CAMBODIA: NEW VIOLATIONS, NEW GOVERNMENT, SAME OLD HARMs

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL:
SUBMISSION TO THE 46TH SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP, 29 APRIL–10 MAY 2024

SUMMARY

This submission was prepared for the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of Cambodia scheduled for 8 May 2024. In it, Amnesty International evaluates the implementation of recommendations made to Cambodia in its previous UPR.

Amnesty International raises new concerns about a sharp rise in human trafficking related to online scamming and casino operations, as well as ongoing human rights violations within Cambodia, such as the forced evictions of thousands of families from the World Heritage site of Angkor, a continuation of violations against people who use drugs, violations of Indigenous Peoples’ rights and the enforced disappearance of a Thai national.

It ends with a set of recommendations to Cambodia which, if implemented, would contribute to improving the human rights situation.
FOllow up to the Previous Review

1. Cambodia received 204 recommendations during its 2019 review. The government of Cambodia supported 178 recommendations and noted 26.

2. The Cambodian government supported recommendations to ensure that all pending lands disputes, evictions and relocations are settled in a fair, transparent, negotiated and adequately compensated manner.\(^1\) The forced eviction of around 10,000 families since the second half of 2022 at the UNESCO World Heritage site of Angkor undermines the state's commitment to this recommendation.

3. Cambodia noted a recommendation to increase efforts and coordination to combat human trafficking and punish the traffickers. Since Covid-19, a human trafficking crisis has unfolded.

The National Human Rights Framework

4. Cambodia has ratified nine of the core international human rights treaties. These include the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees.

5. Cambodia has taken a sideward step toward establishing its own National Human Rights Institution (NHRI). The first NHRI draft law was proposed in May 2020. However, the Cambodia Human Rights Committee, the assigned governmental body overseeing the establishment of the NHRI, is not impartial and independent, regularly defending the Cambodian government in cases of human rights violations documented by civil society organizations.\(^2\)

The Human Rights Situation on the Ground

Human Trafficking in the Context of Online Scamming and Casinos

6. At some point during the Covid-19 pandemic, criminal organizations began trafficking people from various countries into Cambodia, forcing them into fortified compounds to run online scams and gambling operations under the threat of violence\(^3\) and confiscating their passports.\(^4\) Civil society organizations and survivors reported physical abuses, with one survivor interviewed by Amnesty International reporting being sold between employers.\(^5\)

7. In September 2022, UN Special Rapporteurs wrote to the Cambodian government stating that 100,000 victims of trafficking may be present in Sihanoukville City alone.\(^6\) The UN Special Rapporteurs, along with OHCHR,\(^7\) and experts interviewed by Amnesty International,\(^8\) suggested that state authorities may be complicit with online scamming and casino operators, including by taking bribes and or not investigating complaints.\(^9\) Several investigative news reports tie government officials and their families to the compounds.\(^10\)

8. On 9 September 2022, Cambodia's Ministry of Justice established a taskforce to coordinate investigations and prosecutions of those responsible for human trafficking of foreign workers to the country. Hundreds of trafficked workers were found after raids by the authorities in Phnom Penh and the town of Sihanoukville.\(^11\) However, credible reports from 2023 indicate that many of the trafficking operations have not been shuttered and many are still in operation around the country.

9. More than 100 trafficking survivors were moved to government immigration detention centers during 2023 alone – indicating the problem is still at large. After enduring inhumane conditions, including at times torture and rape, a significant number of trafficking survivors who were removed from the compounds by the authorities, were then detained in state-run centers for months, placed in overcrowded rooms, asked to pay for their own food and water, all without any access to legal counsel.\(^12\)
Forced Evictions

10. The Government of Cambodia is currently undertaking a forced eviction of an estimated ten thousand families from their homes at the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Angkor. Many of the families facing eviction have lived in the area for several generations.

11. Amnesty International has interviewed more than 100 affected persons who described the eviction process as involving tactics of intimidation, coercion and violence. Evicted families have not been engaged in a process of genuine consultation, have not received written eviction notices, and have not been provided with adequate compensation. As a result, these evictions constitute forced evictions which are a violation of the right to adequate housing. Cambodian authorities, however, have characterized the forced evictions as “voluntary”.

12. Evicted families from Angkor are being settled at Run Ta Ek and Peak Sneng. Families are expected to construct their own homes and until such time, many families had no choice but to live under tarps or in other forms of makeshift housing. The burden to construct their homes has led many into debt. Basic sanitation and other essential infrastructure are not present, making the resettlement site inadequate and in violation of international human rights law and standards. At Run Ta Ek, relocated families described not having enough food to eat after their evictions from farmland and having lost access to their primary or only source of income at Angkor.

13. In addition, the Cambodian authorities forcibly evicted people from ten sites, comprising 1,507 families, in and around Phnom Penh during the Covid-19 pandemic in a way which regularly involved a lack of due legal process. At five sites, evicted people reported little or no compensation and/or relocation to sites that were not fit for housing.

Arbitrary Detention, Torture and Other Ill-treatment during the ongoing Anti-Drug Campaign

14. In January 2017, the Cambodian government initiated a six-month campaign against drugs which has been repeatedly and indefinitely extended and has emphasised detention and prosecution rather than ensuring access to health and social services to reduce the risks and harms of drugs.

15. During the first three years of the anti-drug campaign, at least 55,770 people were arrested on suspicion of using or selling drugs. According to government data, as of December 2022, more than 54% of all people in Cambodian prisons were held on drug-related charges, a large proportion held solely for possessing small quantities of drugs.

16. Amnesty International’s 2020 research found that drug arrests were often made in the immediate vicinity of a methadone clinic in Phnom Penh, one of the few healthcare facilities in Cambodia that provides treatment for opioid dependence. Many of those arrested are poor, homeless and struggling with drug dependence. Most people arrested on drug-related charges had a very limited understanding of their rights, rendering them at heightened risk of torture and other human rights violations.

17. The anti-drugs campaign has skyrocketed Cambodia’s prison population from 21,900 at the end of 2016 to over 38,997 in March 2022, even though Cambodia’s prisons have an estimated capacity of just 26,593. In early 2020, the population of Cambodia’s largest prison, Phnom Penh’s CC1, exceeded 9,500 prisoners – 463% over its maximum capacity. This overcrowding crisis is causing serious and systematic human rights violations, including of right to health and, in some instances, amounts to torture or other ill-treatment.

18. Thousands more are held arbitrarily every year in drug detention centres. Decisions as to whether an individual is criminally prosecuted or held in a drug detention centre appears not to follow any clear or systematic pattern. Though these centres claim to treat people with drug dependence, in reality they operate as punitive and abusive detention centres, utterly lacking in medical facilities and properly trained staff. Rather than receiving evidence-based treatment, people are detained against their will and face systematic abuse.

19. People who were formerly detained in drug detention facilities described frequent instances of physical abuse, often amounting to torture and other ill-treatment. Many detainees reported witnessing the deaths of their fellow inmates, often due to a combination of physical abuse, drug withdrawals without any medical support, and inhumane conditions of detention.
20. Amnesty International and Space4good, a remote sensing agency, estimated at least 6,271 hectares (an area in size equivalent to 8,784 soccer pitches) of forest was lost in Prey Lang and Preah Roka protected areas during 2021.35 Both forests are critical for the livelihoods of many Indigenous Kuy families. Resin tapping is extremely important to Kuy livelihoods,36 and the wood of the dipterocarpus species is commercially valuable and is highly sought after by many Cambodian timber traders.37

21. Despite traditional user rights of local communities to harvest forest products and by-products being recognized in the Law on Protected Areas (2008), the Law on Forestry (2002), the Law on Environmental Protection and Natural Resource Management (1996), and the Land Law (2001), the National Assembly adopted a new code in 2023 on environment and natural resources which removes the term “indigenous communities” and instead replaces it with “local communities”,38 which could signify an attempt to deny the protection of Indigenous Peoples’ rights for Indigenous Kuy communities. Indigenous Kuy communities’ self-identification is core to the protection of their rights including their rights to their lands and the right to consultation with the objective of obtaining their free, prior and informed consent.

22. On 22 February 2020, at various locations around the Prey Lang Forest, armed forest rangers deployed by the Ministry of Environment intercepted, harassed and in some cases temporarily detained members of PLCN (Prey Lang Community Network), most of whom are Indigenous People, monks and community members seeking to participate in a culturally important blessing ceremony.39 Authorities denied their entry to the forest alleging that they were not officially registered.40 This constitutes an infringement of Indigenous Peoples’ right to practise spiritual ceremonies.41

23. Government authorities routinely use repressive tactics to intimidate and threaten Indigenous environmental defenders, including death threats. In one case, a PLCN member overheard communications between police and loggers indicating the police were coming to kill him. In another, a police officer threateningly asked a PLCN member if he was familiar with the case of Chut Wutty, a renowned environmental activist who was assassinated in April 2012.42 Threats and violence against Indigenous environmental defenders impede their right to free, prior and informed consent.43

24. The PLCN has reported that the complicity of the state in illegal logging has led to a rise in home-made firearms amongst illegal loggers. Testimony and photographic evidence indicate that illegal loggers are bringing homemade firearms with them into the forest. In 2022, PLCN members reported to Amnesty International several incidents in which illegal loggers shot at or around members of the PLCN in attempts to intimidate them. Proposed changes to the forestry law to permit hunting licenses may exacerbate the already deadly conflicts between environmental activists and loggers.44

Enforced Disappearance

25. On 4 June 2020, Wanchalearm Satsaksit, a 37-year-old Thai political activist, was forcibly disappeared in Phnom Penh’s Chroy Changvar district.45 Satsaksit fled Thailand following the 2014 military coup to Malaysia and then Cambodia after he was charged by the Thai military government with violating the Computer Crimes Act over satirical Facebook posts.46 Satsaksit was reportedly abducted by four unidentified men at around 4.45 pm on 4 June 2020, while he was on the phone with his sister Sitanun Satsaksit, who said he could not breathe before the call was cut off.47

26. The UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances48, as well as various UN Special Procedures, have raised concerns about this case.49 Since the abduction, Satsaksit’s sister has filed a complaint with the Phnom Penh Court of First Instance and was summoned to provide additional evidence twice.50 The case has not entered the prosecution stage at the time of this submission.51 On 3 March 2021, Cambodia’s Ministry of Interior expressed commitment to continue gathering information about this case.52 As of September 2023, his fate and whereabouts remain unknown.
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION BY THE STATE UNDER REVIEW

Amnesty International calls on the Royal government of Cambodia to:

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE CONTEXT OF ONLINE SCAMMING AND CASINOS

27. Recognise the status of the trafficking victims and ensure that victims are not deprived of their right to liberty as well as provide access to legal counsel as necessary.

28. Support survivors of trafficking by providing legal and other support and facilitating prompt repatriation to home countries where it is safe to do so and where that is requested by the persons, especially women, children and other vulnerable groups.

FORCED EVICTION

29. Adopt measures to prevent the unlawful evictions, and use mechanisms based on accountability and transparency to settle land disputes in an equitable and expeditious fashion, as urged by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 36/32.

30. As a matter of urgency, immediately halt all forced evictions at Zones 1 and 2 of the World Heritage site of Angkor and ensure that all public officials and agents of the state do not carry out or support forced evictions;

31. Ensure that no further relocations are conducted until the resettlement sites meet criteria of adequacy as per international human rights standards.

32. Bring the resettlement sites of Run Ta Ek and Peak Sneng up to human rights standards.

33. Provide an effective remedy and reparation to all those who have been forcibly evicted from Zones 1 and 2 at Angkor.

ARBITRARY DETENTION AND TORTURE AND OTHER ILL-TREATMENT DURING ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN

34. Immediately undergo a comprehensive review of the anti-drug campaign to bring all drug laws and policies in conformity with international human rights law and standards, centering on the right to health and other human rights.

35. Immediately announce and disseminate to all law enforcement officials the instruction that no people who use drugs should be arrested or detained solely on the basis of their drug use, possession, or dependence.

36. Explicitly prohibit compulsory drug treatment and mandatory detention for the purpose of drug rehabilitation, and order the immediate and permanent closure of all compulsory drug detention centres.

37. Increase access to health and social services for people who use drugs, including prevention, information, harm reduction and treatment, which should be voluntary, easily accessible to everyone on a non-discriminatory basis and of good quality.

38. Ensure that all people held in Cambodian prisons are provided with adequate sleeping space, exercise, nutritious food, and clean water and sanitation, in line with the Nelson Mandela Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’ RIGHTS


40. Amend the Code on environment and natural resources to explicitly recognize the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

41. Ensure that Indigenous Peoples in Prey Lang Forest have the right to manifest, practise, develop and teach their spiritual and religious traditions, customs and ceremonies.

42. Provide effective mechanisms for prevention and redress of threat, violence against Indigenous environmental defenders in Prey Lang and ensure their right to free, prior and informed consent.

43. Publicly and unambiguously lift the de facto ban on community patrols in Prey Lang, Prey Preah Roka, and other protected forests throughout Cambodia.

44. Publicly and unambiguously clarify that the Indigenous owners of Prey Lang, Prey Preah Roka, and other protected forests always have unimpeded access to these forests without requiring prior permission from the relevant authorities.
45. Publicly and unambiguously clarify that informal groups of community activists such as the Prey Lang Community Network and the Prey Preah Roka Forest Community Network have a right to engage in forest conservation activities (including forest patrols), including through access to Prey Lang, Prey Preah Roka, and other protected forests without requiring prior permission from the relevant authorities.

ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE

46. Increase efforts to thoroughly, independently and impartially investigate the enforced disappearance of individuals and determine their fate and whereabouts.

47. Urgently address the apparent failures of the investigation into the enforced disappearance of Wanchalearm Satsaksit’ to date to immediately and transparently disclose any information about his fate and whereabouts, and to ensure truth, justice and reparations for Wanchalearm and his family.

ANNEX 1

KEY AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS FOR FURTHER REFERENCE


### ANNEX 2

**MATRIX OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS CYCLE, WITH COMMENTS ON PROGRESS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Full list of themes</th>
<th>Assessment/comments on level of implementation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Theme: A12 Acceptance of international norms</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>110.2 Consider acceding to international human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party (Honduras);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A12 Acceptance of international norms</td>
<td>Not yet implemented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source of position:</strong></td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>110.26 Align laws, such as the law on associations and non-governmental organizations, the trade union law, the law on political parties and the telecommunications law, with international obligations (Iceland);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A12 Acceptance of international norms</td>
<td>Not yet implemented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source of position:</strong></td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>110.153 Amend the law on trade unions, in consultation with workers, labour advocates and other stakeholders, to bring it into full compliance with ILO Conventions Nos. 87 and 98 (Belgium);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A12 Acceptance of international norms</td>
<td>Not yet implemented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source of position:</strong></td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>110.3 Continue exploring possibilities to extend its international commitments by ratifying the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as previously recommended (Latvia);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A12 Acceptance of international norms</td>
<td>Not yet implemented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source of position:</strong></td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>110.6 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and take</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A12 Acceptance of international norms</td>
<td>Not yet implemented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source of position:</strong></td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
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<td>Index</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>110.105</td>
<td>Bring laws, regulations and policies on the freedom of expression, association and public assembly into compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Denmark);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110.10</td>
<td>Accede to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Benin);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110.13</td>
<td>Accept visit requests from special procedure mandate holders (Honduras);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110.14</td>
<td>Implement fully the recommendations made in the latest report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, including the addendum thereto (A/HRC/39/73/Add.1) (New Zealand);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>110.19</td>
<td>Engage constructively with all special procedures (Italy);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
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**Theme: A24 Cooperation with special procedures**

<table>
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<th>Index</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>110.13</td>
<td>Accept visit requests from special procedure mandate holders (Honduras);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>110.14</td>
<td>Implement fully the recommendations made in the latest report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, including the addendum thereto (A/HRC/39/73/Add.1) (New Zealand);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
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**October 2023**
**Language:** English

**amnesty.org**
### Theme: A26 Cooperation with the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)

<table>
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<th>Recommendation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>110.40 Continue to implement recommendations accepted at the universal periodic review held in 2014, in particular the establishment of a national human rights institution for the promotion and protection of human rights, equipped with sufficient resources (Spain);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
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### Theme: A41 Constitutional and legislative framework

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<tr>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>110.1 Comply with obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in the formulation, implementation and revision of policy and legislation (Ukraine);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110.12 Amend the law on associations and non-governmental organizations to bring it into line with the State's obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Greece);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110.25 In consultation with affected stakeholders and civil society, amend the law on political parties and the law on associations and non-governmental organizations to bring them into line with international human rights obligations (Germany);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110.27 Amend the law on political parties, the trade union Law and the law on associations and non-governmental organizations to bring them into line with the State's international human rights obligations, in consultation with affected;</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Index</td>
<td>Constitutional and legislative framework</td>
<td>Source of position</td>
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<td>110.28</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
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<td>110.29</td>
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<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
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<td>110.34</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>110.72</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
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Cambodian authorities publicly announced the government’s commitment to continue to increase its efforts to combat trafficking activity through accepting complaints from victims and their relatives who have requested the assistance of the Cambodian authorities to intervene and save victims from human and sex trafficking and other crimes as well as provided hotline.
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>110.81</td>
<td>Guarantee freedom of expression for all citizens and journalists, including on the Internet, by revising the latest constitutional amendment and the interministerial instruction of May 2018 allowing surveillance of Internet contents (France);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110.94</td>
<td>Revise recent enactments and revisions of legislation that violate the rights to freedom of expression and association, including the vague and broad grounds for preventing publication on the Internet in the proclamation on publication controls of websites and social media (Sweden);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110.110</td>
<td>Ensure a free civic space, allowing human rights defenders and journalists to freely express themselves both offline and online, without fear of harassment or reprisal, and refrain from prosecuting persons for exercising their fundamental rights under the Criminal Code and the law on telecommunications (Netherlands);</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110.109</td>
<td>Cease all kinds of harassment of and arbitrary interference with the political opposition, human rights defenders and labour activists, and amend laws and regulations effectively used to limit freedom of association and assembly, such as certain provisions in the law on political parties, the law on associations and non-governmental organizations and numbers, the internet and social media to make it easier for victims to seek emergency assistance.</td>
<td>Not yet implemented</td>
<td></td>
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**Affected persons:**
- media
- human rights defenders

**Source of position:**
A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2
| 110.102 | Strengthen democratic participation by guaranteeing the independence of the media and establishing a safe and enabling environment for civil society and trade unions, and by fostering the full participation of opposition parties in the next communal, senatorial and legislative elections (Canada); | Supported | D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote  
E33 Trade union rights  
Affected persons:  
- media | Not yet implemented. |
| 110.156 | Adopt a public health and human rights approach to the world drug problem, including the decriminalization of drug consumption and the provision of harm reduction services (Portugal); | Supported | A41 Constitutional and legislative framework  
E41 Right to health - General  
S03 SDG 3 - health  
Affected persons:  
- general | Not yet implemented. |
| **Theme: A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)** | | | | |
| 110.35 | Speed up the establishment of a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Algeria) (Costa Rica); Step up efforts to establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Chile); | Supported | A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)  
Affected persons:  
- general | Not yet implemented. |
| 110.36 | Establish an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Australia) (Mexico); | Supported | A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)  
Affected persons:  
- general | Not yet implemented. |
| **Theme: A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas)** | | | | |
| 110.48 | Step up efforts to fight discrimination against ethnic and racial minorities, and develop a national plan of action against racial discrimination (Togo); | Supported | A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas)  
B32 Racial discrimination  
Affected persons:  
- minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups | Not yet implemented. |
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<th>Description</th>
<th>Source of position</th>
<th>Implementation Status</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>110.198</td>
<td>Continue to promote the rights of persons with disabilities through the Government's national strategic plan (Brunei Darussalam).</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
<td>Partly implemented. Cambodia instituted a law on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (National Disability Law) and the National Disability Strategic Plan 2019-2023 (NDSP2).</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Theme: A61 Cooperation with civil society</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>110.24</td>
<td>Take the necessary measures to re-establish an environment respectful of the rights of the civil society, in particular by revising the law on associations and non-governmental organizations (France);</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
<td>Not yet implemented.</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Theme: B41 Right to development</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>110.61</td>
<td>Increase its efforts to fulfil the economic and social rights of the people, particularly through sustained economic growth and social inclusion (Islamic Republic of Iran);</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
<td>Not yet implemented.</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Theme: B51 Right to an effective remedy</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>110.23</td>
<td>Ensure that all pending lands disputes, evictions and relocations are settled in a fair, transparent, negotiated and adequately compensated manner (Austria);</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
<td>Not yet implemented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110.148</td>
<td>Protect the rights of peasants and other persons working in rural areas, including by ensuring that they are adequately compensated in cases of resettlement (Portugal);</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
<td>Not yet implemented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110.133</td>
<td>Ensure accountability for human rights violations</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
<td>Not yet implemented.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- **Supported**: The recommendation is supported by the source of position.
- **Not yet implemented**: The recommendation has not been implemented as of the date of the report.
### Theme: B6 Business & Human Rights

| 110.131 | Guarantee that the victims of the land grab are fairly heard and, where appropriate, receive fair compensation and non-discriminatory access to justice (Switzerland); | Supported | B6 Business & Human Rights  
B31 Equality & non-discrimination  
B51 Right to an effective remedy | Not yet implemented.  
Affected persons:  
- minorities/racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups  
- Indigenous peoples |  
Source of position:  
A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2 |  
--------- | --------- | --------- | --------- |  
110.130 | Step up efforts in land matters, including through the effective and transparent implementation of measures to tackle land evictions, and provide the victims of land grabbing, particularly indigenous people, with fair compensation (Italy); | Supported | B6 Business & Human Rights  
B51 Right to an effective remedy  
G3 Indigenous peoples | Not yet implemented.  
Affected persons:  
- minorities/racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups  
- Indigenous peoples |  
Source of position:  
A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2 |

### Theme: D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment

| 110.107 | Take the measures necessary to ensure that the right to freedom of assembly and association is not hindered by arbitrary restrictions and/or excessive use of force (Lithuania); | Supported | D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment  
D44 Right to peaceful assembly  
D45 Freedom of association | Not yet implemented.  
Affected persons:  
- media  
- persons deprived of their liberty  
- human rights defenders |  
Source of position:  
A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2 |

### Theme: D26 Conditions of detention

| 110.126 | Take all necessary steps towards a substantive reduction in the time spent by persons in pretrial detention (Austria); | Supported | D26 Conditions of detention  
D51 Administration of justice & fair trial | Not yet implemented.  
Affected persons:  
- persons deprived of their liberty |  
Source of position:  
A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2 |

### Theme: D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking

| 110.75 | Improve and expand identification and protection procedures for victims of human trafficking, forced labour and bonded labour, and ensure | Supported | D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking | Partly implemented.  
Cambodian authorities publicly announced the government's commitment to continue to increase its efforts to combat trafficking activity through |  
Source of position:  
A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2 |
adequate access to support services and sheltered accommodation (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

**Source of position:**
A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2

... accepting complaints from victims and their relatives who have requested the assistance of the Cambodian authorities to intervene and save victims from human and sex trafficking and other crimes as well as provided hotline numbers, the internet and social media to make it easier for victims to seek emergency assistance. However, Amnesty International has also documented trafficking victims being treated like criminals and not provided with legal services or other support services or adequate shelter.

110.186 Reinforce judicial mechanisms to fight sexual and family violence and human trafficking, and carry out a programme for raising awareness and education on these issues (Togo);

**Source of position:**
A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2

**Theme: D33 Arbitrary arrest and detention**

**110.113 Protect journalists, human rights defenders, members of the political opposition and trade union workers from harassment, arbitrary arrest and physical attacks, and investigate and prosecute the perpetrators of such attacks (Slovenia);**

**Source of position:**
A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2

**Source of position:**
A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2

**Theme: D43 Freedom of opinion and expression**

**110.99 Take all measures necessary to ensure a safe environment to guarantee the full enjoyment of freedom of expression of journalists and of the general population, and investigate and sanction all forms of violence against them (Argentina);**

**Source of position:**
A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2

**Affected persons:**
- general
- media

**Affected persons:**
- general
- media

**Affected persons:**
- media
- persons deprived of their liberty
- human rights defenders

**Affected persons:**
- judges, lawyers and prosecutors

**Not yet implemented.**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paragraph</th>
<th>Supported</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Source of position</th>
<th>Affected persons</th>
<th>Not yet implemented</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>110.98</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
<td>Media, Human rights defenders</td>
<td>Not yet implemented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110.85</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
<td>Media, Human rights defenders</td>
<td>Not yet implemented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110.93</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
<td>Human rights defenders</td>
<td>Not yet implemented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110.106</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
<td>Human rights defenders</td>
<td>Not yet implemented</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Theme: D45 Freedom of association**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paragraph</th>
<th>Supported</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Source of position</th>
<th>Affected persons</th>
<th>Not yet implemented</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>110.151</td>
<td>Supported</td>
<td>D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</td>
<td>A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2</td>
<td>Media, Human rights defenders</td>
<td>Not yet implemented</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Source of position: | A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2 | Supported | D45 Freedom of association  
D1 Human rights defenders  
E32 Right to just and favourable conditions of work  
Affected persons:  
- human rights defenders | Not yet implemented |
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<tr>
<td>110.152 As previously committed to by the Government following the State's second review, simplify and reform registration procedures for unions and other civil society organizations (United States of America);</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Theme:</strong> D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote</td>
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</table>
| 110.91 Create conditions conducive to free political debate and competition with a view to rebuilding a democracy in which the media and civil society, including human rights defenders, can freely carry out their work without interference or hindrance, as recommended by Ireland during the previous cycle, and in particular to ensure that their work is not hindered by restrictions on freedom of assembly and expression, either online or offline (Ireland); | Supported | D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote  
D43 Freedom of opinion and expression  
D44 Right to peaceful assembly  
H1 Human rights defenders  
Affected persons:  
- general  
- media  
- human rights defenders | | Not yet implemented |
| 110.80 Take the necessary measures to allow members of the opposition to participate in Cambodian political life (France); | Supported | D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote  
S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions  
Affected persons:  
- persons deprived of their liberty | | Not yet implemented |
| **Theme:** E26 Human Rights & drinking water and sanitation | | | | |
| 110.150 Continue positive initiatives to facilitate the supply of clean water to poor citizens (Plurinational State of Bolivia); | Supported | E26 Human Rights & drinking water and sanitation  
S06 SDG 6 - water and sanitation  
Affected persons:  
- vulnerable persons/groups | | Partly implemented |
| **Theme:** F12 Discrimination against women | | | | |

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110.49 Strengthen the land policy approved in 2015, which established that gender equality and equity between men and women should be ensured in the land registration process (Plurinational State of Bolivia);

**Source of position:** A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2

**Support**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme: G3 Indigenous peoples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **110.21** Take measures to simplify the allocation of community land concessions to indigenous peoples (Togo);
| **Source of position:** A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2 |

**Affected persons:**
- Indigenous peoples

**Not yet implemented.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme: G3 Indigenous peoples</th>
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</table>
| **110.22** Implement a coherent resettlement policy and simplified process for granting communal land titles, consulting communities, civil society and indigenous groups (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
| **Source of position:** A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2 |

**Affected persons:**
- Indigenous peoples

**Not yet implemented.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme: H1 Human rights defenders</th>
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</table>
| **110.115** Adopt the measures necessary to guarantee the rights of those who work to protect and promote human rights, in particular human rights defenders, and investigate and punish those responsible for threats and violence against them and their families (Argentina);
| **Source of position:** A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 2 |

**Affected persons:**
- Human rights defenders

**Not yet implemented.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme: A24 Cooperation with special procedures</th>
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</table>
| **110.11** Issue a standing invitation to United Nations special procedures, and cooperate constructively with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in
| **Noted** |

**Affected persons:**
- General

**Partly implemented (as previously mentioned).**
110.17 Strengthen cooperation with the special procedures, and issue and implement a standing invitation to all special procedures before the next cycle of the universal periodic review (Czechia);
**Source of position:** A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 3

**Noted**

- **Affected persons:** general

Partly implemented (as previously mentioned).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme: A41 Constitutional and legislative framework</th>
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</table>
| 110.30 Repeal the two sets of amendments to the law on political parties, passed in 2017, and review the law on associations and non-governmental organizations and the trade union law to ensure that all three laws are consistent with the State’s obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);
**Source of position:** A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 3

**Noted**

- **Affected persons:** general

Not yet implemented.

| 110.149 Adopt measures to prevent the unlawful eviction of Cambodians from their lands, and use mechanisms based on accountability and transparency to settle land disputes in an equitable and expeditious fashion, as urged by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 36/32, adopted by consensus (Canada);
**Source of position:** A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 3

**Noted**

- **Affected persons:** minorities/racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups
- Indigenous peoples
- vulnerable persons/groups

Not yet implemented.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>110.79 Amend laws and regulations, including the law on telecommunications and the interministerial prakas on publication controls of website and social media processing via the Internet, that effectively limit freedom of expression, and end all forms of interference in and</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Source of position:** A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 3

**Noted**

- **Affected persons:** media

Not yet implemented.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme: B6 Business &amp; Human Rights</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>110.32 Effectively establish a working group on land conflicts under the aegis of the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, with the participation of civil society and the European Union (France); Source of position: A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noted</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme: D43 Freedom of opinion and expression</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>110.117 Create an enabling environment for free and equal opinion expression in all private, public and online media (Germany); Source of position: A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noted</td>
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</table>

| 110.82 Bring the Criminal Code into line with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights by repealing or amending articles on insulting the king, defamation, insults, incitement, unlawful coercion of judicial authorities and the discrediting of judicial decisions (Germany); Source of position: A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 3 |
| Noted |

| 110.84 Repeal the provisions of the Criminal Code that can be used to restrict freedom of expression, assembly and association, and decriminalize offences such as defamation (Iceland); Source of position: A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 3 |
| Noted |

| 110.92 Reform the Criminal Code to ensure that freedom of expression, assembly and association are guaranteed, in addition to the protection of human rights defenders, and ensure the latter can go about their work without fear of intimidation (Spain); Source of position: A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 3 |
| Noted |

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| Noted |

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| Noted |

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| Noted |
| **Noted** | **D43 Freedom of opinion and expression**  
**D44 Right to peaceful assembly**  
**D45 Freedom of association**  
**AFFECTED PERSONS:**  
- media  
- persons deprived of their liberty  
- human rights defenders | **Theme: D51 Administration of justice & fair trial** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **110.121** Complete the process of judicial reform, safeguarding the independence and impartiality of the court system, court personnel and judges, in accordance with international standards (Norway);  
**SOURCE OF POSITION:** A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 3 | **D51 Administration of justice & fair trial**  
**AFFECTED PERSONS:**  
- judges, lawyers and prosecutors | **NOT YET IMPLEMENTED** |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Noted</strong></th>
<th><strong>D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **110.31** Revise or repeal recent legal acts potentially subject to restrictive or arbitrary interpretation, including the law on political parties and the election laws, the law on associations and non-governmental organizations and the interministerial proclamation of May 2018 on social media, in order to bring them into conformity with international human rights law and standards (Austria);  
**SOURCE OF POSITION:** A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 3 | **D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote**  
**AFFECTED PERSONS:**  
- media | **NOT YET IMPLEMENTED** |
110.111 Release immediately and unconditionally all remaining political prisoners and opponents, and drop all charges against them, including the full release of opposition leader Kem Sokha (New Zealand);

Source of position: A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 3

110.78 Immediately and unconditionally reinstate the rights of members of the political opposition and release all persons who have been arbitrarily detained, including Kem Sokha (United States of America);

Source of position: A/HRC/41/17/Add.1 - Para. 3


4. Amnesty International interviewed two foreign nationals who said they were trafficked into Cambodia to run online scams. The interviews took place in February 2023.

5. Ibid.


8. Amnesty International interviewed 20 persons who were working for NGOs or journalists within Cambodia that had direct knowledge of the immigration detention centres and the trafficking victims. These interviews occurred through 2022 and 2023.


12. Amnesty International interviewed 20 persons who were working for NGOs or other monitoring groups within Cambodia that had direct knowledge of the immigration detention centres and the trafficking victims. These interviews occurred through 2022 and 2023.
Amnesty International, Cambodia: ‘Our traditions are being destroyed’: Illegal logging, repression, and Indigenous peoples’ rights violations in Cambodia’s protected forests (ASA 23/5183/2022), January 28, 2022,

Amnesty International interview with Lin Boramey, September 2021; Amnesty International interview with Dy Vuthy, September 2021

UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Article 12.

Cambodia: ‘Our traditions are being destroyed’ (previously cited).


Prachathai, จับกุมชั่วจักรวาลแล้วเวียนเวียนผู้ที่ถูกเมีย 2 สิ่งศักดิ์สิทธิ์, 11 June 2020, prachathai.com/journal/2020/06/88083

UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and others, A Letter to the Cambodia government concerning the case of Mr. Wanchalerm Satsaksit, a Thai political opposition member who disappeared in Cambodia, 11 December 2020, UN Doc. AL KHM 7/2020.


Ministry of the Interior of Cambodia, Additional Information from the Ministry of Interior of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the joint communication of the Special Procedures No. AL KHM 7/2020 dated 11 December 2020, spcomreports.ohchr.org/TMResultsBase/DownloadFile?gId=36030


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Khmer Times, Cambodia committed to stop human trafficking, 14 March 2023, khmertimeskh.com/501254422/cambodia-committed-to-stop-human-trafficking/

Amnesty International, Cambodia: Halt ‘mass forced evictions’ at World Heritage site Angkor Wat (as previously cited).