



AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY PHNOM PENH

MEDIA RELEASE

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AUSTRALIA DELIVERS PAEDIATRIC PFIZER BIONTECH COVID-19 VACCINES TO THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

Today, Australia delivered an initial 196,800 of 482,400 doses of the paediatric Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children aged 5-11 years in Cambodia.

The paediatric doses add to Australia's bilateral donation of 2.35 million Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines, 133 ultra-low and low temperature vaccine freezers, and other essential cold chain equipment. This support is part of Australia's AUD35.7 million end-to-end commitment towards a safe, effective and equitable vaccine rollout in Cambodia.

Australian Ambassador Pablo Kang welcomed the delivery. "Australia and Cambodia have a long history, spanning 70 years of friendship and partnership. We are committed to working with Cambodia in response to COVID-19, and more broadly on our collective goal to strengthen Cambodia's health care system overall."

Ambassador Kang added "The Ministry of Health and the health partners have been at the forefront of a long, tireless campaign to protect Cambodians and we have come to a stage now when we can look forward to the future. Children play such an important role in that future, so it's critical they are safe to learn, play and grow. We hope our latest contribution will support this".

Australia continues its partnership with UNICEF as a key strategic partner in the region and acknowledges their technical expertise and partnership in making this assistance possible. UNICEF has proven through the COVID-19 pandemic that they are leaders in the procurement and delivery of vaccines – particularly in increasing the availability of vaccines to vulnerable Cambodians including persons with a disability and pregnant women.

Australia's latest assistance builds on decades of support for Cambodia's health sector, including through the Health Equity and Quality Improvement Program (H-EQIP), which is working to improve the quality of services provided by over 1,300 public health facilities across Cambodia.

Australia will continue to stand with Cambodia in responding to this global pandemic and remains committed to working together to secure the safety and prosperity of our people, our countries, and the broader region.

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