PRESS STATEMENT

CCHR supports the critique of human rights in Cambodia by UN Special Representative Yash Ghai

Phnom Penh, September 28th, 2006

The Cambodian Center for Human Rights (CCHR) welcomes the report made by the UN Special Representative for Human Rights in Cambodia, Yash Ghai. The independent expert had presented his findings and recommendations to the UN Council on Human Rights in Geneva on Tuesday, September 26. "CCHR appreciates Yash Ghai's report and supports his evaluation of the human rights situation in Cambodia, particularly what he said about the denial of fundamental freedoms to the citizens, the dependency of the courts and the corruption that is endemic in our country. Our government should take this critique and working on an improvement instead of shouting at the critic", stated CCHR President Kem Sokha.

Kem Sokha added: "The UN Special Representative as well as the Cambodian Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights should continue to assist our country in the implementation of the international human rights treaties. This international law is recognized by our constitution but our government continuously fails to fulfill its obligations. Namely in the process of establishing a truly independent National Human Rights Commission, the UN experts can give us precious support."

For questions and interviews please call Ou Virak, CCHR Officer for Advocacy and Public Relations, phone no. 012 404051