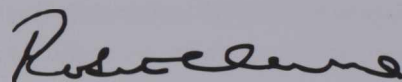


FOREWORD

standards and looking at the conflict of rights, particularly in South East Asian countries. While treaty law may be recognized as part of domestic law in Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia, Philippines and Viet Nam, there is no clear guidance in the Constitutions of these countries as to what will prevail if domestic law is in conflict with international treaty law. Nor is it clear whether treaty law is self-executing. As this paper identifies the gaps and its evidence in the legal framework, it is with our deepest hope that it will provide further guidance and aid to ensure the applicability of the substantive equality standards of the Convention to promote and protect women's right to equality, and more importantly, to ensure that the rule of law protects the human rights and inherent dignity of all human beings.



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