

ASEAN will set up a working group at its secretariat to work with Cambodia when the country takes over the ASEAN chairmanship in 2012, H.E. Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia told reporters after a meeting with visiting Secretary-General of ASEAN Dr. Surin Pitsuwan on Thursday morning.

For his part, Dr. Surin Pitsuwan pledged to help Cambodia fulfilling successfully its role as the ASEAN Chair in 2012. The international community has high expectation for Cambodia to chair the ASEAN because only three years left for us to achieve the establishment of the ASEAN Community in 2015, he added.

Dr. Surin Pitsuwan arrived in Cambodia yesterday for a three-day official visit, at the invitation of H.E. Hor Namhong.

The ASEAN secretary-general will be granted a royal audience by His Majesty Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia, and pay a courtesy call on Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, according to a press release of the Cambodian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.