

# EXTRAORDINARY CHAMBERS IN THE COURTS OF CAMBODIA (ECCC)

## COMPLETION PLAN

### REVISION 36

30 April 2023

### FINAL REVISION

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#### **Note to the reader:**

The ECCC Completion Plan is revised on a quarterly basis for planning purposes. It contains the best possible estimates for projection of timelines in the remaining cases before the ECCC at the time of revision. A number of factors, including developments in the judicial proceedings may impact these projections. As such the timelines do not reflect statutory requirements on when the different milestones will be reached. The ECCC Completion Plan is prepared and issued by the Office of Administration with input from the judicial offices.



## Summary

The Completion Plan for the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (“Extraordinary Chambers”) was initially developed in *March 2014* through consultation by the Office of Administration with the judges of the chambers, the co-investigating judges and the co-prosecutors for their respective responsibilities. This is the thirty-sixth and final update, covering the four months of 1 January 2023 through 30 April 2023.<sup>1</sup>

During the reporting period, the Extraordinary Chambers completed judicial proceedings in the last pending case and commenced residual functions. The convicted person Khieu Samphan was transferred to the Cambodian prison system where he will serve the remainder of his life sentence. The Supreme Court Chamber issued its order on the reclassification of case file documents in case 002.

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<sup>1</sup> The initial Completion Plan and its revisions are available publicly on the *ECCC website*.

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (“Extraordinary Chambers”) began its operations in February 2006 and became fully operational after the adoption of the *Internal Rules* in June 2007. The mandate of the Extraordinary Chambers is to prosecute “senior leaders of Democratic Kampuchea and those who were most responsible for the crimes and serious violations of Cambodian penal law, international humanitarian law and custom, and international conventions recognized by Cambodia, that were committed during the period from 17 April 1975 to 6 January 1979”.<sup>2</sup> In December 2021, the *Addendum to the Agreement between the United Nations and the Royal Government of Cambodia* entered into force. The Addendum confers the Extraordinary Chambers with a residual mandate which commenced on 1 January 2023 for an initial period of three years.<sup>3</sup>
2. This Completion Plan is elaborated by the Extraordinary Chambers in the context of the General Assembly resolution *A/RES/68/247B*, which *inter alia* mandates the Extraordinary Chambers’ preparation of a completion strategy with a clear road map. The document has been developed by the Extraordinary Chambers through consultation by the Office of Administration with the judges of the Pre-Trial Chamber, the Trial Chamber and the Supreme Court Chamber, with the co-investigating judges, and with the co-prosecutors for their respective responsibilities. The completion of all cases before the Extraordinary Chambers constitutes implementation of the General Assembly resolution. This thirty-sixth revision of the Completion Plan is therefore the final revision. It incorporates adjustments based on the developments in judicial proceedings between 1 January and 30 April 2023, and provides for a summary of the final status of all cases before the Extraordinary Chambers.

## II. COMPLETED CASES<sup>4</sup>

3. **Case 001** against Kaing Guek Eav (alias *Duch*) was the first case tried before the Extraordinary Chambers. On 3 February 2012, the Supreme Court Chamber pronounced its judgement in the appeal against the Trial Chamber judgement which brought the case to a conclusion. The convicted person passed away on 2 September 2020 in hospital while serving a life sentence.
4. **Case 002** was severed into two trials. The Trial Chamber rendered judgement in the first trial, styled as case 002/01, on 7 August 2014, against Nuon Chea and Khieu Samphan. Two further accused in the case, Ieng Sary and Ieng Thirith, passed away on 14 March 2013 and 22 August 2015 respectively, and proceedings against them were therefore terminated. The Trial Chamber found Khieu Samphan and Nuon Chea guilty of crimes against humanity committed between 17 April 1975 and December 1977 and sentenced them each to life imprisonment. Appeal proceedings in the case were concluded on 23 November 2016, with the pronouncement of the Supreme Court Chamber’s judgement. The Chamber affirmed the sentence of life imprisonment imposed on both accused.
5. The second trial in this case, styled as case 002/02, focused on a representative selection of the remaining charges against Nuon Chea and Khieu Samphan. The Trial Chamber delivered an oral summary of the findings and the disposition of the judgement on 16 November 2018, and issued its written judgement in all three working languages on 28 March 2019. The Chamber found Khieu Samphan and Nuon Chea guilty of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity, and sentenced them each to life imprisonment.
6. On 4 August 2019, Nuon Chea passed away aged 93 while admitted to the Khmer-Soviet Friendship Hospital. The Supreme Court Chamber terminated further appellate proceedings against him on 13

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<sup>2</sup> *Agreement between the United Nations and the Royal Government of Cambodia concerning the Prosecution under Cambodian Law of Crimes Committed During the Period of Democratic Kampuchea*, 6 June 2003.

<sup>3</sup> Exchange of letters between United Nations and Royal Government of Cambodia.

<sup>4</sup> For underlying references, refer to *revision 31 of the Completion Plan*.

August 2019 and confirmed that no further proceedings are possible in the case against Nuon Chea.

7. On 22 September 2022, the Supreme Court Chamber pronounced its judgment on the appeals in case 002/02, upholding the life sentence imposed on Khieu Samphan by the Trial Chamber. The Supreme Court Chamber affirmed the Trial Chamber's convictions of Khieu Samphan for genocide and war crimes. The Chamber upheld all but two convictions related to crimes against humanity and recharacterized convictions for aiding and abetting murder at cooperatives, worksites and security centres to the mode of liability of joint criminal enterprise. The Chamber further granted the appeal of the co-prosecutors in its entirety and entered a conviction for crimes related to male victims of forced sexual intercourse in the context of forced marriage. The full text of the judgment was filed on 23 December 2022 in Khmer and English, and on 30 January 2023 in French.
8. On 30 January 2023, Khieu Samphan was transferred to Kandal Provincial Prison under the jurisdiction of national authorities in accordance with Internal Rule 113.
9. The Supreme Court Chamber filed its order on the reclassification of case file documents in case 002 on 30 April 2023, ordering the declassification and/or redaction of 24,417 documents, encompassing 852,055 pages.<sup>5</sup> This completed all pending proceedings in case 002.
10. **Case 003.** On 28 November 2018, the co-investigating judges issued two separate and conflicting closing orders in case 003 against Meas Muth. On 17 December 2021, the Supreme Court Chamber clarified that "in the absence of a definitive and enforceable indictment, Case 003 is terminated". Case file 003 was sealed and archived by judicial order on 20 December 2021, thereby completing judicial proceedings in the case.
11. **Case 004.** On 28 June 2019 the co-investigating judges issued two separate and conflicting closing orders in case 004 against Yim Tith. On 28 December 2021, the Supreme Court Chamber clarified that "in the absence of a definitive and enforceable indictment, Case 004 is terminated". Case file 004 was sealed and archived by judicial order on 29 December 2021, thereby completing judicial proceedings in the case.
12. **Case 004/01.** On 10 July 2017, the co-investigating judges issued their reasoned closing order dismissing case 004/01 against Im Chaem. The international co-prosecutor appealed the decision before the Pre-Trial Chamber. On 28 June 2018, the Pre-Trial Chamber disposed of the appeal, declaring that the decision of the co-investigating judges – namely, that the Extraordinary Chambers have no jurisdiction over Im Chaem – stands, thereby completing judicial proceedings in the case.
13. **Case 004/02.** On 16 August 2018, the co-investigating judges issued two separate and conflicting closing orders in case 004/02 against Ao An. On 10 August 2020 the Supreme Court Chamber clarified that "in the absence of a definitive and enforceable indictment, the case against Ao An is hereby terminated before the ECCC". Case file 004/02 was sealed and archived by judicial order on 14 August 2020, thereby completing judicial proceedings in the case.<sup>6</sup>

### **III. MEASURES THAT ASSISTED THE EXPEDITIOUS COMPLETION OF PROCEEDINGS**

14. Following the expression of support from the Royal Government of Cambodia, the General Assembly authorized the Secretary-General in December 2022, as an exceptional measure, to enter commitments in an amount not to exceed \$3.8 million to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the international component of the Extraordinary Chambers for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2023. This timely action greatly facilitates the uninterrupted operations of the Extraordinary Chambers in 2023, and opening space for continued solicitation of voluntary

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<sup>5</sup> Case No. 002/19-09-2007/ECCC/SC (*Document F71/1/1/9*).

<sup>6</sup> One reclassification request filed in Case 004/02 will be addressed by the residual functions.

contributions. In addition, the Royal Government's commitment of direct contribution of \$1.5 million to the national component, to cover staff salary costs as well as operational costs arising in 2023 is a key measure facilitating the ongoing operation of the Extraordinary Chambers' residual functions. The ECCC Office of Administration shall continue to mobilize additional funds from donors, including for the dissemination of information to the public and support activities related to victim-survivors of the Khmer Rouge regime. Voluntary contributions received as at 31 March 2023 are \$1.1 million for the international component only. This is against the budgetary requirement for 2023 of \$4.5 million for the international component and \$1.5 million for the national component.<sup>7</sup>

#### **IV. CONCLUSION**

15. The Extraordinary Chambers completed its caseload in December 2022 with the written appeal judgement in the last case pending before them.
16. The Extraordinary Chambers commenced residual functions on 1 January 2023 for an initial term of three years in line with the Addendum to the Agreement on the ECCC.<sup>8</sup>
17. This revision constitutes the final revision of the of the Completion Plan.

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<sup>7</sup> *Budget figures for 2022-2023* were endorsed by the Group of Interested States on 19 December 2022.

<sup>8</sup> See paragraph 1. Progress in the implementation of the residual functions will be reported separately.