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## PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT

## Discussion for The Memorandum on Strategic Partnership

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Port Autonomous of Sihanoukville (PAS) had discussion on the Memorandum on Strategic Partnership in order to strengthen and deepen the partnership for the development of Sihanoukville Port.

On 24<sup>th</sup> May, Mr. Shigenori OGAWA, the Director General of Southeast Asia and Pacific Department, JICA, visited PAS and discussed the future cooperation for the Shihanoukville Port. Both PAS and JICA agreed the following contents of Memorandum on Strategic Partnership, which will be in June.

- 1. JICA will continue to support PAS on the comprehensive aspects for the port development and the promotion of the Special Economic Zone through such modalities as grant aid, technical cooperation and concessional loans.
- 2. PAS will continue to strengthen its operations and management related to the Sihanoukville Port and its Special Economic Zone.
- 3. PAS and JICA will continue to exchange views and relevant information on the development of the Sihanoukville Port and its logistics improvement for socio-economic development of Cambodia.

Sihanoukville Port is located in Preah Sihanouk Province, at the south-end of the Phnom Penh-Sihanoukville Growth Corridor, and serves as the only international deep sea port in Cambodia. The coastal area has been progressively developed as an industrial zone, which has brought positive influences on the industrial and economic development of Cambodia. In order to stimulate such development, JICA provided ODA loans to implement the Sihanoukville Port Urgent Rehabilitation Project in 1999 and the Sihanoukville Port Urgent Expansion Project in 2004, aiming to improve the performance of handling containerized cargoes.

In June 2017, JICA acquired equities in the PAS in its initial public offering to strategic investors.

JICA transferred all the holding shares of PAS to Kamigumi Co., Ltd, in May 2019 (https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20190524\_10\_en.html). However, JICA together with Japanese companies which have abundant experience in port management, will continue to provide a variety of cooperation for the further development of Sihanoukville Port.

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