

**VSR WORKING GROUP
MEETING OF NOVEMBER 17, 2022
ECCC RESIDUAL OFFICE**

Meeting Minutes - FINAL

1. Minutes of meeting of October 20, 2022

RUTH Sansitny moved to approve Minutes; seconded by Daniel MATTES.
Minutes approved

2. Terms of Reference Finalized

The Chair stated that following the meeting of October 20, she revised the Terms of Reference and circulated it to the Group asking for any further comments by a certain date. No comments were received and the Terms of Reference have been finalized and published on the ECCC website.

3. Introduction of Administrative Assistant to the VSR Working Group

The Chair advised that Sothearith SNGUON from the Office of the LCLs had agreed to be the Administrative Assistant to the Secretariat.

4. Final Court Ceremony at the ECCC – December 9

HANG Vannak advised that VSS is planning a ceremony on December 9 to mark the conclusion of the judicial process at the ECCC Court building. The building will be handed back to the Cambodian army at the end of December. There will be Buddhist ceremonies to pray for victims of the Khmer Rouge. The Cham Muslim community will also participate and have a separate prayer room. The A/Director and Deputy Director of Administration will meet with ECCC staff to thank them. VSS will invite sixty civil parties.

Vannak was asked to kindly invite families of Khmer Krom Civil Parties who have passed away and indeed to invite Civil Parties from a wide range of groups. It will be their last time to be in the Courtroom. The possibility of inviting Civil Parties from overseas was also discussed. Vannak stated that the 60 Civil Parties will represent a broad range of victims.

Daniel asked whether civil society organizations would be interested and able to participate on December 9. For example, it would be helpful to have KDK set out its mobile exhibition at the Court; it would be good to have TPO's help also if they are available.

Minea stated that KDK could bring its Light Box presentation on victims but would need help with transportation of materials.

Vannak agreed to relay KDK's offer to the organizing group for the event.

5. Plan to meet with Civil Parties once the reasons for judgment are released

The Chair stated that once the Supreme Court releases the final reasons, the Lead Co-Lawyers together with Civil Party lawyers will travel throughout Cambodia to notify the Civil Parties of the final judgment. She stated that the LCLs would welcome the participation of Civil Society Organizations.

Minea stated that there are many issues to consider including the importance of supporting the Civil Parties during these meetings. TPO should continue to provide mental health support. Additionally, it would be helpful to have the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Work attend the meetings to provide information regarding available social services.

Daniel asked whether KDK can develop intergenerational dialogue sessions with Civil Parties together with Youth for Peace. Minea stated that this requires thought since it is not advisable to have too much overlap among civil society organizations.

6. Other items

a. Database of Information re Civil Society Organizations

Vannak noted that he would be the Chair at next meeting. He suggested that it would be helpful to have a database of information regarding what each organization is doing. He will prepare a template document for each organization to capture their current projects.

b. Ethnic Vietnamese Cambodians

Chanrith stated that he has already contacted several of these Civil Parties to inform them of the final judgment. He stated that he would like to join the notification meetings in Kampong Chhnang. He expressed the ongoing concerns of their continued statelessness. He also stated that the Khmer-Krom are unhappy with the conclusion of Cases 3 and 4.

Daniel described some of the background on the project to address this issue and why the project did not get completed. There was a lack of support from the authorities on this issue.

c. Hosting the memory and learning center exhibits at the ECCC Residual Premises.

He asked Minea for an update on the memory and learning center and suggested that the exhibits could be housed at the Residual Premises until a permanent home was established.

d. Action Items

- send note to NGOs asking if they wish to participate on December 9 (FD – completed)
- prepare template for NGO database (VH – completed)

IN ATTENDANCE

NAME	ORGANIZATION/POSITION
Falguni DEBNATH	Civil Party Lead Co-Lawyer (LCL)
HANG Vannak	Chief, VSS
SNGUON Sothearith	Administrative Assistant to the Secretariat
TIM Minea	Kdei Karuna
ANG Chanrith	Independent researcher and representative of ethnic minority victim-survivors
RUTH Sansitny	Applied Social Research Institute of Cambodia
Daniel MATTES	Consultant to ECCC
CHHENG Sovanneo	Legal Documentation Centre related to the ECCC