



The right to understand the nature and cause of the charge



Allows the defendant to properly prepare a defense and give comprehensive instructions to a lawyer



The right provides that:

- Everyone must be given information about the nature of the charge as soon as he or she is formally charged.
- Applies to all cases of criminal charges, including persons who are not in detention.
- The charge can be stated orally, but only if the individual is informed in writing after. When in writing, the information must inform the individual concerned of both the law and the alleged general facts on which the charge is based.
- The defendant must have free assistance of an interpreter if he or she cannot understand or speak the official language. This assistance must be available in all oral proceedings.

Domestic Law

Cambodian Criminal Procedure Code



Article 322

The names of all those involved in the case must be called by the Court clerk

Article 330

The Presiding Judge may seek the assistance of an interpreter or translator where necessary

Article 325

The Judge shall inform the accused of the acts that he/she is accused of

Article 331

Where an accused is illiterate, deaf or mute, they must be accommodated



International Law

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights



Article 14(3)(a)

Everyone is entitled to be informed promptly and in a language they understand of the nature of the charges

Article 14(3)(f)

Everyone facing criminal charges is entitled to the assistance of an interpreter where necessary

