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King, Queen-Mother, Top Leaders and Foreign Diplomatic Corps Pay Respects to the Late King-Father's Royal Ashes

AKP Phnom Penh, July 11, 2014

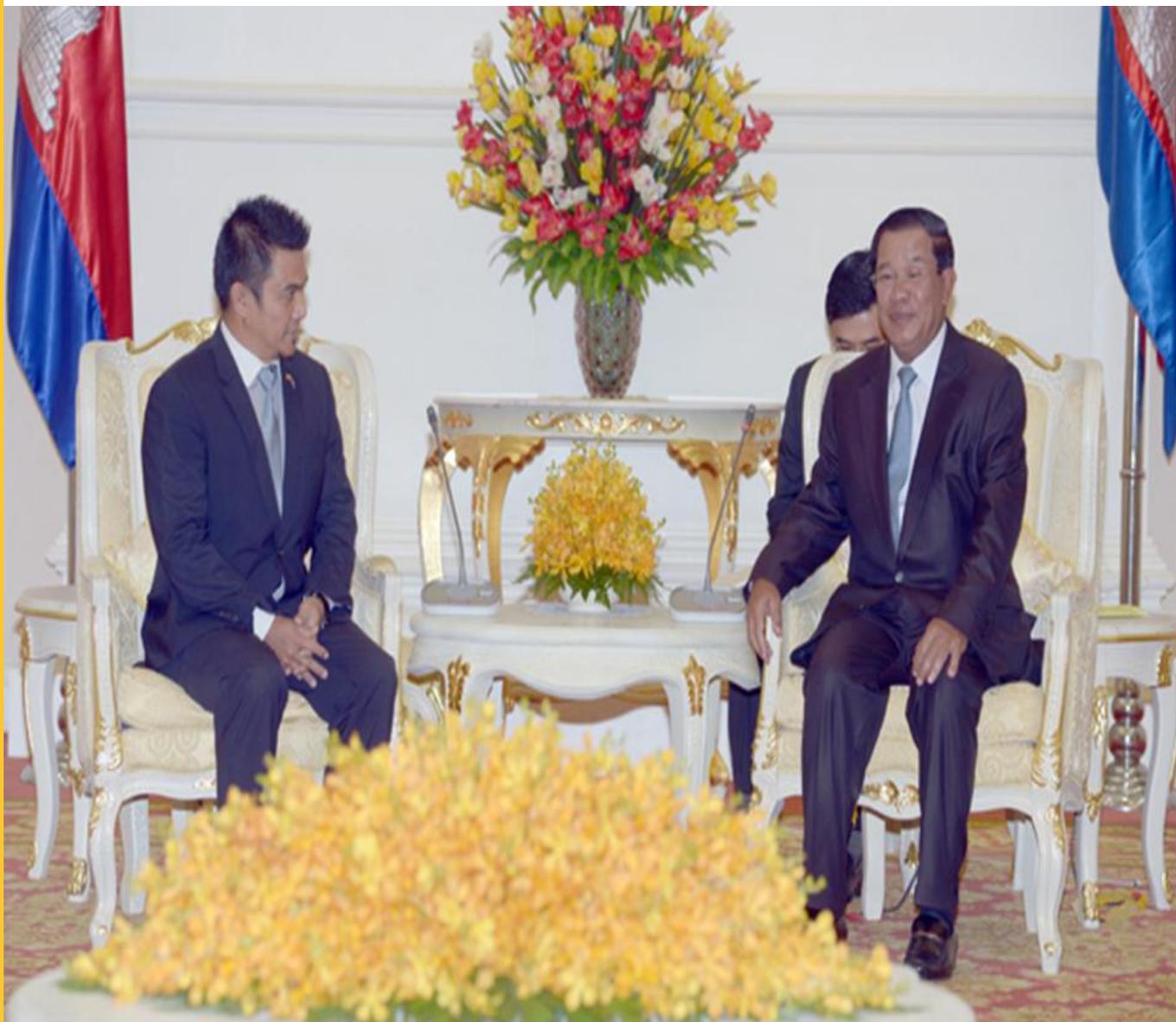


His Majesty Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia and Her Majesty Queen-Mother Norodom Monineath Sihanouk together with top leaders and foreign diplomatic corps, pay respects to the Royal Ashes of the most revered late King-Father Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk (Preah Borom Ratanak Kaudh) at the Royal Palace in Phnom Penh this morning prior to the Royal Urns Procession.

Photo: Sin Sareth & Ung Hong Leang

PM Hun Sen Receives Newly-Appointed Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam

AKP Phnom Penh, July 17, 2014



Cambodia's Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen warmly receives at Phnom Penh's Peace Palace this morning newly-appointed Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam to Cambodia H.E. Pengiran Kasmirhan Pengiran Tahir.

Photo: Chim Nary

Cambodian Authorities Condemn CNRP's Unlawful and Violent Protest

AKP Phnom Penh, July 16, 2014 —

Cambodian authorities condemned yesterday the unlawful and violent protest led by the main opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP)'s members.

“The Press and Quick Reaction Unit (PRU) of the Office of the Council of Ministers is regretful of the provocative acts by the unlawful and violent protest led by the opposition party members, that took place at

the freedom park on July 15, 2014 in Phnom Penh,” said a PRU’s statement released on Tuesday.

Beside the PRU, the Ministry of Interior and Phnom Penh Municipality also issued a press statement condemning the violent protest which affected the social order and people’s daily lives and seriously violated the public officers on duty.

Yesterday’s violence injured at least 38 local

security personnel, of them 22 are in critical condition and 3 others are being hospitalized in intensive care unit.

According to the PRU’s statement, a government’s preliminary investigation showed that the leaders of the CNRP had begun their hostile action toward the authorities by instigating its supporters to commit crimes against the local security forces in the area, prompted the government to take immedi-

ate measures to safeguard the public order. After this violent incident, four CNRP’s elected lawmakers including Ms. Mu Sochua, Mr. Ho Vann, Mr. Men Sothavrin and Mr. Keo Phearum were arrested.

By Khan Sophirom

EU Grants 490,000 EUR to Ethnic Minority Groups for Land Management Project

AKP Phnom Penh, July 15, 2014 –

Save Vulnerable Cambodians (SVC) has received some 490,000 Euro from the European Union (EU) to implement a three-year land management project with the provincial councils of Rattanakiri and Mondulkiri, and the Action for Research and Development (ARD),

according to local media reports.

The project is aimed to reduce the risks and vulnerability of poor families and ethnic minority communities in the northeastern provinces of Rattanakiri and Mondulkiri through effective land management.

H.E. Jean-François Cautain, EU Ambassador to Cambodia, last week led

a group of journalists to inspect a project related to land registration of the ethnic minority community in Taveng district’s Sieng Say village, some 50 kilometers from Banlung city of Rattanakiri province.

By Lim Nary

Cambodian Trade Increase by 17,6% in 1st Semester

AKP Phnom Penh, July 14, 2014 –

In the first semester of this year, the Cambodian total trade reached US\$8.95 billion, an increase by 17,6 percent, from US\$7.61 billion during the same period last year, according to a report of the Ministry of Commerce.

The country's export from January to June 2014 was valued at US\$3.77 billion, up 20 percent from US\$3.14 billion in the same period last year, whereas its im-

port increased by 16 percent, from US\$4.47 billion to US\$5.18 billion, it pointed out.

Mr. Ken Ratha, Spokesman for the Ministry of Commerce, attributed the growth in Cambodian trade to the macroeconomic stability and good investment environment, which have been attracting foreign investments from the region and around the world.

Mr. Ken Ratha also noted that recent surge in foreign investments from China, Japan, Korea,

Thailand and Malaysia will fuel Cambodia's export in the future.

The main exported products are garment and footwear products, and agricultural products such as milled rice, corn, soy bean, pepper, coffee, sugar, rubber latex, sesame, cattle, fishery products, and so on, while its major imported products include garment and textile raw materials, construction materials, vehicles, petroleum, food and beverage, medicine and medical equipment, cos-

metics, etc.

The main trade partners of Cambodia are the U.S., the EU, China, Japan, South Korea, Canada, Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia and so on. By So Sophavy

Some US\$150 Million Japanese Aid to Cambodia

AKP Phnom Penh, July 12, 2014 –

Japanese government has provided some US\$150 million in aid through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to Cambodia to implement four development projects.

Agreements on the aid were signed here on Thursday by H.E. Aun Porn Moniroth, Minister of Finance and Economy and Mr. Hiroshi Izaki, Chief Representative of JICA Cambodia Office, in the presence of Permanent Deputy Prime Minister H.E. Keat

Chhon.

The aid includes a grant of US\$8.5 million for the expansion of lower secondary schools in Phnom Penh, and a soft loan of US\$137.8 million for the expansion of electric power transmission and distribution system in Phnom Penh city, the improvement of National Road No. 5 (Prek Kdam-Thlea Ma'am section), and for the rehabilitation of irrigation and drainage system in the provinces of Kampong Speu, Takeo and Kandal (Southwest of Phnom Penh Capital), according

to an announcement of the Ministry of Economy and Finance at the signing ceremony.

The amount of aid offered to Cambodia is in response to the pledge made by Japanese Foreign Minister H.E. Fumio Kishida during his recent visit to Cambodia.

The above-said projects are in response to the prior need in education field, energy, water resources and communication as stated in the National Strategic Development Plan 2014-2018 of the royal government, as

well as contribute to the development goal of the royal government as stated in the third phase of the Rect

Cambodia, Japan Sign Grant and Loan Agreements

AKP Phnom Penh, July 10, 2014



H.E. Aun Porn Moniroth (R), Cambodian Minister of Economy and Finance, and Mr. Hiroshi Izaki, Chief Representative of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Cambodia Office, sign here this afternoon grant and loan agreements worth in total US\$150 million, under the presidency of Permanent Deputy Prime Minister H.E. Keat Chhon.

Photo: Hun Yuthkun

Malaysia Contributes US\$50,000 to ECCC

AKP Phnom Penh, July 09, 2014 –

The Government of Malaysia has contributed US\$50,000 to the national component of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC), according to an ECCC's press release AKP received this afternoon.

Malaysia is a new donor

to the ECCC, and made this contribution in response to an appeal by the United Nations Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, and the Royal Government of Cambodia, it underlined. The international community was asked to urgently come forward with pledges of financial support to the ECCC, it

added.

“It is a pleasure to welcome Malaysia as a new donor to the ECCC. On behalf of the ECCC, we would like to express our sincere appreciation for this contribution from the Government of Malaysia,” Acting Director of the Office of Administration H.E. Kranh Tony and Deputy

Director Mr. Knut Rosandhaug said in a statement.

By Khan Sophirom

ECCC Receives New Fund from Sweden

AKP Phnom Penh, July 10, 2014 –

The Government of Sweden has announced that it will make a new contribution of SEK 30 million (approximately US\$4.5 million) to the international component of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) for 2014-

2015, according to an ECCC's press release issued today.

With the new contribution, Sweden's financial assistance to the ECCC will exceed US\$10 million, it said, adding that Sweden is a key financial backer of the ECCC and is a member of the Principal Donors Group.

“The ECCC is grateful for Sweden's strong commitment to international law and pursuit of justice for the Cambodian people, as demonstrated through its continued support of the Court. The new contribution of US\$4.5 million comes at an important time for ECCC, and we would

like to express our gratitude for the generous support offered by the Government of Sweden,” Acting Director of the Office of Administration H.E. Kranh Tony and Deputy Director Mr. Knut Rosandhaug said in a statement.

By Khan Sophirom

U.S. Ambassador Voices Continuous Support to Democracy and Development in Cambodia

AKP Phnom Penh, July 07, 2014 –

H.E. William E. Todd, U.S. Ambassador to Cambodia, has said that the United States is committed to supporting and assisting the democratic progress and the development of all sectors in Cambodia.

Speaking on July 5 at the celebration of 238th Independence Day of the United States of America held at the U.S. Embassy in Phnom Penh, he said on July 4, 1776 the founding father of the United States of America signed the declaration of Independence for America that laid the foundations for the new system of government.

He said his country was founded on the belief

that “all men are born equal and that the government gets its power from the consent of people it governs,” and that the United States believes these rights are of fundamental importance for a society that is fair and justice, but these rights should not be only for Americans, but also for the peoples of all countries around the world.

“We support and protect this freedom. This is our faith to ourselves, and this is our sole commitment for others,” the U.S. ambassador quoted former U.S. President John F. Kennedy as once saying, adding that, “This commitment is also for Cambodia.”

Over the past two dec-

ades, the U.S. government has invested a lot of human resources and budgets in promoting democracy, human rights and the rule of law, he said, stressing that since national election in July last year, the United States has always supported peaceful negotiations and nonviolence, which is necessary for reaching a useful solution for all Cambodians. Expressing his belief that through the continuous commitments to peaceful dialogues, the Cambodian people would uphold democracy, H.E. William E. Todd said the United States is committed to supporting the country's democratic progress and to assisting the development of all sectors

in Cambodia as well. To improve the lives of Cambodian people, he underlined, the United States had been working closely with the government in various programs including health, education, food security and environment. “Another example of this commitment is a trade mission that I led recently to the United States with H.E. Minister of Commerce, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and a number of Cambodian business firms. Our journey is to increase business opportunities between our two countries, which will contribute to economic growth,

To be continued

, and hopes to help create employment opportunities as well,” H.E. William E. Todd said. For his part, H.E. Hor Namhong, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation thanked the U.S. government for the humanitarian and development support and assistance to Cambodia in various sec-

tors. He said the United States assisted not only the Royal Government of Cambodia, but also many other nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society groups, therefore testifying that democracy in Cambodia had been progressing well.

Article in English by
Ravuth M.

Cambodian PM Calls for Prevention against Child Exploitation and Trafficking

AKP Phnom Penh, July 04, 2014 —
Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen has called on all relevant authorities and citizens to join hands in combating child exploitation and trafficking.

Speaking at the launching ceremony of the National Disability Strategic Plan (NDSP) 2014-2018 held yesterday at Koh Pich Convention and Exhibition Center, Samdech Techo Hun Sen recalled the barbaric acts of violence committed by a monk on a child in

Banteay Meanchey province, and asked relevant authorities at all localities to take measures to defend children from exploitation and trafficking, especially those in orphanages. Samdech Techo Hun Sen also appealed to people who have adopted chil-

dren to have compassion and affection towards the adopted children, to send them to training centers, schools, instead of considering them as servants.

Article in English by
Khan Sophirom

Cambodia Plans to List Battambang City As a World Heritage City

AKP Phnom Penh, July 03, 2014 –
Cambodia’s Ministry of Tourism in collaboration with local authorities of Battambang province and relevant ministries is preparing to request UNESCO to list Battambang city as a world heritage city in 2015, H.E.

Thong Khon, Minister of Tourism, told local media recently. The ministry has been now working on this plan with UNESCO, the World Tourism Organization and a university of Australia, said H.E. Minister. ”We have already prepared all relat-

ed documents and we plan to submit our request in 2015.” Battambang city is rich of heritage such as French-classical style buildings as well as natural and cultural tourism resorts, he added. Some 150,000 people are currently living in

Battambang city, which is divided into 10 Sangkats of 62 villages.

By Lim Nary

Australia Pledges AU\$3.25 Million for ECCC

AKP Phnom Penh, July 02, 2014 –

The Government of Australia has confirmed that it will make a new single contribution of AU\$3.25 million (approximately US\$3 million) to the international component of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC), according to the ECCC's press release.

“As we await the verdict for Case 002/01 and continue the work on the remaining cases, this funding helps to ensure

that justice can be delivered to the people of Cambodia in a timely fashion. Australia has been an invaluable partner in this endeavor since the establishment of the Tribunal, for which the ECCC would like to express its deep gratitude,” said Acting Director of the Office of Administration Tony Kranh and Deputy Director Knut Rosandhaug. With this new pledge, the Government of Australia's total contribution to the ECCC will exceed

AU\$26 million, added the press release.

Australia is the second largest donor to the ECCC, and it has supported the Court since its inception, it underlined.

By Khan Sophirom

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