to broaden the number of goods traded between the two nations. "Currently, our trade base is very narrow, confined to a few products on both sides. Malaysia's main exports to Cambodia include chemical products, machinery, appliances and electrical products, while we import mostly textiles, clothing, raw rubber, and logs from Cambodia. "I believe that there is still an opportunity to expand the scope of products and services that can be traded between our two countries," he said. —AKP

Transfer of Military Training Facilities to the National Centre of Peace-keeping Forces Management, Mine and ERW Clearance

Phnom Penh, May 5, 2010
AKP —

Military training facilities have been transferred to the National Centre for Peace-keeping forces management, Mine and ERW Clearance of Cambodia.

An agreement on the transfer of the facilities was signed in a ceremony held on May 3 by General Sem Sovany, general director of the said national centre and Mr. Theodore Allegra, deputy chief of mission at the U.S. Embassy in Phnom Penh in the presence of Deputy

Prime Minister Gen. Tea Banh, minister of National Defense and Gen. Pol Saroeun, Commander-in-chief of RCAF.

Mr. Allegra appreciated Cambodian troops for the success in UN peace keeping mission in Sudan, Chad and the Republic of Central Africa.

The facilities, constructed with a fund of more than US\$1 million provided by the U.S., are used for giving the training to multinational peace-keeping forces.

National Defense Minister Gen. Tea Banh

thanked the U.S. for the assistance to the construction of the facilities, saying that this reflected the improvement on the bilateral cooperation between the armies of the two countries.

He said the achievement is not only to train the international peace-keeping forces, but also to train Cambodian armed forces in preparation for the benefit of the country and the contribution to strengthening the stability, the peace and the security in the region as well as in the world.

It was worthy noted that around 1,200 soldiers from 23 countries will partake in military exercises in Cambodia in July as part of the U.S.-funded Global Peace Operations Initiative (GPOI).

The exercises will be held at military training facilities in Kampong Speu province. —AKP

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Siem Reap airport saw upturn, boosted by South Korean and Japanese visitors

Siem Reap, Thursday, 29 April 2010 —

Siem Reap province saw its total visitors rise by more than 22 percent in the first quarter of 2010, compared with 2009. **Bloomberg INTERNATIONAL** tourist arrivals surged by almost 10 percent in the first quarter of this year, compared to the same period in 2009, showing key growth in the number of visitors from South Korea, China and Japan.

Government figures received by the Post late Tuesday state that 683,692 tourists came to Cambodia from January to March 2010, a rise of 9.87 percent on the 622,288 arrivals in the same period of 2009.

Potentially high-spending visitors from

South Korea were up 31.5 percent, Chinese arrivals were up 27.2 percent, and Japanese visitors rose by 4.7 percent.

Air arrivals increased 10.83 percent to 371,506, up from 335,213 last year, with 10 percent more visitors entering the Kingdom at Siem Reap airport.

Total arrivals in the home province of Angkor Wat rose 22.8 percent, to 366,102.

Kong Sophearak, director of the Statistics and Tourism Information Department at the Ministry of Tourism, attributed the rise to the resurgence of global travel following “the darkness” of the financial crisis.

He welcomed the rise in visitors from Asia’s more developed nations, saying:

“We now see that they are beginning to stay longer and spend more than last year.”

In 2009, South Korean tourists declined by 26 percent, arrivals from Japan went down 11 percent, and Chinese visitors fell by 1.1 percent.

Revenue generated from the sector declined 2 percent in 2009 to US\$1.561 billion, despite overall visitor arrivals increasing.

The president of Cambodia’s Association of Travel Agents (CATA), Ang Kim Eang, noted the increase and commented that the government has opened more border crossings.

He said he hopes that in three years, Cambodia can target the “quality tourism”

Development Bank (ADB) stated was an important factor for sector development earlier this month.

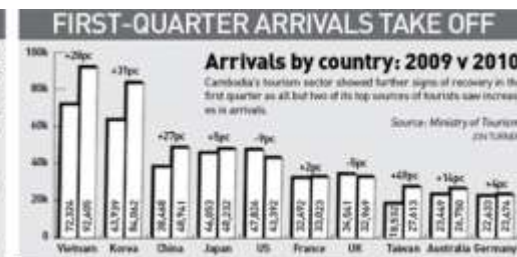
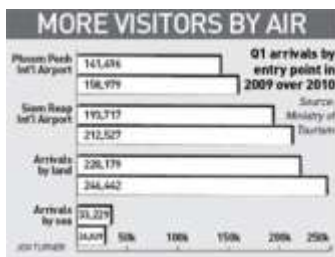
Luu Meng, president of Cambodia’s Hotel Association (CHA), said that occupancy within the hotel industry had risen by up to 10 percent quarter-on-quarter.

The tourists “spend more days here because we have lowered our prices to give them more of a chance to visit the country”, he said.

According to the data, tourist arrivals increased by 6.36 percent in January, by 10.74 percent in February and by 12.79 in March.

Ang Kim Eang predicted that the trend will continue. “I am optimistic that the foreign tourists will keep increasing. People are just getting to know our country after the long-lasting civil war,” he said. — phenom-penhpost.com

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Royal Embassy of Cambodia to Switzerland

Address: 3, Chemin Taverney, P.O. Box 213
1218 Grand-Saconnex,
Geneva, Switzerland.

Tel.: (+41)22 788 77 73
Fax: (+41)22 788 77 74
Email: cambodge@bluewin.ch

Website: <http://mission.itu.ch/MISSIONS/Cambodia/>