



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
NATION RELIGION KING**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

General Department of ASEAN

PRESS RELEASE

Outcomes of the 44th and 45th ASEAN Summits

Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei HUN Manet, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, attended the 44th and 45th ASEAN Summits and Related Summits, under the theme “**ASEAN: Enhancing Connectivity and Resilience**”, chaired by His Excellency **Dr. Sonexay SIPHANDONE**, Prime Minister of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), in Vientiane on 9 October 2024.

1. 44th and 45th ASEAN Summits

During the Plenary Session, the Leaders discussed ASEAN’s concerted efforts in advancing the ASEAN Community building process and exchanged views on future direction of ASEAN external relations. The Leaders commended the works of the High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Community Vision 2045 (HLTF-ACV) and other relevant stakeholders in developing the Strategic Plans to implement the ASEAN Community Vision 2045 and looked forward to the adoption of these milestone documents during Malaysia’s ASEAN Chairmanship in 2025. In this regard, the Leaders adopted the ASEAN Leaders’ Declaration on the Development of Strategic Plans to Implement the ASEAN Community Vision 2045.

On ASEAN external relations, the Leaders’ reaffirmed the importance of upholding and strengthening ASEAN centrality and unity in the context of the evolving regional architecture and the precarious geopolitical landscape. The Leaders also stressed the need to further enhance cooperation with ASEAN Dialogue Partners and



other external partners on issues of common interest and concern to promote peace, stability, and prosperity in the region and beyond.

Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister reaffirmed Cambodia's full support for the priorities of Lao PDR as the ASEAN Chair, especially as enhancing connectivity and resilience resonates deeply with ASEAN's shared aspirations and collective vision for a robust, prosperous and integrated Southeast Asia. **Samdech Thipadei** emphasised that in the face of growing geopolitical complexity and uncertainty, exacerbated by both traditional and non-traditional security issues, ASEAN's shared responses must be proactive, anticipatory and strategic so that the region will be future-proof and future-ready.

Samdech Thipadei stressed that ASEAN should remain committed to a multilateral trading system that is free, open, inclusive, fair and transparent while also calling on ASEAN to expand trade cooperation among itself and with partners. For ASEAN to remain a driving force for global prosperity, **Samdech Thipadei** highlighted that ASEAN should leverage on the huge potential of emerging sectors, including digital economy, green transition, blue economy and resilient supply chains so that our region can continue to enjoy robust and durable growth.

Samdech Thipadei also took the opportunity to reaffirm Cambodia's supports for Timor-Leste to become a full member of ASEAN at the earliest and expressed support for any practical or creative approach to this end. **Samdech Thipadei** welcomed growing interest from countries outside the region to accede to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) and supported any partner who wants to form a relationship with ASEAN based on the principles of mutual respect, trust and benefit.

In the Retreat Session, the Leaders discussed the implementation of the Five-Point Consensus on Myanmar and exchanged views on regional and international issues of common interest and concern.



2. ASEAN Leaders' Interfaces

At the ASEAN Leaders' Interface with ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) Representatives, **Samdech Thipadei** emphasized the importance of promoting and maintaining the existing peace and peaceful coexistence among states at a time of resurgent violent conflicts in many parts of the world and the rising extremism and populism. **Samdech Thipadei** also stressed the need for governments and parliaments to strengthen cooperation to promote emerging industries — notably digital economy and green transition, and to put in place effective legal frameworks to help ASEAN tap into the great potentials that these sectors bring.

At the ASEAN Leaders' Interface with the ASEAN Business Advisory Council, **Samdech Thipadei** emphasized the importance of continued collaboration between public and private sectors to support infrastructure projects when fiscal space is limited and encouraged further cooperation in the areas of regional connectivity, digital transformation, and green transition. **Samdech Thipadei** informed the meeting that Cambodia has just unveiled the "Comprehensive Master Plan on Cambodia Intermodal Transport and Logistics System" in early 2024 and invited the private sector to consider this attractive opportunity. **Samdech Thipadei** also underscored the critical role of the private sector in contributing to rapid economic growth, and the improvement of the well-being of the people in the region.

Phnom Penh, 10 October 2024

