



មជ្ឈមណ្ឌលដើម្បីយុត្តិធម៌ និង ការបង្រួបបង្រួម Center for Justice & Reconciliation

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PRESS RELEASE

CJR presents National Conference on Khmer Rouge Victims' Participation “Moving Forward, Together: From Killing Fields to Healing, Living Fields”

Victims' associations, ECCC officials and civil society to convene at
Paññāsāstra University of Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 9 December 2009: The Center for Justice and Reconciliation (CJR) will host a national conference on Khmer Rouge victims' participation in the Khmer Rouge Tribunal and beyond at 8 AM on 11 December 2009 at Paññāsāstra University of Cambodia (PUC). The conference, entitled “Moving Forward, Together: From Killing Fields to Healing, Living Fields” will engage victims, members of civil society working on victims' outreach, and Extraordinary Chambers of the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) officials in dialogue on how survivors can transition from victimhood to empowered citizens through court involvement and other non-judicial means.

In the wake of ECCC Case 001's final hearings and on the eve of the final deadline for civil party applications in Case 002, this conference will provide victims and the general public an open forum to ask questions and share their ideas directly with ECCC officials and leading organizations in victims advocacy. Those interested in forming victims associations can liaise with one another and can ask questions regarding the political, legal and social significance of the tribunal to the ECCC's Victims Unit, an investigating judge, the defense, prosecution and the witness/expert support section.

Victims from Phnom Penh and Cambodia's provinces and representatives of two victims' associations will be present. Materials distributed to victims before the conference will include the Understanding Trauma in Cambodia handbook, the Fair Trial handbook, ECCC booklets and posters and material from other NGOs. The conference will be broadcast via CJR's Voice of Justice and Reconciliation Radio program, which airs on Mohanokor FM 93.5 Mondays and Tuesdays from 11 AM – 12 PM and on Sovannaphum FM 104 Mondays and Tuesdays from 1 PM – 2 PM.

Since opening its doors in September 2009, CJR has organized numerous meetings in over ten provinces for KR victims interested in becoming civil parties, submitted 130 civil party applications to the ECCC, provided KR victims with psycho-social support and helped victims meaningfully participate in Cambodia's reconciliation process. This conference offers an opportunity for the victims to raise their voices and take center stage in dialogue with the ECCC's Victims Unit, NGOs working in the field of victims support and other stakeholders.

CJR greatly thanks the *German Development Service* (DED) for enabling us to provide this meaningful programming through their generous sponsorship.

For further information please visit www.cjr-cambodia.org and see “News” on the homepage and/or contact:

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