The Cambodian Center for Human Rights (“CCHR”) launches its annual campaign to celebrate key international human rights days

On 25 November 2023, CCHR will launch its annual 16 Days of Activism to End Gender-Based Violence Campaign (“16 days campaign”).

This key date marks the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. Violence against women continues to be one of the most widespread and devastating human rights abuses in the world today and is pervasive in Cambodia. It is estimated that more than one in five Cambodian women experience violence at the hands of their partners, a number believed to have risen during the COVID-19 pandemic. CCHR’s 16 days campaign will raise awareness of women’s rights and the harmful impacts of gender-based violence (“GBV”) amongst our community and call upon the Royal Government of Cambodia (“RGC”) to take immediate and concrete steps to end GBV and promote gender equality in the country.

The campaign will run until Human Rights Day on 10 December 2023, a significant day to celebrate the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the revolutionary document underpinning the international human rights framework and originally enshrining the fundamental human rights owed to everyone. The theme of Human Rights Day 2023 is “Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All.”

Throughout this period, CCHR will also mark several other key days on the human rights calendar, including International Women Human Rights Defenders Day on 29 November 2023 and International Human Rights Defenders Day on 9 December 2023, crucial dates to celebrate the commitment and dedication of human rights defenders in advocating, educating, and raising awareness of human rights in their communities.

Overall, these important days constitute an opportunity for relevant stakeholders, especially duty bearers and civil society actors, to reaffirm their commitment to protecting and promoting human rights.

Under this campaign, CCHR’s will conduct a series of activities as outlined below:

- On 25 November 2023, on International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and girls, CCHR will release a flyer inviting the public to submit a question on how to eradicate violence against women and girls to the Royal Government of Cambodia.
- On 29 November 2023, on the International Day for Women Human Rights Defenders, CCHR will release a Short Video on Simple Action I can do to Support WHRDs Highlighting the work and challenges faced by women human rights defenders due to their activism and how can the public support them.
• On 4 December 2023, CCHR will release an infographic aimed to contextualize WHRDs and SOGIESC rights and include 10 top questions to the new government on strategies to prevent and eradicate gender-based violence. On 3 December 2023, CCHR will celebrate the 16-Days Campaign alongside relevant partners at Freedom Park in Phnom Penh.

• On 5 and 7 December 2023, CCHR will release a photo storytelling post of two imprisoned women focus attention on the facts that caused each activist to be imprisoned.

• On the morning of 8 December 2023, CCHR will host a physical event to commemorate the 16-Days Campaign and Human Rights Day; in the afternoon, CCHR will host a public event to share and disseminate its publication and will prepare a fun quiz on human rights at its office, giving away souvenirs to those who successfully complete it.

• On 10 December 2023, to mark Human Rights Day and to conclude its campaign, CCHR will publish its 2023 Human Rights Timeline, as well as a series of snapshots underlying each month’s key recorded events.

For more information, please contact CCHR’s Advocacy Director Mr. Yuthyia Soun via phone at +855 (0) 88 814 2783 or email at yuthyia@cchrcambodia.org or Mr. Lim Borin, Coordinator of CCHR’s Sexual orientation, Gender identity/ expression and sex characteristics Project via Telephone at + 855 (0) 12 904 266 or email at borin.lim@cchrcambodia.org.

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Notes to the Editor:

Founded in November 2002, CCHR is a non-aligned, independent, non-governmental organization that works to promote and protect democracy and respect for human rights – primarily civil and political rights - in Cambodia.

CCHR is a member of the International Freedom of Expression Exchange (IFEX), the global network for freedom of expression, and CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation. CCHR is also a member of the World Organization Against Torture (OMCT) SOS-Torture Network and OECD Watch.

The Cambodian Human Rights Portal 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 for Communication and Social Change at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia.