



# គណបក្ស សម រង្ស៊ី

**SAM RAINSY PARTY  
PARTI SAM RAINSY  
សីលធម៌ សម្បជធម៌ យុត្តិធម៌**

Phnom Penh, May 19, 1999

## SAM RAINSY PARTY MEETS GERMAN DELEGATIONS

Tuesday, May 18, 1999, Parliamentarians and Senators from the Sam Rainsy Party met with German delegations representing the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation as well as the German-ASEAN Parliamentary Group at the National Assembly. The German delegationS included the following MPs: Dr. Dietmar Kansy (CDU), Dr. Paul Kruger (CDU), Mr. Holger Ortel (SPD), Mr. Johannes Pflug (SPD), Mrs. Petra Ernstberger (SPD), and Mr. Hildebrecht Braun (FDP). Sam Rainsy and representatives from his party also met with the delegation on Wednesday, May 19 at Hotel Le Royal to continue discussions.

The SRP commended the delegation for its government's continued involvement in Cambodian affairs since its signing of the 1991 Paris Peace Accords. The German delegation expressed interest in knowing about Cambodia's gradual move toward democracy, the impending trial of Khmer Rouge criminals, the Cambodian people's access to media (newspapers, radio, and television), and the activities of a secret security and intelligence system operating in the country. It also asked Sam Rainsy to provide a personal appraisal of the situation in Cambodia over the last two to three years.

SRP members expressed their ongoing concerns about the persistent atmosphere of fear and intimidation, the lack of a ballot re-count from the elections of July 1998, the obstacles in acting as Cambodia's legitimate opposition in the Parliament, the upcoming commune elections, and the impunity of those responsible for politically-motivated killings and intimidation. Sam Rainsy also re-iterated his commitment to peace and justice throughout the country. He explained that the SRP is the first parliamentary opposition in the country to operate through legal, peaceful, and democratic means. He also called upon Germany and the international community to help strengthen democracy and the rule of law in Cambodia.

Continued killings and intimidation, perpetrated by local authorities, has hampered the functioning of the legitimate opposition in the country. The SRP members reminded the German delegation of the most recent human rights violation: two months ago, an SRP activist was slain in Kandal province. No individuals have been prosecuted for this crime as well as 130 other documented deaths since 1997. This impunity fosters a climate of fear and discourages Cambodian people from voicing their concerns. The SRP has been actively involved in supporting the struggle of farmers whose land has been seized as well as the endeavors of the Free Trade Union of the Workers of the Kingdom of Cambodia to secure gains for workers in Phnom Penh. In addressing the German delegation's questions about the trial of Khmer Rouge leaders, Sam Rainsy asserted the need for a tribunal that meets the standards of international law. He stated that this is not only important for reconciliation with in regard to the issue of the Khmer Rouge but also to help instill the rule of law and the concept of an independent judiciary in Cambodia's future.

ទីស្នាក់ការកណ្តាល : ផ្ទះលេខ ៧១ មហាវិថី សម្តេចសុភារស សង្កាត់ទន្លេចាស់ ខណ្ឌចំការមន រាជធានីភ្នំពេញ (ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា)

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