

Very formal letter



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

September XX, Your Excellency, It is my great privilege to introduce myself to you before I visit your country. I am XXX XXX, the representative director of the Japan Cambodian Friendship Goodwill Association.

As you already are well aware, it is now almost 20 years since the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Cambodia and Japan that occurred in 1993. Since then, Cambodia and Japan have forged a very friendly relationship in various areas such as our politics, our economies, and our respective cultures.

Over the past year, we invited his majesty, King Norodom Sihamoni of the Kingdom of Cambodia, as a state guest of Japan. His majesty accepted this invitation and met with their majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan for the 55th anniversary of the signing of the Japan-Cambodia Treaty of Amity. His majesty also attended various public events including the banquet at the Imperial Palace. As a result of his presence there, the Japan-Cambodia relationship became more solid.

Japan has consistently delivered a commitment to peace, rehabilitation, domestic stability, and nation-building in Cambodia. As such, the country has been our alliance partner in Southeast Asia since the late 1980's. More specifically, Japan has extended economic assistance with and without compensation for Cambodia to (1) realize sustainable economic growth and maintain a stable society; (2) aid the socially vulnerable; (3) cope with global issues; and (4) redress disparities among ASEAN countries.

Above all, the Agreement between Japan and the Kingdom of Cambodia for the Liberalization, Promotion, and Protection of Investment intensified the relationship between our two countries. You may recall that your Excellency signed this Agreement while visiting Japan as a state guest in 2007. As a

result, direct Japanese investments for motorbike assembling plants and galvanized iron plants in Cambodia are ever-increasing.

In terms of a cultural aspect, we have made an effort on the conservation and restoration of the historic site of Angkor through the Japanese Government Team for Safeguarding Angkor since the Inter-governmental Conference on the Safeguarding and Development of the Historic Site of Angkor, which was held in Tokyo in 1993.

Meanwhile, history has shown us that truly friendly relationships between countries require aids and exchanges at the government level, but this is not enough to build such a close relationship.

So, what do we need to build a truly friendly relationship?

There is an expression in Japanese that translates to English as “ Have the form but not the spirit.” We strongly believe that the “ spirit” in a country-to-country relationship is a cordial human exchange at the private level, as well as investment activities.

It just so happens that your country is currently in the middle of national promotion of agricultural sector enhancement, infrastructure rehabilitation and construction, private sector development, employment generation, and human resource development. By chance, our specific agendas that we set forth to deepen and enhance the friendly relationship between Cambodia and Japan are similar in the following ways: (1) finding, investigating, and improving issues that are unreachable through governmental measures; (2) awareness campaigns and PR activities via periodical journals and the Internet; and (3) scholarship projects for promising youth to lead Cambodia in the future. It cannot be a coincidence that our objectives are aligned. By combining the passion and spirit of Cambodia and Japan, it can be possible

to build a long-lasting relationship between Cambodia and Japan.

With all wishes to more solid goodwill ties between Cambodia and Japan through our combined efforts.

Sincerely yours,

XXX XXX, Representative Director,

Japan Cambodian Friendship Goodwill Association