



Phnom Penh, June 4, 2019

## PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT

### **Strategic Partnership with Sihanoukville Autonomous Port - Promotion of Port Development and Logistics Facilitation in Cambodia -**

On June 3, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a Memorandum of Cooperation on Strategic Partnership with Sihanoukville Autonomous Port (PAS). The signing by H.E. Lou Kim Chhun, Chairman and CEO of PAS and Mr. Shigenori Ogawa, Director General of Southeast Asia and Pacific Department of JICA, took place at JICA headquarters in Tokyo, Japan.

Strategic partnership with PAS is intended to strengthen and deepen the partnership between JICA and PAS to promote port development and logistic improvement for socio-economic development in Cambodia.

The only deep-sea port in Cambodia, Sihanoukville Port is a key logistics hub that contributes to Cambodian national development. Since 1999, Japan has provided, through ODA loans, grant aid, and technical cooperation, continuous supports for improving the infrastructure and enhancing the management capacity of the port.

Because of the rapid economic growth in Cambodia, the role of the Sihanoukville port is becoming ever more important as a domestic and regional logistic hub. The annual amount of container cargo handled at the port has increased to more than 540,000 TEUs [1] in 2018, from 290,000 TEUs in 2013. In this situation, for Sihanoukville port development, and management and operation improvement of the port and SEZ are vital.

During the bilateral Meeting between Cambodian Prime Minister, **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN** and Japanese Prime Minister **Shinzo ABE** on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May, 2019, Japan committed to the continuous support for Sihanoukville port which includes development of Master plan for the Port. In this regard, JICA will continue to provide various forms of cooperation, such as the ODA loan project “Sihanoukville Port New Container Terminal Development Project [2]”, and the grant aid project “The Project for Port EDI for Port Modernization” for further development of Sihanoukville Port. Moreover, JICA will contribute to trade promotion in the ASEAN region and Indian-Pacific region by strengthening cooperation and deepening the partnership with PAS, which is a regional logistic hub.

[1] The amount of cargo in a 20-foot-long container

[2] [Press Release on Sihanoukville Port New Container Terminal Development Project](#)

[3] [Press Release on the Project for Port EDI for Port Modernization](#)

[4] [Share Transfer of Sihanoukville Autonomous Port – Cambodia](#)

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