

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

## PRESS RELEASE

on the Outcomes of the Official Visit to the Republic of Indonesia of His Excellency Mr. Prak Sokhonn, Senior Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia (Jakarta, 01-03 February 2018)

His Excellency Mr. Prak Sokhonn, Senior Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, paid an Official Visit to the Republic of Indonesia from 01 to 03 February 2018 at the invitation of Her Excellency Mrs. Retno L.P. Marsudi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. The official visit aims to further foster the friendly relations and strengthen cooperation between the two countries.

During official meeting, the two Foreign Ministers exchanged views on the latest political, economic and social development of respective countries and agreed to further enhance bilateral cooperation including trade, tourism, culture, education and connectivity and to explore new potential areas of cooperation.

On tourism cooperation, the two sides agreed to promote tourism potential through: 1- actively and jointly implementing the Memorandum of Understanding between Siem Reap and Central Java concerning Sister Temple Province Cooperation, 2- exploring the possibility of establishing Sister Cities between Phnom Penh and Bogor and 3-promoting direct flights between the two countries. Meanwhile, the two sides agreed to conduct joint activities to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the two countries in the coming year 2019.

Besides, the two Foreign Ministers also agreed to intensify dialogue between the two Ministries of Foreign Affairs with a view to further promoting cooperation and coordination in both bilateral and multilateral frameworks. Indonesian side agreed to exchange and share experiences between the Center for Education and Training (CET) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia and the newlyestablished National Institute of Diplomacy and International Relations (NIDIR) of

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the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia. In this regard, at the request of the Cambodian Foreign Minister, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia is planning to invite Director of NIDIR for a study visit at the CET at a mutually convenient date.

Furthermore, the two sides agreed to re-convene regularly the Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation (JCBC). As initiated by the Cambodian Foreign Minister, Indonesia will host the 4th JCBC during the second half of 2018 to follow up and review the implementation of outcomes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> JCBC and explore other possibilities to further promote more effective cooperation between the two countries.

In addition, the two sides agreed to promote and expand cooperation in culture, agriculture, transport, construction, infrastructure, information, broadcasting, technology, defense, human trafficking, human resources development and so on.

The two sides also exchanged views on current regional and international issues of common concerns and on contributing to peace, stability and prosperity in the region and the world. Besides, Indonesia also agreed with Cambodia's invitation to send Indonesian observers to observe the forthcoming General Election in Cambodia in the July 2018.

During this visit, His Excellency Senior Minister Prak Sokhonn paid a courtesy call on His Excellency Muhammad Jusuf Kalla, Vice-President of the Republic of Indonesia, during which he conveyed cordial greetings of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia to His Excellency the Vice-President and, through him, to His Excellency Joko Widodo, President of the Republic of Indonesia as well as thanked His Excellency the Vice-President for attending the funeral of Samdech Vibol Panha Sok An last March 2017. Cambodia always remembers the invaluable support and assistance of the Indonesian Government in peace building process and development in Cambodia.

His Excellency Senior Minister Prak Sokhonn briefed His Excellency the Vice-President on the fruitful outcomes of his bilateral meeting with Her Excellency Minister Retno L.P. Marsudi to further enhance bilateral cooperation between the two countries in trade, investment, tourism, people-to-people contact, culture, defense and human resource development.

His Excellency the Vice-President applauded the excellent relations between the two countries and expressed his encouragement to further advancement of cooperation in all sectors for the common interests of the two countries. His **Excellency the Vice-President** also reciprocated his warmest greetings to **Samdech** Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen.

The meetings were held in a cordial, pleasant and mutual understanding atmosphere reflecting the bonds of friendship and close cooperation enjoyed by both countries.

Phnom Penh, 05 February 2018

