



EUROPEAN UNION

DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION TO THE KINGDOM
OF CAMBODIA

Media Announcement

Phnom Penh, 12 January 2007: The Delegation of the European Commission to the Kingdom of Cambodia is organizing an **Information Session** on the 4th EIDHR Local Call for Proposals on **13 January 2007 at Sunway Hotel from 9:00am.**

The session is organized for all interested Cambodian NGOs wishing to submit new proposals under the *European Initiative for Human Rights and Democracy* (EIDHR) Micro-Projects Programme. A total amount of €480,000 (US\$624,000) has been made available for this Call for Proposals. **(Reporters/journalists are welcome to participate).**

"The EIDHR micro projects programme was designed to maximise the effectiveness and impact of EIDHR-sponsored operations through a more concentrated and better targeted approach to prioritizing human rights and democratisation issues in many parts of the world, including Cambodia. Over the last three years, 16 Cambodian NGO micro-projects have been selected under this Programme to receive a total grant assistance of €1,346,595 (equivalent to over 1.7 Million USD). This is a remarkable success for Cambodian NGOs and it proves from year to year that Cambodian NGOs are increasingly familiar with the EC rules and procedures and that they are making good proposals," said Mr. Winston Mc Colgan, Chargé d' Affaires a.i. of the EC Delegation to Cambodia.

"As the EC rules and procedures are continually updated, and to avoid any failure to comply with the current rules and procedures, the EC Delegation is organising an Information Session to ensure that all interested participants will have clear information regarding the procedural requirements." added Mr. Mc Colgan.

The EC Delegation to the Kingdom of Cambodia has launched Calls for Proposals under the EIDHR micro project programme since 2004. Since then, the Delegation has selected 16 local projects for funding in order to reduce instances of violence, to have respect for individual rights and rights of others as well as promoting the ideal of democratic rule in Cambodia. This call for proposals is the fourth one directly managed by the EC Delegation to Cambodia.

The European Union is founded on the principles of liberty, democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law. Recognising the vital contribution made by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to the promotion and protection of these principles, the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) was created by an initiative of the European Parliament in 1994, bringing together a series of budget lines specifically dealing with the promotion of human rights.

Further information:

Leang Hour KIET at 023 22 06 11 or E-mail: Leanghour.KIET@ec.europa.eu