

Phnom Penh, May 5, 2011

**Documentation Center of Cambodia Supports
Transparent and Independent Case 003 and Case 004 Investigations**

The Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam) wishes to bring attention to recent developments in the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC)'s third and fourth investigations (Cases 003 and 004). A transparent and independent ECCC process is indispensable if Cambodians are to receive a measure of justice for the atrocities they suffered at the hands of the Democratic Kampuchea regime.

On April 29, the ECCC Co-Investigating Judges (CIJs) cursorily announced the closure of their investigation in Case 003. The public notice did not list the crimes investigated even though persons who have suffered harm as a direct consequence must apply within 15 days in order to participate as Civil Parties in future proceedings. The Public Affairs Office has also yet to explain to Cambodians the meaning and consequences of this development.

DC-Cam is dedicated to serving the twin goals of memory and justice with respect to the Democratic Kampuchea era. As the world's largest repository of documents relating to the Khmer Rouge, we have assisted and supported the ECCC accountability process from the beginning. The millions of Cambodian survivors of the regime deserve to know what the ECCC is doing in their name, yet the Court has provided no meaningful information to the public about Cases 003 and 004 since the CIJs began their investigations 20 months ago.

As a strong believer in the legitimacy of the ECCC process, DC-Cam respects the confidentiality of the Court's investigations. At the same time, we remain committed to setting the historical record straight regarding the crimes committed by the Khmer Rouge, including those at issue in Cases 003 and 004, and to collecting material that may be used in legal proceedings.

We expect the ECCC to uphold the highest standards of judicial independence. All ECCC decisions must be made independent of political pressure and in accordance with a forthright interpretation of the Court's rules. Moreover, we ask that the Court keep the Cambodian people fully informed about its work.

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