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CCHR publishes UPR Workshop Outcome Report and Leaflet entitled ‘the Universal Periodic Review and Cambodia’

Today – 25 August 2017 - the Cambodian Center for Human Rights (“CCHR”) publishes two documents related to Kingdom of Cambodia (“Cambodia”)’s engagement with the United Nations (“UN”) Human Rights Council’s Universal Periodic Review (“UPR”). The Outcome Report of the 2017 Mid-Term UPR National Consultation is available for download now in Khmer and English. CCHR and UPR Info have also produced an accompanying explanatory leaflet entitled ‘the Universal Periodic Review and Cambodia’, which is also available for download in Khmer and English.

In June 2014, the Human Rights Council of the UN convened for its 26th session. During this session, the Report of the Working Group1 of Cambodia’s second UPR was formally adopted. Of the 205 recommendations made to the Royal Government of Cambodia (the “RGC”) by other UN member States, the RGC accepted 163 and noted the remaining 42.

On 17 and 18 July 2014,2 CCHR and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (“OHCHR”) organized a post-UPR National Consultation Workshop in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. This Consultation introduced NGOs to the UPR process and to strategies to participate in this process. Three years later, CCHR and OHCHR, alongside the Cambodian Human Rights Committee (the “CHRC”), UPR Info, and the International Commission of Jurists (“ICJ”) organized a National Consultation and Assessment Workshop in the context of Cambodia’s mid-term UPR review. It took place on 29 and 30 June 2017 in Phnom Penh. Participants were predominantly from NGOs focused on economic, social and cultural rights, freedom of expression and freedom of assembly, land rights, legal and judicial reform, and women’s and children’s rights, as well as representatives from CHRC and the Ministry of Justice.

The mid-term Consultation Workshop provided an opportunity for both the RGC and NGOs working in varied but equally important human rights fields to come together and evaluate progress in respect of the implementation of UPR recommendations as well as to gain more knowledge about the UPR process through presentations and panel discussions, and to discuss their own ideas for monitoring and advocating for implementation. The Outcome Report provides a summary of the presentations, panel discussions analyses conducted during the Consultation Workshop.


2 CCHR, ‘CCHR and OHCHR to host Post-UPR National Consultation and Advocacy Workshop (Media Alert) (16 July 2014), http://bit.ly/1vQg9uq
Accompanying the Outcome Report is a simplified and user-friendly leaflet entitled ‘the Universal Periodic Review and Cambodia’, which provides an additional overview of Cambodia’s engagement with the UPR process, including key aspects of Cambodia’s first and second UPRs, as well as the timeline of the upcoming third cycle of the UPR of Cambodia in January 2019.

**CCHR’s Advocacy Director Mr. Duch Piseth comments:**

“The UPR is a uniquely effective international mechanism for monitoring respect for human rights, both for Cambodia and in respect of every other UN member state. This mid-term National Consultation Workshop was an important part of the review process, helping to ensure that civil society, the Cambodian government and recommending UN member states are fully engaged with the UPR process. We are hopeful that the UPR can be used to improve cooperation between the Cambodian government and civil society, provide UN member states with an up to date assessment of the state of human rights in Cambodia, and ultimately lead to an improvement in Cambodia’s human rights situation.”

For more information, please contact CCHR’s Advocacy Director Duch Piseth via telephone at +855 (0) 12 71 23 71 or e-mail at duchpiseth@cchrcambodia.org

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**Notes to the Editor:**

CCHR, founded in November 2002, is a non-aligned, independent, non-governmental organization that works to promote and protect democracy and respect for human rights throughout Cambodia.

CCHR is a member of International Freedom of Expression Exchanges (IFEX), the global network for freedom of expression. CCHR is also a member of the World Organization Against Torture (OMCT) SOS-Torture Network and Southeast Asian Press Alliance (SEAPA).

The Cambodian Human Rights Portal [www.sithi.org](http://www.sithi.org) is the 2011 winner of the Information Society Innovation Fund Award in the category of Rights and Freedoms and the 2013 winner of the Communication for Social Change Award, awarded by the Centre of Communication and Social Change at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia.