

**Press Release**

**CHRAC and ADHOC to Organize National Workshop to Build a Common Understanding and Uphold the Right to Association in Cambodia**

For Immediate Release

Date: July 20, 2022

Phnom Penh, July 20, 2022 – The Cambodian Human Rights Action Coalition (CHRAC), in collaboration with Cambodian Human Rights and Development Association (ADHOC), will organize a National Workshop on the Right to Association and the Law on Associations and Non-Governmental Organizations (commonly known as the LANGO) on July 25 and 26, 2022 in Phnom Penh’s Tonle Bassac II Restaurant.

“Without a clear understanding of international laws and standards, it's hard to effectively influence any amendment of the existing domestic NGO law,” said CHRAC Executive Director, Mr Sotha Ros.

The workshop will strengthen common understanding among civil society organization (CSO) leaders on international norms on the Right to Association and foster debate on how to comply with the current LANGO. It will also address ways to collaborate with the Royal Government of Cambodia towards an effective and mutually respectful amendment to the LANGO. The national workshop will gather individuals representing NGO coalitions, trade unions and federations, media organizations, community-based organizations, human right defenders, and marginalized groups.

“Civil society plays an important role in protecting constitutionally guaranteed freedoms and human rights,” said Ms. Rebecca Black, USAID/Cambodia Acting Mission Director. “We have publicly supported these principles and will continue to do so.”

The workshop is organized in partnership with FHI 360 and the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL) with financial support from the USAID-funded Civil Society Support (CSS) Activity. The CSS Activity, implemented by FHI 360 in partnership with ICNL, supports CSOs’ efforts to have stronger cooperating networks and an enabling environment for their strategic communication and policy influencing efforts that will strengthen the demand for inclusive governance and civic space.

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For more information about the workshop, please contact:

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