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Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia

Chambres Extraordinaires au sein des Tribunaux Cambodgiens

**REMARKS AT THE OPENING OF THE SESSION OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON
THE INTERNAL RULES FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY CHAMBERS IN THE COURTS
OF CAMBODIA**

**BY HIS EXCELLENCY SEAN VISOTH
& MS MICHELLE LEE
Director & Deputy Director of the Office of Administration**

07 March 2007

Esteemed members of the Review Committee

On behalf of the Office of Administration we are pleased to welcome all of you to this second full meeting of the Review Committee of the Internal Rules.

We know that, although you were not able to complete the process of reaching agreement on the draft Internal Rules during the January meeting, you did make substantive progress on a number of issues. Further significant agreements on likely solutions to most of the remaining points has been made during these last weeks through intensive work by the resident members of your Committee, and by others through email communication. We also note that meetings have been held among international and national judges in recent days to consider their views on these proposed solutions.

We therefore have considerable hope that this work will be finalised during this meeting and that we will move to adoption of the Internal Rules by a full Plenary Session of judges in the very near future. We understand the complexity of this work and know that the ECCC must have well-drafted internal rules to guide its work, making precise and operational the principles and broad points stated in the Law and Agreement under which the ECCC was established.

Despite some uncertainties, we in the Office of Administration continue pledging our support to your work, knowing how important a successful conclusion of this session is for the now pressing move from the preliminary to the judicial investigation and then to the trial proceedings.

The eyes of the world are on us once again during these ten days. Both national and international media and national and international NGOs, and also our donors, without whose support we would not be here, join us in earnestly hoping for a positive outcome to your work, and for definitive progress towards bringing justice to the Cambodian people.