

**Proposal by the KSEM KSAN Victims Association for the
Construction of an S-21 Victims Memorial
at the Tuol Sleng Museum**

History of the KSEM KSAN Association

A. Creation

The Association of Victims of Democratic Kampuchea (Ksem Ksan), or the Ksem Ksan Association, is one of the first victims associations in Cambodia. Ksem Ksan was formed on 9 September 2009 by 33 civil parties from ECCC Cases No. 001 and 002.

Definition of KSEM KSAN ☺ KSEM means happiness, while KSAN means peace of mind or serenity, a reprieve from suffering. KSEM KSAN's vision is to help the victims achieve closure, now and in the future.

Logo of the Association (rainbow): In Khmer beliefs, the rainbow connects the earth to the sky. It appears after storms and rains with light rays in six colours: red, orange, yellow, green, blue and indigo.

Membership ☺ By 10 December 2010, the Association had 874 members, including 233 men and 575 women. Six-six of its members are Cham. The members of the Association are from the following 19 provinces and towns: Phnom Penh, Kandal, Kampong Cham, Prey Veng, Svay Rieng, Kratie, Kampong Speu, Kampong Thom, Siem Reap, Pursat, Koh Kong, Mondolkiri, Ratanakiri, Preah Sihanouk, Kampot, Banteay Meanchey, Stoeng Treng, Ta Keo, Preah Vihear. This list not definitive; new members the Association continues to receive new members.



Original FRENCH: 00656524-00656533

B. Registration

Ministry of the Interior: the Association of Victims of Democratic Kampuchea (KSEM KSAN) was recognised by decision of the Ministry of the Interior based on Circular 192, dated 29 January 2010, headed by H.E. SAR Kheng, Deputy-Prime Minister and the Minister of the Interior. The Association must abide by its statutes and conduct its activities with impartiality and without discrimination based on race, religion, political affiliation, most importantly, it must not accept support from any political party or to become an instrument of any or individual or political group.

Victims Support Section: **KSEM SKAN** was registered with the Witness Support Section of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia by a decision of the Victims Section dated 30 June 2010. KSEM SKAN has the duty to represent and safeguard the interests of the civil party members before the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC).

C. Impartial, independent and not-for-profit

KSEM SKAN must conduct all its activities with impartiality and independence, and must not seek to make a profit. The Association is funded through private donations and voluntary member contributions.

D. Core activity of the Association

Activities: providing legal advice to the civil parties, informing them of their rights and seeking collective and moral reparation.

The proposed construction of an *S-21 Victims Memorial* is among the Association's priorities. This is why this request contains details about the project. It is important to build *S-21 Victims Memorial* as a matter of urgency, because the civil parties are eagerly awaiting it. We therefore count on the support of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts and the national and international institutions concerned to ensure that it is completed before the **2011 Festival of the Dead**.

Below are details about the proposed *S-21 Victims Memorial*:

1. Overview of the Proposed Construction of an S-21 Victims Memorial

Background to the construction of an S-21 Victims Memorial: the proposal to build the memorial was adopted by **unanimous decision** by the **KSEM KSAN** Association. The members of the Association are victims of the Democratic Kampuchea regime; they formed the Association when the Trial Chamber opened the proceedings in Case No. 001, the Duch trial.

Reason for the proposed construction of the S-21 Victims Memorial: the Trial Chamber's refusal to grant collective and moral reparation in its Judgement of 26 July 2010 was a key factor in the decision by the **KSEM KSAN** Association to support the proposed construction S-21 Victims Memorial at Tuol Sleng. This is considered as one the priorities for obtaining possible reparations in accordance with the victims' wishes.

Motivation: the majority of the members of the Association have indicated that they want the memorial built at S-21. This is because S-21 is familiar location for the victims' families, the young generations and visitors from within and outside the country; moreover, building the Memorial at S-21 would enable visitors to Tuol Sleng to visit at the same time. Interest in the Memorial derives from the fact that it will bear the names of the S-21 victims, drawn the S-21 confessions. It is important for the victims' names to appear at the very location where they experienced their ordeal. Visitors will have the opportunity to see the building, the detention centre, the instruments used to torture the victims, the victims' photos, and so on.

Conservation: Construction of the *S-21 Victims Memorial* will not in any way affect UNESCO's recognition of Tuol Sleng as a heritage of humanity site, and will raise its standing, since it will feature the names of an estimated **20,000 victims** found in Tuol Sleng's records. The Memorial will contribute to national reconciliation, in that it will feature all the victim's names without any discrimination, in particular without discriminating between former people and former Khmers Rouge cadres. The victims' families will be able to participate together in ceremonies to honour their deceased loved ones at Tuol Sleng in accordance with their culture, beliefs and nationality. Finally, the Memorial will serve as a symbol of national unity, harmony and promote a culture of peace among future generations. Building the Memorial is crucial to attaining those goals, honouring the memory of the victims and recognizing the significance of reparation for the victims of the Democratic Kampuchea regime.

Below are the technical specifications of the construction of the S-21 Victims Memorial:

2. Technical aspects of the Proposed Construction of the S-21 Victims Memorial at Tuol Sleng^{F25.1}

Details about:

- The KSEM KSAN S-21 Victims Memorial;
- the time it will take for the construction;
- the monument bearing the victims' names;
- cost;
- fund-raising and management of the funds; and
- management and maintenance of the Memorial.

2.1 S-21 Victims Memorial

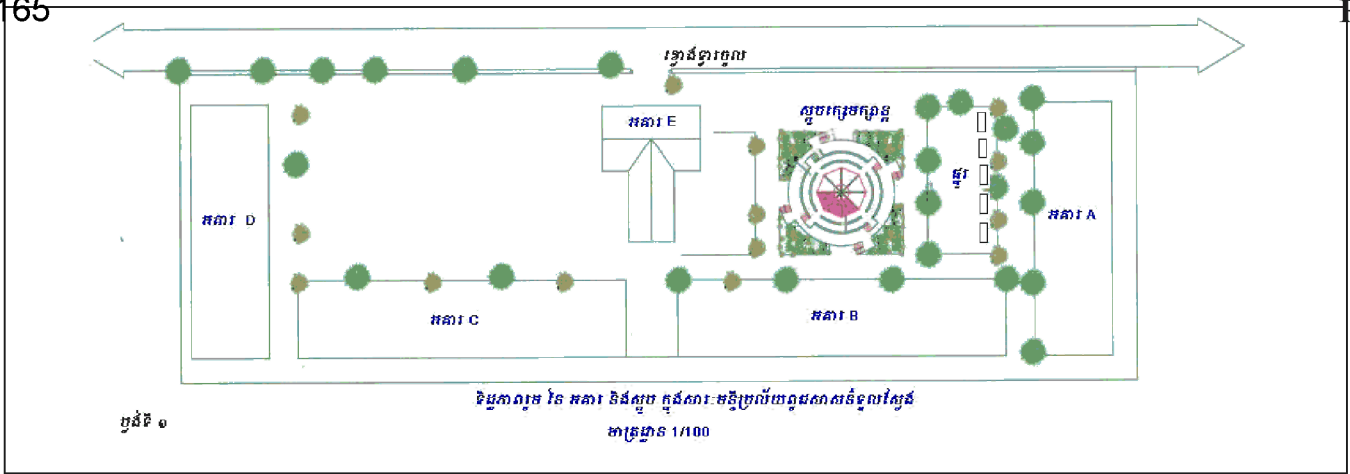
a) Names

KSEM KSAN Association is planning to build an S-21 Victims Memorial and call it the “KSEM KSAN” Memorial. It will be a place of pilgrimage for the victims, to help them deal with their suffering, and to honour the S-21 dead.

b) Features

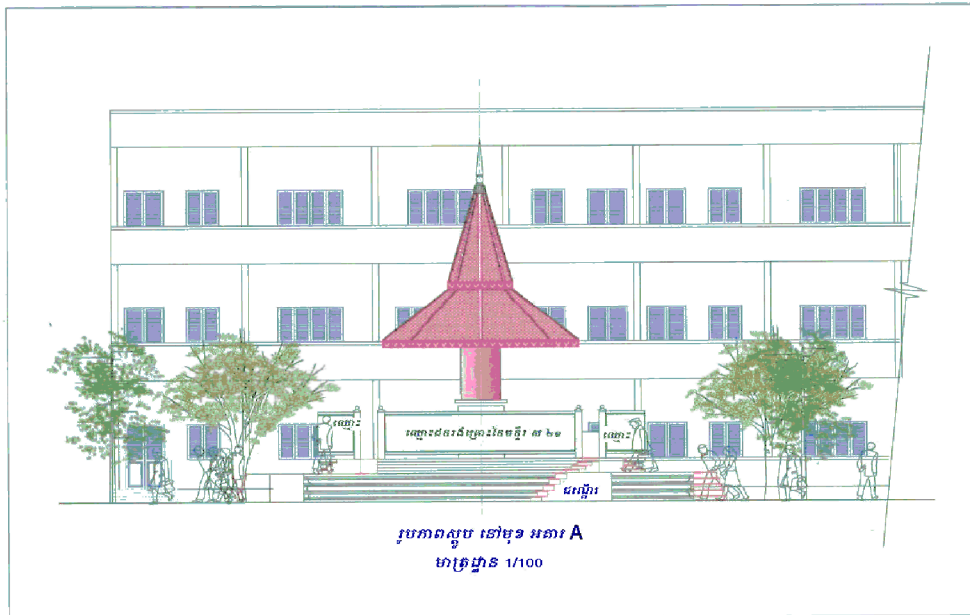
Common features (Plan 1):

The S-21 Memorial is only 13 metres in diameter. It is at the centre of Building A, tomb, Buildings B & E



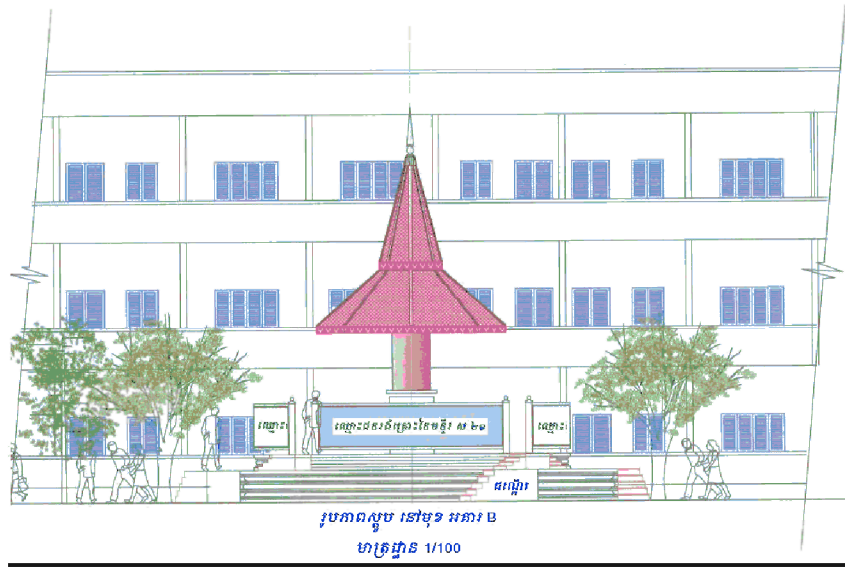
View of the S-21 Victims Memorial in front of building A:

This view shows the S-21 Victims Memorial does not obstruct the view of Building A, the tomb or the greenery. It is of average height. It does not obstruct the tomb or the greenery.



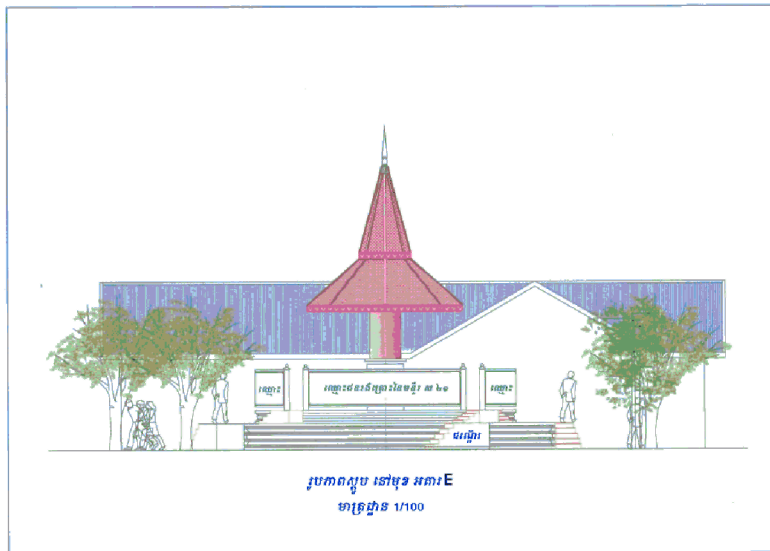
View of the S-21 Victims Memorial in front of Building B:

The view shows that the S-21 Victims Memorial does not obstruct the view of Building B entirely.



View of the S-21 Victims Memorial in front of Building E:

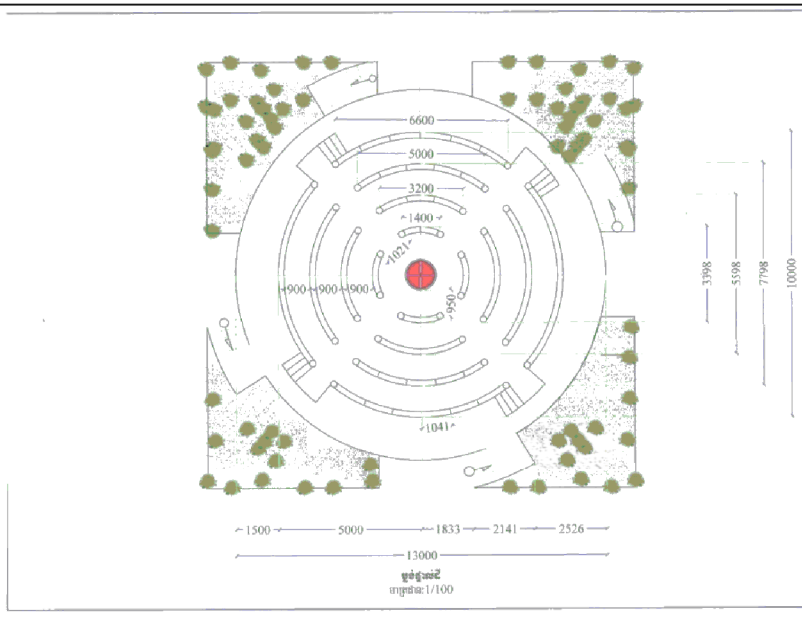
This view shows that the S-21 Victims Memorial is not entirely obstructed by Building E.



Plaques bearing the names:

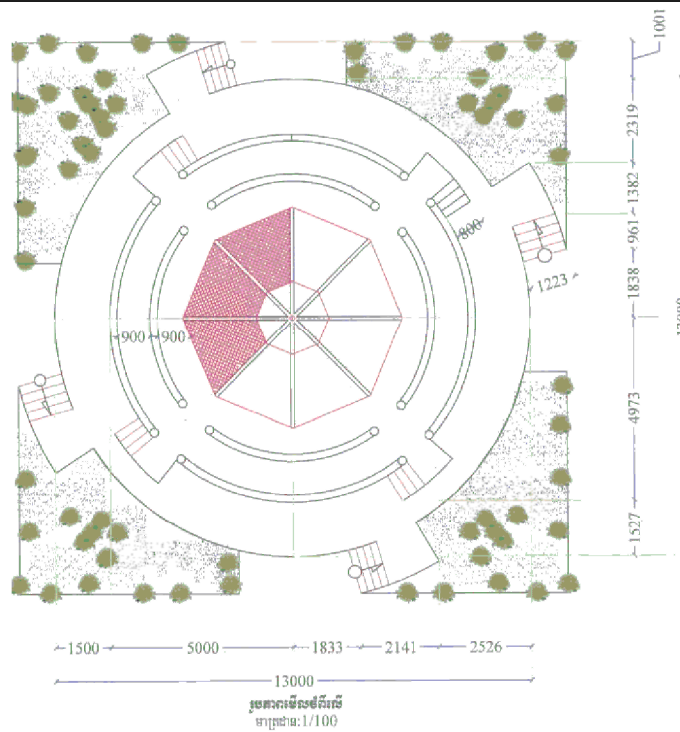
The plaques are to be installed as follows. They will laid concentricly with the bigger ones towards the outside and the smaller ones towards the centre. There must be enough space between the plaques for visitors to walk freely around them. Also, the plaques must receive enough light for the names to be clearly visible, and for visitors to have an unobstructed view of them and the images around the S-21 Victims

Memorial. The surface area of the monument is 100 m², with enough space for 20,000 names.



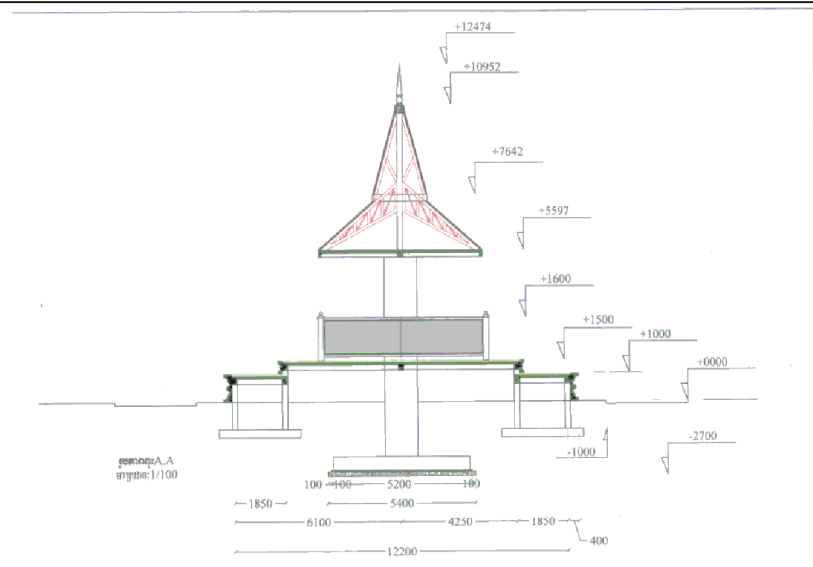
Aerial view:

The S-21 Victims Memorial is adorned with flowers and a garden. There are stairs leading up to the monument at four access points. Each plaque is approximately 90 cm wide.



Cross-section view of the S-21 Victims Memorial

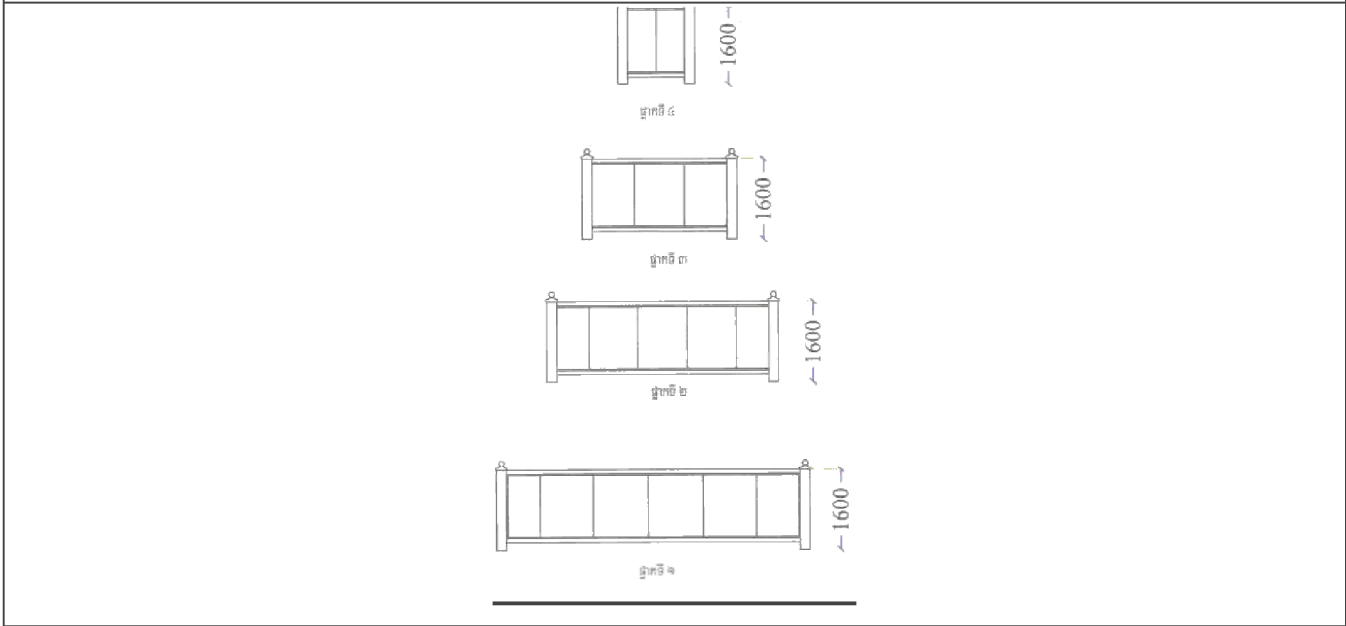
This is a cross-sectional view of the KSEM KSAN S-21 Victims Memorial from the foundation to the top.



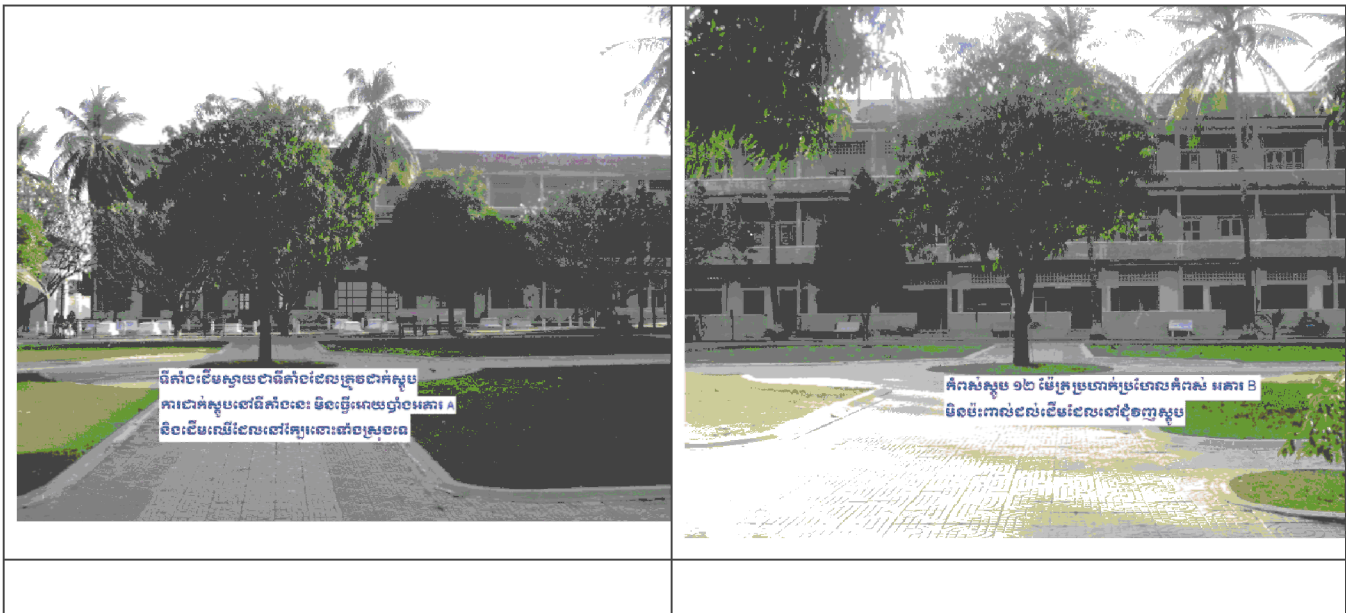
Cross-sectional view of the commemorative plaque:

Plaques built concentrically with the bigger ones towards the outside and the smaller ones towards the inside. Each plaque is 1.60 m in length. The surface area of the monument is 100 m² with room for 20,000

names.



Location of the KSEM KSAN S-21 Victims Memorial





2.2 Creation of a fund for the proposed construction of the S-21 Victims Memorial

The fund-raising will start once a preliminary agreement has been reached on the construction of the KSEM KSAN at Tuol Sleng. If no such agreement is reached, we will not proceed with the fund-raising. The fund-raising will be supervised by the head of KSEM KSAN’s fund-raising committee.

3. Management and maintenance

Once completed, the KSEM KSAN Memorial will be managed by the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts. The role of the KSEM KSAN Association will be to monitor the number of visitors and use of the Memorial; KSEM KSAN will also be responsible for any maintenance costs.

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Distribution to:

- 1. The UNESCO office in Cambodia
- 2. The ECCC Victims Support Section
- 3. The Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum