Cambodia Hosts Forum on ASEAN Security Cooperation

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A forum on the roles of Cambodia in enhancing regional security cooperation as the host of the ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting in 2012 was held here yesterday.

The forum, co-organized by the General Department of Policy and Foreign Affairs and the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace, was presided over by H.E. Tea Banh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the National Defense.

As the ASEAN Chair this year, Cambodia is committed to safeguard the Declaration of the Conduct of the Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and the guidelines to implement it, said H.E. Tea Banh.

Cambodia will encourage cooperation from the ASEAN member countries and China to achieve the draft Code of Conduct (COC) in 2012 in the spirit of friendship and cooperation, he added.

According to H.E. Tea Banh, the Cambodian-Thai border conflict near the Preah Vihear Temple is not an urgent agenda for the upcoming 6th ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting.

The 6th ASEAN Defense Minister's Meeting will take place in Cambodia in May.