

## ព្រះរាប់ារណៈចក្រកម្ពុ ប៉ា ប៉ាតិ សាសលា ព្រះមហាក្សត្រ

Kingdom of Cambodia Nation Religion King Royaume du Cambodge Nation Religion Roi

## REMARKS BY HIS EXCELLENCY TONY KRANH, ACTING DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION OF THE ECCC AT SIGNING CEREMONY FOR GTZ-ECCC AGREEMENTS GERMAN FUNDING FOR VICTIMS IMPROVED PARTICIPATION IN THE ECCC

## Wednesday, 16 June 2010

Your Excellency, Mr Frank Mann, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Kingdom of Cambodia

Mr Heinrich-Jürgen Schilling, Country Director, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), German Technical Cooperation

Together with my counterpart, Mr Knut Rosandhaug, I am delighted to welcome you this afternoon to the ECCC for the signing ceremony for the Transitional Proposal for support to the Victims Improved Participation in the ECCC from January to June 2010.

We wish to recognise the special attention given by Germany to this historic undertaking, with generous support of over 7 million Euro provided to both the international and national sides of the ECCC budget, with additional technical support to the court and through support of various outreach programs conducted by NGOs.

We particularly appreciate Germany's focus on assisting us to ensure maximum victims participation, as justice for the victims is of course the principal objective for establishing the ECCC. Through your support since 2008, through GTZ, the ECCC has been able to play its proper role in communicating with victims throughout the country and overseas, providing them with information about the proceedings, and facilitating their participation.

During 2009 the Victims Unit (now the Victims Support Section) came into its own, building strong processing and outreach teams and participating actively in the deliberations regarding modifications in legal representation for Civil Parties by the Rules and Procedure Committee and the Plenary Session.

At the moment of greatest demand for its work, at the beginning of 2010 as the deadline for Civil Party applications in Case 002 was fast approaching, the Victims Support Section faced a severe financial crisis, as the German support for 2009 had ended, and the new German government was not yet in a position to decide on our application for further funding for the 2010-2011 budget cycle.

Excellency, it was you who proposed that we submit this transitional proposal, and we thank you for this initiative, which has today come to fruition (and not a moment too soon!). We also appreciate the invitation from the German Foreign Office to submit through GTZ a new 18-month proposal to the end of 2011, and we are now finalising this document.

Victims participation is one of the areas in which the ECCC is breaking new ground and setting new standards for courts with international support and involvement. I shall now ask the Chief of the VSS, Dr Helen Jarvis, to outline what has been achieved with your support.