

Kingdom of Cambodia
Nation Religion King

Government of Cambodia

No. 13, ស ន ណ ន

CIRCULAR

CONCERNING

PRESERVATION OF REMAINS OF THE VICTIMS OF THE GENOCIDE COMMITTED DURING THE REGIME OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA (1975-1978), AND PREPARATION OF ANLONG VENG TO BECOME A REGION FOR HISTORICAL TOURISM

Following the liberation of 7 January 1979, numerous graves were left behind throughout the entire territory of Cambodia as physical testimony of the crimes committed against the innocent Cambodian people by the genocidal Pol Pot regime. Right away, the authorities and citizens made efforts to take the remains of the victims and to preserve them carefully, some in stupas, and some in other forms of appropriate memorial. However, the government has observed that since that time these memorials have not been properly maintained.

In order to preserve the remains as evidence of these historic crimes and as the basis for remembrance and education by the Cambodian people as a whole, especially future generations, of the painful and terrible history brought about by the Democratic Kampuchea regime against the people and territory of Cambodia during the period 1975-1978, lasting 3 years, 8 months and 20 days, and to preserve and prepare the Anlong Veng region to become a historical museum for national and international tourists in the future, the government issue the following directives:

1. all local authorities at province and municipal level should cooperate with relevant expert institutions in their areas to examine, restore and maintain existing memorials, and to examine and research other remaining grave sites, so that all such places may be transformed into memorials, with fences, trees and informative plaques for both citizens and tourists;
the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts and the Ministry of Tourism should issue further technical guidelines, and should appoint expert officials to work together with the local authorities on this issue.

2. with particular reference to the Anlong Veng region , in the district of Anlong Veng, Oddar Meanchey Province, which was of historic importance in the final stage of the political life of the leaders and military organisation of Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge, the Ministry of Tourism should continue to make efforts, as previously directed by the government, to cooperate with the local authorities and with all relevant ministries and institutions, especially with the Ministry of Land Management, Construction and Urbanisation, Military Region 4, the Cambodian Mine Action Center and the Documentation Center of Cambodia to eradicate mines, to prepare a sound master plan, to research documents, to establish a historical museum, and to search for sources of finance in order to preserve all historical evidence and to transform Anlong Veng into a region of historical tourism for the whole country.
it is absolutely prohibited to encroach on or subdivide land in an anarchic manner, or to undertake any form of construction in Anlong Veng that has an impact on this historic region without government permission, except for construction of housing for residents of the village and commune, in accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Land Management, Construction and Urbanisation.
3. efforts should be made to implement the above provisions before 7 January 2002, the 23rd anniversary of the overthrow of Democratic Kampuchea.
on receiving this directive, all relevant ministries and institutions and local authorities should implement it.

Phnom Penh Municipality, 14 December 2001

Prime Minister

(signed and sealed)

Hun Sen

cc:

- Ministry for the Palace
- Secretariat General for the Senate
- Secretariat General for the National Assembly
- Ministries, Secretariats of State and Institutions
- Office of the Prime Minister
- Offices of the Deputy Prime Ministers
- Offices of Provinces and Municipalities
- Archives and Records