



Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia

Phnom Penh, 20 February 2018

H.E. Mr. Shinzo Abe
Prime Minister of Japan
Tokyo

Excellency,

On behalf of the Government and people of the Kingdom of Cambodia, I have a great pleasure to convey warmest congratulations to Your Excellency and through you to the Government and the friendly people of Japan, on the special occasion of the 65th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Cambodia and Japan.

I am delighted to note that relations of friendship and good cooperation, as mutually aspired by our two nations 65 years ago, have not only withstood the test of time and changes in the international and regional landscapes, but have also witnessed a growing and deepening trend. In the 1990s, Japan played a vital role in Cambodia's peace process, including dispatching peace-keepers under the UN framework for the first time to Cambodia. The Japanese Government and people have also made enormous contribution to post-conflict rehabilitation and socio-economic development of Cambodia as seen today.

The Government and people of Cambodia highly appreciate the invaluable Japanese support which has helped to transform Cambodia from being a war-torn country and a recipient of the UN peacekeepers, into one of the fastest growing economy in the world and an active contributor to international peacekeeping. I am pleased to see the growing scope and depth of cooperation in many areas between Cambodia and Japan, which had formed the basis for our relations to be elevated to strategic partnership in 2013. The exchange of high-level delegations, including my visit to Japan last August, the expanding trade and investment and increasing people-to-people interaction in recent years have further reinforced the foundation of the long-standing relationship between our nations.

While the celebration of our diplomatic relations this year will certainly add greater strength to the spirit of friendship and cooperation between our two peoples, I very much look forward to working closely with **Your Excellency** to further nurture and take our cordial relations to new heights.

Please accept, **Your Excellency**, the assurances of my highest consideration and my best wishes for your good health and success and for greater happiness and prosperity to the people of Japan.

HUN SEN