

At its 51st session, the Commission on Human Rights has requested the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cambodia to report on the situation of human rights in the country at its next session, and has requested also that the Secretary-General report on the role of the Centre for Human Rights in assisting Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights.

### CANADIAN POSITION

Canada has been supportive of the new government, though our Ambassador in discussions with officials has expressed concern over trend lines in the last year suggesting the commitment of the government to protect and defend human rights is becoming more tenuous. Attempts by the government of Cambodia to close the UN Human Rights Office, the intimidation of respected opposition figures such as Sam Rainsy, the passage of a press law limiting freedom of expression and documented cases of abuses by members of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces are a source of growing concern. These concerns were expressed discreetly but publicly during the most recent donor's meeting on Cambodia in March 1995.

Canada continues to be deeply concerned about egregious human rights abuses in areas under Khmer Rouge control, and the situation in certain rural areas where governmental authority is weaker.