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Cambodian Center for Human Rights

PRESS RELEASE - Phnom Penh, 27 February 2023

The Cambodian Center for Human Rights (“CCHR”) Celebrates International Women’s Day

International Women's Day (“IWD”), celebrated annually on 8 March, is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. Significant activity is witnessed worldwide as groups come together women's social, economic, cultural, and political achievements to celebrate women's achievements or rally for women's equality. The theme for 2023’s IWD is: “[DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality](#).”

IWD is one of the most important days of the year to celebrate women's achievements, raise awareness about women's rights and lobby for accelerated gender parity. Unfortunately, Cambodia’s patriarchal society and its deeply entrenched gender stereotypes and social norms continue to undermine women’s rights. In addition, some people still use various forms of degrading behaviour such as verbal insults, and inappropriate gestures toward women, affecting their rights and dignity, preventing the achievement of gender equality in the country. As a result, gender-based violence remains a pervasive problem in the Kingdom and a victim-blaming mentality continues to permeate Cambodian society. The COVID-19 pandemic has taken a particularly heavy toll on women, with increased domestic violence reported as a result of job losses and lockdowns. In these challenging times, it is vital to step up efforts to address women’s rights violations and advance gender equality in Cambodia.

For the occasion, CCHR will spotlight the Cambodian women’s participation in civil society and about the work of women human rights defenders as well as highlight the challenging environment in which women who engage in civic society operate in Cambodia, through the following activities:

- On 14 Feb. 2023, CCHR posted a photo competition from the public on thematic of **Women’ Power** for International Women’s Day on its Facebook page.
- On 06 Mar. 2023, CCHR will release a short video Naga striker story of violations of women’s rights during the Naga World strike.
- On 7 March 2022, CCHR will host a hybrid event under the theme “[DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality](#)”. The event will be held at CCHR’s office from 8 to 12:00 AM with a limited number of participants as well as live-streamed on CCHR’s [Facebook page](#) to enable the participation of a broader audience. The event will showcase photos from the public competition under the thematic **Women’ Power**.
- Within the month of March, CCHR’s radio talkshow would dedicate for discussing the women’ issues.

For more information, please contact CCHR’s Advocacy Director, Mr. Soun Yuthyia, at yuthyia@cchrcambodia.org or +855 (0) 88 8142783.

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Founded in November 2002, CCHR is a non-aligned, independent, non-governmental organization that works to promote and protect democracy and respect for human rights – primarily civil and political rights - in Cambodia.

CCHR is a member of the International Freedom of Expression Exchange (IFEX), the global network for freedom of expression, and CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation. CCHR is also a member of the World Organization Against Torture (OMCT) SOS-Torture Network and OECD Watch.

The Cambodian Human Rights Portal www.sithi.org is the 2011 winner of the Information Society Innovation Fund Award in the category of Rights and Freedoms and the 2013 winner of the Communication for Social Change Award awarded by the Centre for Communication and Social Change at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia.