



AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY PHNOM PENH

MEDIA RELEASE

17 June 2020

AUSTRALIAN COOPERATION WITH THE CAMBODIAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DIPLOMACY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Today His Excellency Pablo Kang, Australian Ambassador to Cambodia, handed over a Letter of Intent to the President of Cambodia's National Institute of Diplomacy and International Relations (NIDIR), His Excellency Tean Samnang. The Letter of Intent outlines future cooperation between NIDIR and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Diplomatic Academy.

The Diplomatic Academy trains Australian officials in international engagement and tradecraft, in areas such as advocacy, negotiation and strategic planning.

"Through cooperation with NIDIR, Australia is pleased to support the next generation of Cambodian leaders and diplomats. As a diplomat myself, I believe that we can only be truly effective when we prioritise continuous learning and professional development," said Ambassador Kang.

The cooperation between NIDIR and the Diplomatic Academy includes sharing materials of mutual interest such as diplomatic tradecraft and regional issues; reciprocal exchanges of senior foreign ministry officials; guest lectures from senior Australian officials at NIDIR; and Australia running short courses for Cambodians through NIDIR.

The Letter of Intent cements an existing relationship between NIDIR and Australia. In October 2019, Australia and NIDIR cooperated to deliver training for Cambodian diplomats on developing foreign policy, conducting international negotiations, delivering continuous education for diplomats and supporting women in leadership. Retired senior Australian diplomat Jean Dunn delivered this training.

"The role of NIDIR is crucial to ensuring that future generations of Cambodians engage effectively in regional and global forums, successfully negotiate with international partners, and develop balanced and robust foreign policy to ensure a resilient and prosperous Indo-Pacific region," said Ambassador Kang.

Media Enquiries: Australian.Embassy.Cambodia@dfat.gov.au