

Welcome Remark

By

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At

The Cambodia Forum 2010, Co-Organized by the Cambodian Institute for
Cooperation and Peace and the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

Conrad Centennial Singapore Hotel
Friday, 23 April 2010

- His Excellency Dr. Sok An, Deputy Prime Minister
- Mr. Wong Ah Long, Deputy Chairman of ISEAS Board of Trustees
- Excellency Ambassador K Kesavapany, Director of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies
- Excellencies Ministers, Secretaries of State of the Royal Government of Cambodia
- Excellencies Members of the Diplomatic Corp
- Distinguished Participants of the Cambodia Forum 2010

It is a great pleasure and privilege for me to be given an opportunity to welcome you to this important Forum on Cambodia. It is the first time that we conduct such kind of forum in Singapore.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally express my sincerest gratitude to His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Sok An and Senior Cambodian Leaders for supporting this forum. I would like to extend my deepest appreciation to His Excellency Ambassador Kesavapany for the great cooperation and sponsorship. I also would like to thank His Excellency Mr. Pou Sothirak and other Senior Research Fellows of ISEAS for the hard work in coordinating and realizing the Forum.

A closer look at the Forum's program, I notice many inspiring topics which touch upon important subjects of economic, investment, tourism and culture, human resource, energy and environment in present day Cambodia and the shared lessons from the Singaporean speakers in the respective fields.

I do hope that the outcome of this Forum will certainly have lasting impression and the Cambodian delegation can learn the many positive lessons from Singapore on how to manage effectively the above mentioned sectors. Such knowledge sharing can contribute significantly to shape the development trajectory of Cambodia.

I believe that through the spirit of trust and collaboration between Cambodia and Singapore, we can move forward together well into the 21st century with pride and mutual respect. I personally put my confidence and trust in this Forum. I strongly hope that we can open a space to explore opportunities to have common and shared interests between our two nations and people.

The step we are taking today will definitely bear fruit for future endeavour in our common journey. The ideas we share today will be reflected in real actions in the future. The personal networks we have today will last forever.

I am looking forward to an active interaction and engagement among the distinguished speakers and participants.

I wish the Cambodia Forum 2010 a great success.

Thank you.