

CASE INFORMATION SHEET



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Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia

Chambres Extraordinaires au sein des Tribunaux Cambodgiens

IENG THIRITH, alias PHEA



Last name: **IENG**
(Maiden name: **KHIEU**)

First name: **Thirith**

Case File N° 002/19-09-2007/ECCC-TC

Born on 10 March 1932 in Phnom Penh

Arrested on 12 November 2007

Defence Counsel: PHAT Pouy Seang (National) & Diana ELLIS QC (International – UK)

Status

Currently indicted and sent to trial for **Crimes against Humanity, Grave Breaches of the Geneva Conventions** of 1949; **Genocide** of the Cham and the Vietnamese; and offences which are defined and punishable under Articles 4, 5, 6, 29 (New) and 39 (New) of the Law on the Establishment of the Extraordinary Chambers as amended 27 October 2004.

The Initial Hearing of Case 002 began on 27 June 2011.

Opening statements in Case 002 are set for 21-24 November 2011, followed by the substantive hearing from 28 November 2011.

Position in Democratic Kampuchea Regime

Minister of Social Affairs

Key Allegations

Ieng Thirith is alleged to be directly responsible for having planned, instigated, and aided and abetted:

- Crimes against humanity (murder, extermination, enslavement, deportation, imprisonment, torture, persecution on political and racial grounds, and other inhumane acts)
- Genocide, by killing members of the Vietnamese community
- Grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 (willful killing, torture or inhumane treatment, willfully causing great suffering or serious injury to body or health, willfully depriving a prisoner of war or civilian the rights of fair and regular trial, unlawful deportation or unlawful confinement of a civilian)

Ieng Thirith is alleged to be directly responsible by virtue of superior responsibility or for having ordered:

- Crimes against humanity (other inhumane acts and persecution on racial grounds)

Ieng Thirith is also alleged to be indirectly responsible, through her alleged participation in a Joint Criminal Enterprise, for the commission of crimes against humanity, genocide and grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions.

CASE INFORMATION SHEET

Personal Background

Ieng Thirith graduated from the Lycée Sisowath in Phnom Penh then went to study in Paris, where she majored in Shakespeare studies at the Sorbonne. She became the first Cambodian to receive a degree in English Literature. Returning to Cambodia in 1957, she worked as a professor before founding a private English school in 1960. On 9 October 1975, at a meeting of the CPK Standing Committee, Ieng Thirith was allegedly appointed Minister of Social Affairs in Democratic Kampuchea. She allegedly remained with the Khmer Rouge until her husband Ieng Sary was granted a royal amnesty and pardon in 1998. Thereafter, they lived together in Phnom Penh until being placed in pre-trial detention by the ECCC in November 2007.

Case History	12 Nov 2007	Ieng Thirith was arrested and placed in police custody.
	14 Nov 2007	The Co-Investigating Judges issued Provisional Detention Order, placing Ieng Thirith in provisional detention for a period of maximum one year.
	8 Jan 2008	Ieng Thirith filed an appeal to the Pre-Trial Chamber against the Co-Investigating Judges' Provisional Detention Order.
	9 Jul 2008	The Pre-Trial Chamber dismissed the appeal against the Provisional Detention Order.
	10 Nov 2008	The Co-Investigating Judges issued Order on Extension of Provisional Detention, extending the provisional detention of Ieng Thirith for a period of maximum one year.
	09 Dec 2008	Ieng Thirith filed an appeal against Order on Extension of Provisional Detention to the Pre-Trial Chamber.
	11 May 2009	The Pre-Trial Chamber dismissed Ieng Thirith's appeal against the Co-Investigating Judges' Order of Extension of Provisional Detention.
	10 Nov 2009	The Co-Investigating Judges issued Order on Extension of Provisional Detention, extending the provisional detention of Ieng Thirith for a period of maximum one year.
	09 Dec 2009	Ieng Thirith filed an appeal against the Co-Investigating Judges' Order on Extension of provisional Detention.
	14 Jan 2010	The Co-Investigative Judges issued Notice of Conclusion of Judicial Investigation, notifying Ieng Thirith that they considered the investigation to be concluded.
	30 Apr 2010	The Pre-Trial Chamber dismissed Ieng Thirith's appeal against the Co-Investigating Judges' Order on Extension of Provisional Detention
	19 Jul 2010	The Co-Investigating Judges forwarded the case file to the Co-Prosecutors for them to prepare their Final Submission.

CASE INFORMATION SHEET

16 Aug 2010	The Co-Prosecutors filed their Final Submission and requested the Co-Investigating Judges indict Ieng Thirith and send the case for trial.
15 Sep 2010	The Co-Investigating Judges issued a Closing Order indicting Ieng Thirith and ordering the case to be sent for trial. Ieng Thirith was ordered to remain in provisional detention until she was brought before the Trial Chamber.
18 Oct 2010	Ieng Thirith filed an appeal against jurisdictional issues in the Closing Order.
13 Jan 2011	The Pre-Trial Chamber confirmed and partially amended the indictment against Ieng Thirith in the Closing Order and ordered the case to be sent for trial. Ieng Thirith was ordered to remain in provisional detention until she was brought before the Trial Chamber.
21 Jan 2011	Ieng Thirith filed a request for her release to the Trial Chamber.
31 Jan 2011	The Trial Chamber held hearing related to Ieng Thirith's application for release.
16 Feb 2011	The Trial Chamber rejected Ieng Thirith's application for release.
27-30 June 2011	Initial Hearing on Case 002. Ieng Thirith was brought to trial before the Trial Chamber.
29-31 Aug 2011	The Trial Chamber held preliminary hearing on Ieng Thirith's fitness to stand trial.
22 Sep 2011	The Trial Chamber issued a Severance Order to split the Case 002 trial into a series of mini trials.
22 Sep 2011	The Trial Chamber ruled out charges under the 1956 Penal Code of Cambodia from the Case 002 indictment.
19-20 Oct 2011	The Trial Chamber held preliminary hearing on Ieng Thirith's fitness to stand trial.
21-24 Nov 2011	The Trial Chamber is to hear Opening Statements in Case 002 from Co-Prosecutors and responses by the Accused or their lawyers.
5 Dec 2011	Hearing on the substance in Case 002 is to begin.

Decisions and Orders are available at: <http://www.eccc.gov.kh/en/document/court>

CASE INFORMATION SHEET

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia

Case Information Sheets are prepared by the Public Affairs Section to assist public understanding of the cases before the ECCC. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information, they are not official documents with any legal standing.

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