



AMBASSADE DE FRANCE AU CAMBODGE

AMBASSADE DU JAPON AU CAMBODGE

**Statement from the Co-Chairs of the Friends of the ECCC
on the Agreement to establish an Independent Counsellor**

On behalf of the representatives of donor countries in Phnom Penh, the co-chairs issued the following statement:

The donors recall the Joint Statement of the Royal Government of Cambodia and the United Nations of 23 February 2009 which agreed that a structure should be established to strengthen human resources management in the entire ECCC administration, including anti-corruption measures, and that this mechanism should ensure the requirements of due process of law, including full protection of staff on both sides of the ECCC against any possible retaliation for good faith reporting of wrongdoing.

The donors welcome the agreement between the Royal Government of Cambodia and the United Nations to create the post of Independent Counsellor at the ECCC. They believe this development can provide the credible and effective mechanism needed to further strengthen the administration of the Courts and that it meets the terms of the 23 February Joint Statement.

The donors also welcome the appointment, by mutual agreement of the Royal Government of Cambodia and the United Nations, of the Auditor General of Cambodia as the Independent Counsellor at the ECCC after a joint and careful review with which donors were closely associated.

Moreover, they trust this consensus will help sustain continued momentum in the work of the ECCC, and continue to stand ready to assist the ECCC in reaching its important goal.

Phnom Penh, 12 August 2009

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