

Joint Statement Between the Kingdom of Cambodia and Malaysia, 03 June 2016

June 09, 2016

JOINT STATEMENT BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA AND MALAYSIA ON THE OCCASION OF THE OFFICIAL VISIT TO MALAYSIA BY SAMDECH AKKA MOHA SENA PADEI TECHO HUN SEN PRIME MINISTER OF THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA ON 3-4 JUNE 2016

1. At the invitation of the Honourable Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia, Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia paid an Official Visit to Malaysia from 3-4 June 2016.

2. During the visit, Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak held a restricted meeting, followed by a bilateral meeting with Samdech Techo Prime Minister Hun Sen on 3 June 2016. The two leaders had fruitful and in-depth discussions on all aspects of Cambodia-Malaysia relations, and exchanged views on regional and international issues of common concern.

3. While both leaders expressed satisfaction with the progress of bilateral relations over the years and reviewed various issues of the existing bilateral relations including political, trade and investment, education, tourism and culture, both sides also discussed new areas of cooperation that could be explored, in an effort to further broaden and deepen the relationship between the two countries.

4. Both leaders concurred that the exchange of visits at all levels would contribute to the development of bilateral relations between Cambodia and Malaysia. The two sides agreed that every effort would be made to encourage and promote exchanges between government officials and leaders of private sectors with a view to further expand the breadth and depth of the bilateral relations.

5. The two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen bilateral trade and investment cooperation, and to deepen their economic engagement for mutual benefit. Both leaders also reaffirmed commitment to forge closer cooperation in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) development, which will lead to creation of stronger enterprises that will be able to withstand global competition and bring about mutual benefits for both countries. In face of the ongoing global financial and economic challenges, both sides reaffirmed their commitment to maintain economic growth. Samdech Techo Prime Minister Hun Sen conveyed the steps taken by the Royal Government of Cambodia to provide a conducive environment for investors, and encouraged Malaysian investors to pro-actively look at large investment opportunities in Cambodia. In view of the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) last year, the leaders pledged to further deepen economic integration through the liberalization initiatives and enhancing Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) in order to provide opportunities for private sector of both countries. Such engagements will positively promote and realize the full potential of Malaysia and Cambodia bilateral trade.

6. Both sides agreed that the two countries should explore many areas of cooperation in the field of education, including exchange of programs of scholars, teachers, experts and students, and promote exchanges and cooperation between educational institutions of both countries.

7. Noting the increasing two-way tourist movement and the significance of tourism in fostering greater people-to-people interaction, Cambodia and Malaysia are prepared to renew their cooperation in tourism with the aim to further enhance the understanding between the people and boost the economic development of both countries.

8. Both leaders expressed satisfaction with the close cooperation between the countries in the areas of labour, taking into account the existing "Memorandum of Understanding on the Recruitment and Employment of Workers" and "Memorandum of Understanding on the Recruitment and Employment of Domestic Workers" signed on 10 December 2015.

9. Noting the momentum building up worldwide for better quality products and services as consumers gain confidence in halal process, Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak conveyed his readiness to share Malaysia's experience and expertise in halal industry. Both leaders agreed to share information and best practices towards this endeavour.

10. Both sides agreed to strengthen, promote and develop co-operation in organizing the International Volunteers Programme of MyCorps in Cambodia on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. Both sides welcomed the signing of the "Memorandum of Understanding between the Royal Government of Cambodia and the Government of Malaysia on the International Volunteers Programme of MyCorps in Cambodia".

11. Both sides realized the huge benefits that could be derived from the information and broadcasting cooperation between the two countries, especially in the exchange of news material and radio/television reports covering the political, economic, social and cultural aspects of both countries. Both sides welcomed the signing of the "Memorandum of Understanding between the Royal Government of Cambodia and the Government of Malaysia on Information and Broadcasting Cooperation".

12. Both sides recognized the importance of drawing a joint agricultural development programme for the effective utilization of resources of both countries in the agricultural field, considering especially the potential of the two countries. Both sides agreed to sign a Letter of Intent to indicate the intention of the two governments to finalise and expedite the signing of the "Memorandum of Understanding on Agricultural Cooperation".

13. Both sides welcomed the negotiation on the "Memorandum of Understanding on Combating Trafficking in Persons between Cambodia and Malaysia" and task the Ministry of Women Affairs of Cambodia and the Ministry of Home Affairs Malaysia to expedite the negotiation for signing of the said MOU.

14. Both sides agreed to convene the Third Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) headed by Foreign Ministers of both countries at a mutually agreed date.

15. Noting the common understanding of the two countries on a number of important regional and international issues, both sides expressed satisfaction with their close and active engagements in regional and international affairs, and reaffirmed their commitment to further continuing their efforts and cooperation for the establishment and promotion of regional and international peace, stability and development.

16. Both sides agreed the importance of enhancing bilateral cooperation and joint approaches with regard to more effective participation and significant contribution in multilateral and regional fora such as the United Nations (UN), World Trade Organisation (WTO), Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN). Both sides also committed to furthering cooperation, in order to deepen economic integration of the two countries, towards the full implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC).

17. As members of ASEAN, both sides have committed to the realisation of ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together. Samdech Techo Prime Minister Hun Sen also expressed his deep appreciation to Malaysia for the latter's support towards Cambodia's further integration into ASEAN. Samdech Techo Prime Minister Hun Sen also sought Malaysia's continued support in the implementation of the IAI Strategic Framework and its Work Plan as well as the Post-2015 Agenda for ASEAN Connectivity towards a fully integrated ASEAN Community by 2025.

18. Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak also reiterated Malaysia's appreciation for the support rendered by Cambodia to Malaysia's successful UNSC bid. Malaysia would continue to promote the moderation agenda and mediation approach, promote the enhancement of UN peacekeeping operations, support peace building in countries emerging from conflicts and encourage continued discussion on the comprehensive reform of the Council. Samdech Techo Prime Minister Hun Sen expressed his sincere thanks to Malaysia for supporting Cambodia as a member of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) for the term of 2019.

19. Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia expressed his deep appreciation for the warm and generous hospitality extended to him and his delegation for the visit and invited Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak to attend the 26th World Economic Forum on ASEAN in 2017 and to pay an official visit to the Kingdom of Cambodia at a mutually convenient date. Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak accepted the invitation with pleasure.