

Foreign Ministry Releases Outcomes of PM's Participation in WEF on ASEAN in Hanoi

AKP Phnom Penh, September 14, 2018 –

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation this afternoon issued a press release on the outcomes of Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen's participation in the 27th World Economic Forum on ASEAN in Hanoi, Vietnam on Sept. 12-13.

The full press release reads as follows:



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Department of Information

PRESS RELEASE

**Outcomes of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN's visit to the Socialist
Republic of Vietnam for participation in the 27th World Economic Forum on ASEAN
in Hanoi, 12-13 September 2018**

At the invitation of His Excellency Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, led a high-level delegation to attend "The 27th World Economic Forum on ASEAN" (27th WEF) which was held in Hanoi, from 12 to 13 September 2018 under the theme "ASEAN 4.0: Entrepreneurship and the Fourth Industrial Revolution".

The 27th WEF was attended by ASEAN Heads of State/Government and senior officials and leaders from other countries in the region, with more than 1,000 participants from governments, businesses, international organizations and members of the academia around the globe, who took the opportunity to exchange views on how to navigate the current process of technological revolution and spur entrepreneurial dynamism for sound development of the region in the era of geopolitical and economic shifts.

At the Opening Plenary on "ASEAN Priorities in the Fourth Industrial Revolution", Samdech Techo Prime Minister expressed his views that ASEAN can capitalize the positive development and minimize concerns over the implication of today's digital advancement through the following measures:

- Creating a comprehensive and inclusive ASEAN Vision for Industry 4.0, based on the existing ASEAN initiatives.
- Formulating a common program for human capacity building aims to address job redundancy and economic and social inequality.
- Promoting development of supporting system for research and innovation in the region so as to strengthen entrepreneurial capacity to shape new business models, create new jobs and set future economic direction.



- Continuing to improve regional and intra-regional hard and soft infrastructure connectivity to serve as a resilient foundation for ASEAN nations to harness the benefits from the global new growth context.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister Hun Sen also attended a luncheon hosted by Professor Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman of the WEF, during which prominent CEOs were given the opportunity to interact with the participating Leaders and shared their insights on the topic of "ASEAN in the Age of the Fourth Industrial Revolution." This was followed by his participation in an interactive session on "A New Vision for the Mekong Region", which centered on a number of subjects of common interest such as Mekong's economic integration and evolution in recent years, the unique aspects of each country that will contribute to the regional economy, new forms of integration in which digital rather than physical connectivity is given more importance, priorities for future investments in hard-cross border infrastructure, the expectation from soft infrastructure transformation, etc.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister shared his critical thoughts on the accomplishments and challenges for the Mekong Region highlighting the pertinent fact that we have already entered the Fourth Industrial Revolution and are applying technology for solving certain problems. Regardless of the new trends, the perception and interaction between Cambodia and neighboring Mekong countries as well as countries outside the region remain unchanged. Samdech Techo Prime Minister stressed particularly the importance of the Mekong's priorities on both physical and digital connectivity so that all countries can work together in a pragmatic way. He also underlined the linkages between economy and environmental sustainability and disaster management, and the promotion of trade facilitation and harmonization of regional legal procedure.

On the margin of the the 27th WEF, Samdech Techo Prime Minister had separate meetings with His Excellency Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, His Excellency Thongloun Sisoulith, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and His Excellency Ranil Wickremesinghe, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, and received a courtesy call by His Excellency Taro Kono, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan. These meetings focused on how to strengthen and expand bilateral cooperation. Various issues of common interest and concern were also discussed. Professor Klaus Schwab, WEF Founder and Executive Chairman also paid a courtesy call on Samdech Techo Prime Minister Hun Sen.

Phnom Penh, 14 September 2018



By C. Nika