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SAM RAINSY PARTY  
PARTI SAM RAINSY  
សមរង្ស៊ី សមរង្ស៊ី យុត្តិធម៌

Phnom Penh, March 16, 1999

## SAM RAINSY SENDS NAMES OF SENATORS TO CHEA SIM

Cambodian Opposition leader Sam Rainsy today sent a letter to Senate appointed President Chea Sim, saying notably:

"Responding to your March 12 letter and respecting the very high advice that His Majesty the King bestowed on me in the March 14 Royal letter, I give you "the list of seven candidates from the Sam Rainsy Party to be appointed members of the Senate for the first term [of this to-be-created institution]" as you requested. The list is made up of the following names:

- 1- Mr. Kong Korm [a former Minister of foreign affairs in the 80's, under the communist regime]
- 2- Mr. Meng Rita [a medical doctor trained in the former Soviet Union]
- 3- Mr. Ouk Moeurn [a retired French-language high school teacher]
- 4- Mr. Thach Setha [a journalist and a former literature professor]
- 5- Mr. Ou Bun Long [a religious and human rights NGO founder, also a US citizen from Seattle]
- 6- Mr. Hut Try [a retired citizen from Pailin]
- 7- Mr. Chao Phally [a former CPP army general from the Northeast where many ethnic minorities live].

I wish to remind you that on the basis of article 122 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia, a group of parliamentarians from the Sam Rainsy Party have asked the Constitutional Council to examine the constitutionality of a series of amendments to the Constitution adopted by the National Assembly on March 4, 1999 and related to the formation of the Senate. As long as the Constitutional Council has not responded to the parliamentarians, I am in the opinion that the Senate can not yet function properly on a sound legal basis, meaning that any decision by the Senate can be considered as null and void and the Senate itself can be dissolved anytime."

*[Full text of the original letter in Khmer available upon request]*