



អង្គជំនុំជម្រះវិសាមញ្ញក្នុងតុលាការកម្ពុជា
 Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia
 Chambres extraordinaires au sein des tribunaux cambodgiens

ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា
ជាតិ សាសនា ព្រះមហាក្សត្រ

Kingdom of Cambodia
 Nation Religion King
 Royaume du Cambodge
 Nation Religion Roi

30 November 2010

PRESS RELEASE – DEFENCE SUPPORT SECTION

Upholding international standards: Defence Support Section appoints counsel to represent the interests of the suspects in cases 003 and 004

The Defence Support Section (“DSS”) at the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (“ECCC”) has assigned Cambodian lawyer and member of the Bar Association of the Kingdom of Cambodia Mr. Kong Sam Onn to represent the general interests of the five Unnamed Suspects currently under investigation by the Office of the Co-Investigating Judges (“OCIJ”). Mr. Kong has worked on a number of high profile legal cases in Cambodia, representing journalists, politicians and others whose basic human rights have been violated. He also advised and represented the interests of witnesses appearing before the Trial Chamber in Case 001 at the ECCC.

The Unnamed Suspects in Cases 003 and 004 at the ECCC are at risk of being substantially affected as the OCIJ conducts investigations for an indeterminate period of time, amassing potentially inculpatory evidence with the possible participation of the Co-Prosecutors, but without defence scrutiny. The longer this situation continues, the greater the potential prejudice to the Unnamed Suspects. In order to achieve equality of arms between the parties and to ensure that proceedings in Cases 003 and 004 meet international fair trial standards, the DSS has therefore appointed Mr. Kong to represent the general interests of the Unnamed Suspects before the ECCC, media and public. Mr. Kong will also respond to requests for advice from those who think that they may be prejudiced by the ongoing investigations.

According to Article 24 new of the ECCC Law, read alongside the definition of ‘Suspects’ in the ECCC Internal Rules, the Unnamed Suspects under investigation are unconditionally entitled to the assistance of defence counsel. The appointment of a lawyer to represent the general interests of Suspects also follows international law and best practice.

For more information, please contact:

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