

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Phnom Penh, 02 January 2024

His Excellency Ambassador Alexander

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Rector of the Diplomatic Academy of the

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Your Excellency,

On the auspicious occasion of the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, on behalf of the Cambodian alumni of the Academy, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Your Excellency, and through Your Excellency, to the esteemed members of this distinguished institution.

Allow me to recall, how for almost seven decades, Cambodia and Russia have enjoyed traditional ties of warm friendship, driven by the spirit of mutual support, respect, and understanding, as well as close bilateral and multilateral cooperation in wide-ranging fields of common interest. Cambodia remains deeply appreciative to the Russian Federation for its continued aid and assistance especially in human resource development to the Kingdom over the past years.

I would like to take this momentous occasion, to convey our gratefulness to the government, in particular the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, for the chance to pursue our study in International Relations and diplomacy at the Diplomatic Academy, where we have been equipped with vast knowledge of foreign relations and developed our diplomatic skills. For my own experience, not only had the qualifications and skillsets I acquired during the program enabled me to advance my professional development and drive me to steadily climb up the career ladder towards becoming a high-ranking official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, they also allowed me to anchor firmly as a qualified Cambodian diplomat who could navigate the sea of stormy global affairs to safeguard Cambodia's interests, sovereignty and territorial integrity while fostering good cooperation and friendship with other countries.

I strongly believe that the Diplomatic Academy, built on the great success over the past decades, will continue to deliver its positive impact on human resources development in the region and beyond and render continued assistance to support Cambodia's human resource development in the years to come.

May I convey my Best Wishes for a Very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year 2024 to Your Excellency and your team at the Diplomatic Academy!

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

**TUOT Panha** 

Secretary of State