The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) provide a framework for businesses and states to ensure that the activities of companies do not violate internationally recognized human rights. They are based on three key pillars: protect, respect and remedy, and are composed of 31 principles detailing concrete steps that states and/or businesses should take to avoid human rights violations. They were unanimously adopted by the Human Rights Council in 2011.

**PROTECT**
State authorities are responsible for protecting human rights by preventing, investigating, and redressing human rights violations. This may be done through policy, legislation, regulation and adjudication.

**RESPECT**
Businesses have a responsibility to respect human rights. They must ensure they are not violating human rights, and this may be done through consultation, prevention, and mitigation.

**REMEDY**
Both States and businesses have the responsibility to provide access to remedy for human rights violations. This may be done through the establishment of grievance mechanisms, which may be Judicial, legislative, administrative, or via other appropriate means.

Cambodia recognizes and respects human rights as stipulated in:
- The United Nations Charter
- The United Nations Declaration of Human Rights
- The international covenants on human rights, women's rights, and children's rights

Cambodia has five mechanisms for remedy for land disputes:
- Commun Councils
- Administrative Committees
- Cadastral Commission
- National Authority for Land Dispute Resolution
- The Court System

**INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT**

The UNGPs based on the International Bill of Human Rights, including:

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)
- The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)
- The ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles on Rights at work & the ILO 8 Core Conventions

**NATIONAL CONTEXT**

There are domestic laws that protect human rights relative to the UNGP, such as:

- The 1997 Labour Law
- The 2001 Land Law
- The 2010 Law on Expropriation
- The sub-Decree No. 83 on the Procedures of Registration of Land of Indigenous Communities

**PROTECT**

The State should, for instance...

- Make sure that state owned enterprises do not contribute to human rights violations
- Explicitly require all businesses to respect human rights, within its territory and when operating abroad
- Take concrete steps, including by adopting laws, to regulate the activities of national and International businesses operating within its territory

**REMEDY**

States and businesses should, for instance...

- Ensure all dispute resolution mechanisms are free from outside influence and are impartial, equitable and transparent
- Make sure that remedies are timely and effective
- Collaborate and establish adequate grievance mechanisms and procedures, so that individuals whose rights have been affected can raise their concerns and obtain a remedy.

For more information, please see: CCHR Business and Human Rights Portal at http://business.sithi.org

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