

May 13, 2016

His Excellency Ban Ki-moon
Secretary General of the United Nations
New York City, New York
United States of America

We appeal for renewed commitments by the United Nations and Signatory governments to key Articles of the “1991 Paris Peace Agreement” that guarantee respect for human rights and democracy in Cambodia.

We appeal for immediate and concrete actions in response to the crisis of serious political intimidation of the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP), human rights defenders from ADHOC, other civil society groups, and the rights abuses and oppression directed at the people of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

We urge the Cambodian government to respect the Constitution which stipulates that: “Khmer citizens shall have freedom of expression, press, publication and assembly.”

We urge that the Cambodian government upholds all the international human rights treaties that it ratified, such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which guarantee freedom of expression, association, peaceful public assembly, and other key civil and political rights.

We demand the immediate and unconditioned release of the recent illegal arrests of opposition lawmakers and activists, the illegal detention of senior members of civil society organizations involved in the defense of human rights, and the illegal detention of a Deputy Secretary-General of the National Election Committee (NEC).

We appeal to the United States and Canada to convene the Signatory governments of the “1991 Paris Peace Agreement” to address the current crisis in Cambodia and the failure of the Cambodian government under Prime Minister Hun Sen to respect human rights and democracy.

We further call for international support to help ensure the upcoming Commune Council Election in 2017 and the National Election in 2018 are fully free, fair, and inclusive. We believe that only through genuine democratic process and respect for human rights will Cambodia be able to truly enjoy peace, stability and prosperity originally envisaged by the Signatories of the “1991 Paris Peace Agreement.”

Respectfully,