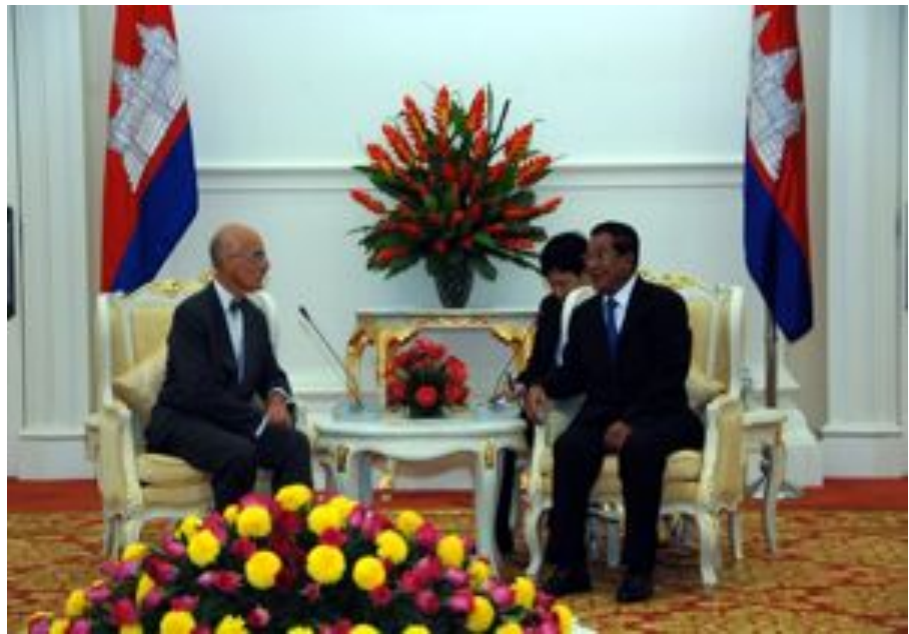




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Cambodian Premier Receives Two Foreign Ambassadors



Cambodia's Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen receives today at Phnom Penh's Peace Palace Mr. Jean-François Cautain, first resident European Union Ambassador to Cambodia.

AKP Phnom Penh, February 4, 2012 –

Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen received here on Friday H.E. Jean-François Cautain, first resident European Union Ambassador to Cambodia.

In the meeting, H.E. Jean-François Cautain congratulated the Royal Government of Cambodia on its suc-

cess in ensuring stability, economic growth, alleviating poverty and combating corruption, Ieng Sophalet, assistant to the Cambodian premier told reporters after the meeting. He also invited Samdech Techo Hun Sen to attend the ASEAN-EU Business Summit.

For his part, the Cambodian prime minister accepted the invitation and warmly welcomed H.E. Jean-François

Cautain as the first resident European Union Ambassador to Cambodia.

On the same day, Samdech Techo Hun Sen also met with Ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) to Cambodia H.E. Hong Ki Chol.

On the occasion, H.E. Hong Ki Chol conveyed greetings from Gen. Kim Jong-un,

DPRK's Supreme Leader to the Cambodian premier.

Gen. Kim Jong-un affirmed that the DPRK will continue to further strengthen and expand the traditional relationship and cooperation between the two countries, H.E. Hong Ki Chol told Samdech Techo Hun Sen.

Tourists increase in Sihanoukville, Angkor



ARCADIA Tourism Ship Docks at Preah Sihanouk Ville Seaport

The ARCADIA Cruise Ship with some 2,000 multinational tourists on board docks at Preah Sihanouk Ville International Seaport of Cambodia on February 9.



Tourists visit Angkor Wat in June last year.



Local and foreign tourism in Sihanoukville province and Angkor Wat rose significantly last month, according to tourism officials.

Seng Kha, deputy director of the Tourism Department of Sihanoukville province, said the number of local tourists to the province grew from 68,816 in January 2011 to 108,400 in January this year, an increase of 57.52 per cent.

The number of international tourists increased nearly 51 per cent from January 2011's 15,268 figure to 23,041 people in January 2012.

He said that the first annual New Year's sea festival held

on the beaches of Sihanoukville, together with Chinese New Year's celebrations and new air routes between Sihanoukville and Siem Reap provinces, has been expediting the new growth.

Director of the province's International Airport Hun Chhoeun said the passengers utilising the new routes were mostly foreigners, and that flights in both directions were popular.

"Planes are full with only a few days where flights are not full," he said.

Ho Vandy, co-chair of the Tourism Private Sector, said the more than 50 per cent increase was immense and

that there were many reasons it, and the new air routes were likely a major cause.

"I think that if the airline companies make prices more affordable, the numbers would increase even more," he said.

Officials based near Angkor Wat, by far Siem Reap's most popular tourism site, claimed that the number of foreign tourists this January soared as well.

Tourism data for Angkor Wat Archaeological Park showed that the numbers of foreign tourists in January increased nearly 30 per cent month-on-month.

About 206,000 people visited in January this year, compared with 159,000 during the same time last year.

An official from the Authority for the Protection and Management of Angkor and the Region of Siem Reap said that each year's earlier months saw increases in tourist numbers because of the numerous festivals celebrated.

Source - PhnomPenhPost

Duch Sentenced to Life Imprisonment by the Supreme Court Chamber

AKP Phnom Penh, February 3, 2012 --

The Supreme Court Chamber of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) today sentenced KAING Guek Eav alias Duch to life imprisonment, the maximum sentence available under the law, for crimes against humanity and grave breaches of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, according to the ECCC's website.

Granting an appeal from the Co-Prosecutors, the Supreme Court Chamber quashed the 35 years sentence imposed by the Trial Chamber on 26 July 2010, and by supermajority also quashed the Trial Chamber's decision to grant a remedy for the violation of KAING Guek Eav's rights occasioned by his illegal detention by the Cambodian Military Court between 10 May 1999 and 30 July 2007. The Supreme Court Chamber dismissed an appeal from KAING Guek Eav in which he alleged that he did not fall within the personal jurisdiction of the Court, holding that, whether an accused is a senior leader or one of those most responsible are exclusively policy decisions for which the Co-Investigating Judges and Co-Prosecutors are accountable.

The Supreme Court Chamber held that in determining sentence the Trial Chamber attached undue weight to mitigating circumstances and

insufficient weight to the gravity of crimes and aggravating circumstances. As to aggravating factors, the Supreme Court Chamber noted that KAING Guek Eav held a central leadership role at the Security Center S-21, which he abused by training, ordering, and supervising staff in the systematic torture and execution of prisoners deemed to be enemies of the Democratic Kampuchea regime, and he showed "dedication to refining the operations of S-21", which was "the factory of death".

The Chamber noted that the high number of deaths for which KAING Guek Eav is responsible (minimum 12,272 lives), along with the extended period of time over which the crimes were committed (more than three years), undoubtedly place this case among the gravest before international criminal tribunals. The Chamber also held that the fact that the Accused was not on the top of the command chain in the regime does not by itself justify a lighter sentence, and that there is no rule that dictates reserving the highest penalty for perpetrators at the top of the chain of command.

A supermajority (Judge Klonowiecka-Milart and Judge Jayasinghe dissenting) further held that the Trial Chamber misinterpreted the relevant international jurisprudence to mean that violations of KAING Guek Eav's

rights should be redressed by it even in the absence of violations attributable to the ECCC and in the absence of abuse of process. In the absence of both of these circumstances, the Trial Chamber should have rejected KAING Guek Eav's request for remedy.

Judges Klonowiecka-Milart and Jayasinghe consider that granting a remedy is ECCC's responsibility and that granting KAING Guek Eav a remedy by commuting the life sentence to a fixed term of 30 years' imprisonment would be appropriate.

The Supreme Court Chamber also granted in part the appeal by the Co-Prosecutors requesting cumulative convictions of crimes against humanity. In its findings, the Supreme Court Chamber held that the Trial Chamber erred in law by subsuming specific crimes against humanity under the crime of persecution instead of convicting KAING Guek Eav for all the crimes against humanity for which he was found responsible. As a result, the Supreme Court Chamber affirmed the conviction for the crime against humanity of persecution, and entered additional convictions for the crimes against humanity of extermination (encompassing murder), enslavement, imprisonment, torture, and other inhumane acts.

The Supreme Court Cham-

ber also granted the appeals from 10 Civil Party Applicants whose applications had been rejected by the Trial Chamber in the Trial Judgement. These Civil Party Appellants have substantiated their applications on appeal, and are therefore admitted as Civil Parties in Case 001.

The Supreme Court Chamber also decided on appeals from Civil Parties related to the Trial Chamber's ruling on their requests for collective and moral reparations. The Supreme Court Chamber affirmed the Trial Chamber's decision to compile and post on the ECCC's official website all statements of apology and acknowledgements of responsibility made by KAING Guek Eav during the course of the trial, including the appeal stage. All other Civil Party claims for reparation were rejected by the Supreme Court Chamber either because they would be unenforceable, or in order to be implemented they would necessitate financial means of KAING Guek Eav, who is indigent, or an order against the Cambodian State.

The summary of the Appeal Judgement read out in today's public hearing is available on the official website of the Court (www.eccc.gov.kh). The full Appeal Judgement will be published in due course.



AMBASSADE DE FRANCE AU CAMBODGE

AMBASSADE DU JAPON AU CAMBODGE

Statement of the Co-Chairs of the Friends of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia

The Co-Chairs of the Friends of the Court make this statement on behalf of the donors to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC):

The donors welcome the historic closure of the first trial of a Khmer Rouge official in the ECCC. On Friday, February 3 the Supreme Court Chamber delivered the final judgement in Case 001 against Kaing Guek Eav, known as Duch, former director of the detention centre S-21 in Phnom Penh for crimes against humanity and grave breaches of the 1949 Geneva conventions.

This long-awaited judicial decision is important recognition of the suffering of the Cambodian people and all the victims of the Khmer Rouge regime during the years 1975-79. It is a significant step on the road towards justice and national reconciliation for all Cambodians.

The donors are proud to have been associated with these efforts, together with the Royal Government of Cambodia, the United Nations, and the people of Cambodia. On this very special occasion, they reaffirm the expectations that judges and lawyers as well as the national and international staff of the ECCC will uphold the highest standards of law and due process. The donors look forward to all judges, prosecutors, defence and civil-party lawyers, and other court officials carrying out their mission in a fair and more expeditious manner, for the benefit of the Cambodian people.

Phnom Penh, 3 February 2012

Dominique MAS
Chargé d'affaires

Masafumi KUROKI
Ambassador of Japan in Cambodia

Cambodian Foreign Minister Meets U.S. Assistant Secretary of State

AKP Phnom Penh, February 6, 2012 –

Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation H.E. Hor Nambong on Friday last week received Mr. Kurt M. Campbell, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs.

After the meeting, Mr. Kurt M. Campbell told reporters that the U.S. will take note of Cambodia's request for its role at the U.N and will consider Cambodia's candidacy as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council.

H.E. Ouch Borith, Secretary of State of Foreign Affairs

and International Cooperation said during the meeting, H.E. Hor Nambong highlighted the good ties of friendship and cooperation between Cambodia and the U.S. in the past few years, and thanked the U.S. for its assistance to the development of Cambodia, especially in the fields of health, mine clearance and the Khmer Rouge Tribunal.

Both sides also discussed about Cambodia's role as the ASEAN Chair this year.

Mr. Kurt M. Campbell expressed his support to Cambodia as the 2012 ASEAN Chair and pledged to cooperate with Cambodia in all fields for the success of the ASEAN Summit, and the 35th Anniversary of the es-

tablishment of the relations between ASEAN and the U.S.

The meeting further touched on Myanmar and the South China Sea issue as well as the debt Cambodia owed to the U.S. and the Khmer Rouge Tribunal.

Mr. Kurt M. Campbell traveled to the Republic of Korea and Vietnam from Jan. 30 to Feb. 3 before visiting Cambodia on Feb. 3-4.



Cambodia's Deputy Prime Minister H.E. Hor Nambong, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, meets with visiting H.E. Kurt M. Campbell, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs in Phnom Penh on February 3.

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