Assess security risks and threats before any event, trip or activity, and prepare yourself to deal with potential problems or security incidents. If you have reliable information that the security risk is too high, cancel the event, trip or activity.

Create a network of other human rights defenders, media and local and/or international NGOs who can support you and who have contacts with embassies and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Keep them informed of your activities. Find out what protection services different groups can provide.

Inform your family and friends about your activities (Who? Where? When? With whom?) and give them instructions on what to do in the event that something happens to you.

Store sensitive data in a safe place, and avoid discussing or sharing sensitive information over the phone or via email. Also avoid mentioning names and locations, unless strictly necessary.

Secure your home by always ensuring to lock doors and windows. Consider additional security measures including external lights and security cameras, and getting a guard dog. Always be on the lookout for strange activity near your home.
Avoid travelling at night or on your own, and make sure to check-in daily with someone from your network, especially when travelling to remote or risky locations.

Always have emergency contacts with you and try to memorize some useful phone numbers, such as those of colleagues, your lawyer, partner NGOs, embassies, journalists or local authorities.

Keep record of the threats and risks you have faced: What? When? Where? How? Why? Do not dismiss or ignore something that may be a threat to your security.

Report incidents to the members of your network, local NGOs, international NGOs, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, embassies, etc. and seek support.

Know your rights! Take time to learn more about your right to liberty and security of the person, fair trial rights, and freedom of expression, association and assembly. Knowing your rights will enhance your security.

CONTACT
Should you have questions or require further information, please contact CCHR at:
# 798, St.99, P.O. Box 1506, Sangkat Beng Trebek, Chamkarmon, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
Tel: (+855) 23 726 901
Email: info@cchrcambodia.org
Web: www.cchrcambodia.org

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