

Press Release: Our Responsibility to Ensure ECCC Success

By ADHOC, Cambodia Human Rights and Development Association
Phnom Penh
26 July 2006

Given the actualities, ADHOC is preoccupied by obstacles that could compromise the outcome and success of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC).

With the recent death of Ung Choeun, called Ta Mok, the people of Cambodia have lost a potential witness and suspect of the trial before the ECCC.

We urge the Secretary General of the United Nations and the Royal Government of Cambodia, the High Contracting Parties of the International Agreement Concerning the Prosecution under Cambodian Law of the Crimes Committed During the Period of Democratic Kampuchea, to give attention to the state of health of former KR leaders who are currently in Cambodia and in foreign countries and assist them medically if necessary.

Indeed, given their roles and responsibilities during the Democratic Kampuchea regime, these former KR leaders are key witnesses or potential suspects who could participate or be prosecuted during the trial before the Extraordinary Chambers.

We recommend the ECCC to have highly competent medical staff in Cambodia ready to intervene in case of emergency and a system of expatriation in place for those who need to receive extensive care. This will allow suspects prosecuted by the ECCC, participating victims and witnesses who are in need to receive the most advanced medical care.

Copyright 2006
ADHOC