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## **Cambodia: Amnesty International's reaction to the charging of Duch**

Like any prisoner, Duch must be protected from torture and ill-treatment and given a trial that meets international standards of fairness. The handling to date of the case against Ta Mok already raises serious questions about the credibility of the process.

Duch's case underlines the need for a comprehensive approach to the question of past abuses by the Khmer Rouge. Amnesty International agrees with the United Nation's (UN) group of experts that, in current circumstances, this can only be achieved through an international process.

As the international community contemplates future action for crimes against humanity in Kosovo, it is vitally important they get it right in Cambodia. Truth and justice from the Khmer Rouge period is important not only to Cambodia's people, but to the development of humanity as a whole.

This opportunity to deal properly and comprehensively with Cambodia's tragic past must not be lost. Cambodia's international partners should intervene with the authorities to ensure full implementation of the UN experts' recommendations.

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**For more information, or to arrange an interview, please call Amnesty International in London, UK, on 44 171 413 5566 or 44 468 670 247.**