



Regional Forum at Kampong Speu

Regional Civil Party Forum
TEA SUYHENG MEETING HALL, KAMPONG SPEU TOWN
Friday, 16th March 2012 (7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.)



Participants:

200 Civil Parties from Kandal, Kampong Speu, Prey Veng And Kampot provinces, their Civil Party Lawyers,
Officers from the Victims Support Section.

Report by:

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Abbreviation:

ADHOC:	The Cambodian Human Rights & Development Association
ASF:	Avoats Sans Frontieres
CDP:	Cambodia Defender Project
CPL:	Civil Party Lawyer
CP:	Civil Party
ECCC:	Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia
IO:	Intermediary Orgaization
KRT:	Khmer Rouge Tribunal
NJM:	Non-Judicial Measures
OClJ:	Office of Co-Investigating Judges
OCP:	Office of Co-Prosecutors
PTC:	Pre- Trail Chamber
VSS:	Victims Support Section

persons/km². Kampong Speu's economy consists basically of rice and fruit cropping and fishery. It's also noted by its famous palm sugar and wine. Especially the rural households depend on agriculture and its related sub-sectors.

II. Background

The Victims Support Section (VSS) of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) has mandates to coordinate the participation of the victims in the Khmer Rouge Regime through legal proceedings of ECCC and facilitating reparations through judicial process and non-judicial measures by:

- Disseminating information related to the rights of Civil Parties (CPs) and Complainants;
- Cooperating with other offices of the ECCC in order to enhance the participation of victims widely;
- Coordinating legal representation for individual Civil Party and/or groups of Civil Parties;
- Facilitating for the selection of the representatives of the civil parties for effective participation in judicial proceedings; and
- Coordinating and facilitating for the proper proposals and seeking resources for the implementation of the judicial and non-judicial measures for reparations.

This Regional Civil Party Forum was organized for approximately 200 Civil Parties (CPs) in Case 002 out of 3,864 CPs admitted by the Pre-Trial Chamber and office of the Co-Investigating Judges from four different provinces, namely: Such as Kampong Speu, Kandal, Kampong Speu and Kampot provinces. This is the first Regional Civil Party Forum for VSS' 24-month long project on "*Meaningful Victims' Participation in the Proceedings of ECCC*," which is being funded by Federal Republic of Germany.

III. Objective of the Regional Forum

The objective of this Regional Civil Party Forum is to promote victims participation as Civil Parties and provides opportunities for Civil Parties such as:

- To update information from Civil Party Lawyers (CPLs) to discuss their rights, complaints proceeding at the trial process, as well as, to generate ideas from Civil Parties on reparation-related programs for formulating a proposal to the ECCC.
- To meet officials from VSS in order to learn about recent progress at the ECCC.
- To meet official of Non- Judicial Measures project for updating information regarding to reparation and NJM for a better involvement in Case 002.

The VSS has organized regional forums in different regions since 2009 in order to ensure the admitted 3,864 Civil Parties in Case 002 are able to have a cross and safe communicative dialogue with officials of the ECCC and most importantly, meet with their Civil Party lawyers in order to prepare for potential testimonial witnesses and discuss forms of reparation for Civil Parties through judicial and non-judicial measures.

IV. Participants

This Regional Forum was attended by 200CPs, who had attended this forum out of 3,864CPs admitted by OCIJ and PTC. They are come from Kampong Speu, Kandal, Prey Veng and Kampot. Those CPs attended this forum have not attended the evidence hearing for the 1st quarter of 2012 and didn't received update information regarding to Case 002 physically by officials of ECCC or their Civil Party lawyers.

V. Methodology

The participants, 200 CPs, were firstly updated on the development of ECCC and the on-going Case 002's pre-trial being conducted nowadays; followed by the film-show on the "Long Awaiting Day",

“Duch Apology”. The Student Centered methodology was used and followed by plenary session for Questions and Answers, Group Discussion with their respective CPLs:

- Lawyer’s group Mr. VEN Pov
- Lawyer’s group Mrs. CHET Vanly
- Lawyer’s group Mrs. TY Srinna

VI. Meeting/ Regional Forum

The regional forum started at 9:30 a.m. with introduction of ECCC mission, mandate, and VSS role and responsibility in coordination and, in cooperation with intermediary organizations working in KRT related fields, facilitation for the victims, civil parties, to attend and exercise their rights at the hearings through their civil party lawyers.

The update of Case 001, 002, 003, 004 had also made the participants felt much closer in getting the different cases progress.

The self-produced documentary films of the ECCC (Long Awaiting Day; Ending Impunity, Duch Apology) were shown before and after the lunch break, to the participants. The participants were allowed for questions and Answers after went through all the shows.

In full afternoon, the participants spent their time working in group discussion with their respective lawyers in a confidential manner.

At the last part of the event, the project management team of the VSS, who has been working on the initial specification of reparation requests for case 002 and the Non-judicial Measure with IOs, explained their current works and way forward in addressing the participant’s harms through the collective and moral reparation scheme in partnerships with governmental and non organizations for the project planning, implementation in consultation with civil parties and their lawyers.

VII. Key Speakers



Mr. Thomas TRUEMPER (Left), Mr. VEN Pov (Second Left), Mr. IM Sophea (Center), Mrs. TY Srinna (Second Right,) Mr.TAN Visal (Right)



Mr. IM Sophea, Outreach
Coordinator of VSS

The representative of Head of VSS, Mr. IM Sophea, Outreach Coordinator of VSS, He started by welcome the 200 participates and guest speakers. He said that we have three purpose for host this forum (1) To update about recently ECCC's information regarding to Case 002 to Civil Party (2) To receive explanation from their lawyers about Severance of Proceedings Ordered in Case 002 and (3) Civil Party can be used their rights as Civil Party.

Mr. IM Sophea added that thoes Civil Parties come from Kampong Speu, Kandal, Prey Veng and Kampong have not been attended the frist quater of 2012 of evidence hearing. He was delivered his statement that Case 002 OCIJ and PTC had been admitted 3,864 CPs. Mr. IM mentioned that "To ensure the effectiveness of the participation in the court proceeding, all civil parties have equal access to legal representation provided by VSS and intermediary organization such as Legal Aids of Cambodia, Cambodia Defender Project, ASF, ADHOC.etc...Until today, there are 57 lawyers has been registered in the list maintained by VSS. In this number, there are 41 foreign lawyers and 16 Cambodian Lawyers".

Mr. IM started that The VSS believes that this Regional Civil Party Forum would turn into an event for experience sharing, information dissemination, and cooperation for exchange information between Civil Parties and Lawyer. This is an occasion for enhancing the participation of victims to effectively participate in the proceedings of the ECCC through this program. Mr. IM end this Open Remarks by provide opportunity to CPLs to question and answer.

Mr. TAN Visal, Project Manager of Reparation and Non- Judicial Measure spoke about "Introduction on Reparation and Non-Judicial Measures". He acknowledged that the public wish to know same as the CPs concerning type of reparations. He explained that, "the reparation is Moral and Collective Reparation. "The Collective": a reparations measure will not benefit one individual alone; instead it will benefit either a larger group of civil parties or even all civil parties. "Moral": a reparations measure has a symbolic meaning and not so much a material value". Last but not least Mr. TAN said that the Lead-Co Lawyer section used to submit the Requests Relating to Remembrance and Demoralization to the Trial Chamber of Case 002 recently during the Initial Hearing:

- 1) Memorial Day
- 2) Stupas and Monuments
- 3) Preservation of Crime Sites
- 4) Psychological and Physical Health Services
- 5) Discussion Groups
- 6) Schools and Curriculum
- 7) Documentation Center
- 8) Victims Register



Mr. TAN Visal, Project Manager of
Reparation and Non- Judicial
Measure

The implementations of Collective and Moral Reparation and Non-Judicial Measures require the Collaboration of many actors, including VSS, Lead Co-Lawyer, Civil party Lawyers, Civil parties, the government institutions and NGOs. ECCC will continue to cooperation and coordinate with related Ministries can be implemented in the future after the final verdict.

Mr. TAN added that the project of reparation and Non-Judicial Measures had Re-establishment of Sub-Working Group Meetings Starting from 6 March 2012, VSS together with LCL, has been organizing a

series of Sub-Working Group Meetings for March and April to further describe the requested Reparation award projects. Following Sub-Working Groups, which have been established in 2011, are focusing on following major forms of requested reparations:

- Sub-Working Group 1: Remembrance / Memorialization
- Sub-Working Group 2: Rehabilitation
- Sub-Working Group 3: Documentation / Education

The next guest speaker of the forum:

- Mr. VEN Pov, Civil Party Lawyer
- Mrs. CHET Vanly, Civil Party Lawyer
- Mr. TY Srinna, Civil Party Lawyer

They are invited Civil Party into three groups and discussed their matter directly confidential with classified group work.

Activities of Civil Party Lawyers During the Regional Civil Party Forum at Kampong Speu Province



Group Discussion:

Mr. VEN Pov with Assistant and his Civil Parties

Group Discussion:

Mrs. CHET Vanly with Assistant and her Civil Parties





Group Discussion:
Mrs.TY Srinna with Assistant and her Civil Parties

VII. What materials provided

This regional Civil Party Forum IEC's outreach program had given approximately 200 Civil Parties target provinces Kandal, Kampot, Kampong Speu and Prey Veng:

- Books
- Folders
- Pens
- Books of Statements of Apology and Acknowledgements of responsibility Made by "Duch"
- Radio set

Impressions of CPs, others

There are some points of opinion of CPs raised during Regional Civil Party forum:

- CPs from Basedth District, Kampong Speu Province started that "he is very happy to attend this forum today it is time to get a lot of update information from Lawyer and VSS official regarding to ECCC's proceeding and reparation and Non- Judicial Measures."
- CPs from Kampong Trabaek District Prey Veng Province raised by request that she wants to attend such forum more than one time because she does not know clearly about information provided by Lawyer and any guest speakers during the forum especially related to Local Laws and international Laws system and ECCC's proceeding.
- One CP from Prey Veng said that "I got a lot of information and know about ECCC proceeding than before and I wish to attend the next trial and I want to see Toul Sleng and Cheng Ek Museum. For reparation he requested one stupa in her village for host Buddhist ceremony such as Pchum Ben and Khmer New Year..."
- CP from Kampong Speu Province said that "I never meet my lawyer before I am so happy when I met my lawyer I received a lot of new information from her and want meet her again."
- CP from Kampot province mentioned that "we will receive justice for the trail in the sort future. I am so proud with activity of VSS for hosting this forum and provide us a lot of opportunity to discuss about our concern and any matter with Lawyer."

Reactions from one outstanding CP: “Want to see those former leaders be tortured like we were under their control. If there is a dead penalty, they deserve that punishment. The decision of life imprisonment of Duch made me sleep well every night.”

Appendix

- Media Alert
- Online News
- Koh Sentepheap Daily Newspaper