

មជ្ឈមណ្ឌលបក្សសារត្រីមួយ
DC-CAM LEGAL TRAINING
THE DUCH CASE AND INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW
15-20 OCTOBER 2010

The Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam) will conduct a one-week legal training starting on Friday, 15 October 2010, and ending on Wednesday, 20 October. The workshop will focus on Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) Case 001 against Kaing Guek Eav *alias* Duch, the former chief of the S-21 prison center. Fifteen Cambodian law students were selected to participate from among 33 applicants.

Officials from Office of Co-Prosecutors and the Defense Support Section of UNAKRT/ECCC, as well as a prosecutor from the Cambodian Appeals Court, will explain principles of international criminal law relevant to the *Duch* case, such as the Joint Criminal Enterprise mode of liability and defense rights, as well as defense and prosecutorial strategies. Participants will use materials from the ECCC and DC-Cam, and information available on the Cambodia Tribunal Monitor website (<http://www.cambodiatribunal.org>).

The training is being conducted in response to the 26 July ECCC Trial Chamber judgment finding Duch guilty of crimes against humanity and war crimes. The court sentenced Duch to 35 years in prison, but reduced the sentence by five years as a remedy for Duch's illegal detention by the Cambodian military for several years before his trial began. Since Duch has already spent 11 years in detention, which counts toward his period of incarceration, he faces only 19 years more in prison.

The details of the *Duch* case are beyond the ability of many ordinary Cambodian people, including many victims of the Khmer Rouge regime, to understand. Hearing the judgment alone is inadequate; they need a clearer and more thorough explanation from people with sufficient legal education to grasp the nuances of the case. Law students can help fill this need. If victims better understand the process used to arrive at the *Duch* verdict, they will benefit more from the ECCC proceedings and may increase their trust in the court as it approaches case 002. The workshop will also promote the development of the rule of law in Cambodia, bridging the gap between the ECCC and the domestic legal system noted by many Cambodian people, civil society organizations, and donor countries.

The training is conducted in cooperation with ECCC and Cambodian Appeals Court with support from OSI and the Cambodia Tribunal Monitor, and core support from USAID and Sweden.

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