

**H.E. Dr. Sok An Welcomes H.E. Peter Costello's Investment Plan on Agriculture in Cambodia**

In the morning of 21 January, 2010, **H.E. Dr. Sok An**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister in Charge of the Office of the Council of Ministers had a meeting with **H.E. Peter Costello**, President of BKK Partners which is an Australia-based Financial Consultant company, to discuss an investment plan in agricultural sector in Cambodia.

At the meeting, held at the Office of the Council of Ministers and also attended by H.E. Madam Ambassador of Australia to Cambodia, **H.E. Peter Costello**, who was also former Deputy Prime Minister and former Treasurer of Australia, told **H.E. Dr. Sok An** that through the BKK Partners and Indochina Gateway Capital Limited which base in Phnom Penh, he was seeking capital on investment with amount of US\$ 600 million for Cambodia's agricultural sector.

**H.E. Peter Costello** added that on the planned project of 100,000 hectares of land, Australian and international investors would bring in investment on 40,000 hectares of farm land, 20,000 hectares for sugar-cane, 20,000 hectares for oil palm plantation , 10,000 hectares for banana plantation, and 10,000 hectares for teaks. With plantation new agro-technology for increasing yield and enhancing quality to reach international standard for export, **H.E. Peter Costello** claimed that the agricultural investment plan would help create 150,000 jobs for Cambodian people in the future.

In response, **H.E. Dr. Sok An** expressed his satisfaction and support for the investment project in agricultural sector in Cambodia, brought in by **H.E. Peter Costello**.

(Press and Quick Reaction Unit)