

Sorya Sim

From: Vannak Hang <Hang.Vannak@eccc.gov.kh>
Sent: 16 October 2021 7:03 PM
To: Sothie KEO; Sorya Sim
Subject: My suggestions for residual function

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Both:

I am writing with the suggestions focusing on the two groups that deserves attentions for the future after the ECCC has come to a close.

I just bring up the idea in the email as I don't have time to write in a formal paper.

Best regards,

Vannak

1-Witnesses and Testifiers

In the process of hearings in the Courtroom, many witnesses and CPs were called on to testify and as far as I know most of them were not granted with protective measures. After testimonies at the ECCC, they went back to live in communities as normal, hoping that nothing will ever happen to them and that they are protected by law and authorities. Some of these people live in the same villages with former KR comrades.

However, with absence of the ECCC I think these people might feel insecure and the residual function office should work on this carefully.

Recently, I have received some information that CPs who testified at the ECCC, esp. with relation to forced marriage, are facing social stigmatization in their villages.

2- Civil Parties

Bay way of background, (around 2009) at early stage not so many people wanted to apply to become CPs or complainants as they were worried about their safety. Some CP applicants told me that when the VSS invited them to attend hearings or forums in Phnom Penh, they told their neighbors that they came to visit their relatives; and when I asked why they did that, they told me that they felt worried as some former KR comrades still lived in or near their villages.

In recent years, I came to villages to monitor projects, many CPs still told me that they were still worried about their safety as the ECCC was quiet and not so active as before. They told me that they regarded themselves a minority group as they were only a few people becoming CPs amongst the hundreds living in their villages.