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Cambodian Center for Human Rights

**PRESS RELEASE**

**The Cambodian Center for Human Rights (“CCHR”) Celebrates International Women’s Day  
Phnom Penh, 25 February 2025**

International Women's Day (“IWD”), celebrated annually on 8 March, is a global day commemorating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The theme for 2025’s IWD is: **“For ALL women and girls: Rights. Equality. Empowerment”**. This year’s theme calls for action that can unlock equal rights, power and opportunities for all, and strives for a feminist future where no one is left behind. Central to this vision is empowering the next generation, particularly young women, to be catalysts for lasting change.

IWD is one of the most important days of the year to reflect on both the challenges that remain and the successes to date in the pursuit of gender equality, women’s empowerment and the advancement of the rights of all women and girls. It is a poignant moment to recall that Cambodia continues to face difficulties in achieving gender equality and the full realization of women’s rights, with a predominantly patriarchal society that perpetuates deeply ingrained gender stereotypes and social norms. Instances of such attitudes are evident through the silencing of victims and the fostering of a culture of victim-blaming. Gender-based violence remains a prevalent issue in the country, and women’s roles in decision-making spaces remains limited, further compounding these challenges.

On the occasion of International Women’s Day, CCHR will highlight the vital role of Cambodian women in promoting respect for human rights and gender equality in Cambodia. It will also consider the challenging environment they face in carrying out this work. Through the following planned activities, CCHR will both reflect on and look ahead to the state of gender equality and women’s empowerment in the country:

- On 1 March 2025, CCHR will release a video on the UPR recommendations related to Gender Equality.
- On 6, 14, 21 and 28 March 2025, CCHR will host and live-stream radio talk shows on the topics of:
  1. Women in the Media Sector
  2. Women as Active Citizens in Environmental Protection
  3. Access to Education for Rural Girls
  4. Advocacy of Women Labor Rights Defenders.
- On 6 March 2025, CCHR will release a video titled “Gender Equality for Society”.
- On 7 March 2025, CCHR will organize a physical event under the theme of **‘For ALL women and girls: Rights. Equality. Empowerment’**.

For more information, please contact Mr. Lim Borin, CCHR’s Sexual Orientation Gender Identify/Expression and Sex Characteristics Project Coordinator via telephone at +855 (0) 12 90 42 66

or via email at [borin.lim@cchrcambodia.org](mailto:borin.lim@cchrcambodia.org) or Mr. Houn Phorn, CCHR's Sustaining Independent Media and Fundamental Freedom in Cambodia Project Coordinator via telephone at +855 (0) 70 75 78 84 or via email at [phorn@cchrcambodia.org](mailto:phorn@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](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 for Communication and Social Change at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia.