



*June 9, 2015*

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Statement by Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida on the Passing of Former President of the Senate of Cambodia Samdech Chea Sim

1. On the passing of Samdech Akka Moha Thomma Pothisal Chea Sim, former President of the Senate of Cambodia, the Government of Japan extends its deepest sympathies and sincere condolences to the Government and the people of the Kingdom of Cambodia, as well as to his bereaved family.
2. Former Senate President Samdech Chea Sim demonstrated great leadership in Cambodia's reconstruction and development as the Minister of Interior and the President of the National Assembly in the 1980s during the period of civil war, and, after peace was achieved, as the President of the National Assembly and the President of the Senate.
3. Former Senate President Samdech Chea Sim visited Japan on six occasions, and helped to build the foundations for the friendly relations between Japan and Cambodia of today. These include pursuing to achieve peace in Cambodia while cooperating with Japan, advancing exchanges of parliamentarians between the two countries, and promoting investment from Japanese companies to Cambodia. In 2013, former Senate President Samdech Chea Sim was conferred with decoration in recognition of these achievements.
4. The Government of Japan mourns the grievous loss of a great leader, and offers a prayer for the repose of the soul of Samdech Chea Sim.