



**AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY
PHNOM PENH**

MEDIA RELEASE

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Australia Donates COVID Medical Equipment to Cambodia

On Saturday 11 December Australia provided medical equipment to the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces to assist in the fight against COVID-19.

This delivery for Military Regions 4 (Siem Reap), 5 (Battambang) and Ream Naval Base is the final tranche of several deliveries from Australia that have occurred this year, and includes PPE, COVID test kits, patient monitors, an oxygen concentrator, and ventilators.

His Excellency Pablo Kang, the Australian Ambassador to Cambodia, gifted over 1,500kgs of COVID-related medical and personal protective equipment to His Excellency General Moeung Samphan, Secretary of State, Ministry of National Defense. Amongst the consumable items were over 20,000 gloves, 50,000 masks, 3,800 bandages and 10,000 COVID test kits.

The Ambassador reflected on Australia and Cambodia's defence cooperation during 2021, including HMAS Anzac's visit to Sihanoukville in October 2021, which was the first Royal Australian Navy ship visit to Cambodia since 2016.

Ambassador Kang congratulated Cambodia on its success in rapidly rolling out vaccines to its population and particularly the RCAF for its leading role in Cambodia's whole of government effort. "Today's medical equipment handover reinforces Australia's commitment to supporting Cambodia's future development, including its health and economic recovery from COVID-19. It also underlines our aspirations for long-term defence cooperation that allows for diversity in Cambodia's strategic relationships while safeguarding Cambodia's independence and sovereignty."

Media enquiries: Media.Cambodia@dfat.gov.au