



**សម្ព័ន្ធអង្គការសង្គមស៊ីវិលប្រឆាំងអំពើពុករលួយ**  
**Coalition of Civil Society Organizations Against Corruption**

**Press Release**

**Ten Political Parties Promise to Pass International Standard Anti-Corruption Law if Elected**

*25 June 2008*

Ten of the eleven political parties registered to compete in the forthcoming general election declared that if they win the election, they would pass the long-awaited anti-corruption law within the first six-month of the new term of government. They said the Law would have to be of international standard.

The political parties expressed their anti-corruption commitment in their responses to the letters that were submitted to them earlier this month by the Coalition of Civil Society Organizations against Corruption, a group that consists of close to 50 international, national, and local non-governmental organizations.

One of the eleven political parties, the Cambodian People's Party (CPP), has not replied to the letter which was addressed and delivered to the Party's President, Samdech Chea Sim, with a copy delivered to the Party headquarters. However, the Coalition has not received any response by the deadline of 23 June 2008.

The letter sent to the parties asks: if elected to power, does it agree to pass an anti-corruption law within the first six month of the new term of government, and will it be up to international standards? In their responses, some political parties have written additional comments for the reflection of their anti-corruption commitment and the ten political parties agreed to take both actions.

It should be noted that four of the parties such as: Sam Rainsy Party(SRP), Human Rights Party (HRP), Norodom Rannariddh Party (NRP), and Funcinpec, had also signed and supported the anti-corruption symbolic treaties that were initiated by the Coalition in a campaign to collect people's signatures/thumbprints to demand the enactment of an anti-corruption law.

The Coalition of Civil Society Organizations against Corruption has been undertaking a nation-wide campaign for over-five months to conduct awareness-raising on the cost of corruption and its affect on citizen's daily-lives, while at the same time mobilizing support for serious measures against corruption, especially the immediate passage of an anti-corruption law that meets international standards.

The campaign by the Coalition of Civil Society Organizations against Corruption initially planned to collect a total of one million signatures/thumbprints by the end of April (which

meant getting an additional 700,000 signatures to add to the total number of 300,000 already collected in the past years). However, people still continue to either sign or give their thumbprints to the anti-corruption treaties as of today, and so far, the total number collected is more than 1.1 million. Given that over one million Cambodian adults signed the petition, the campaign is one of the most successful efforts in Cambodia.

The anti-corruption petitions were handed over to the National Assembly on 16 May 2008 through the Commission No.1. The Coalition of Civil Society Organizations against Corruption has also written to the Royal Government of Cambodia asking for a chance to hand it over to the Government and is still waiting for response.

For more information on the Campaign and on the letters to political parties, please contact:

Mr. Yong Kim Eng	Tel: 016 828211
Mr. Pok Puthearith	Tel: 012 668 522
Mr. Mr. San Chey	Tel: 012 445 642
Ms Mam Sitha	Tel: 011 722 028
Ms Houth Ratanak	Tel: 012 802 551