

The **Women's Media Centre** is preparing a set of voter education video programs. It has worked with COMFREL and COFFEL in writing scripts for and producing them (five of fifteen are already completed). It will seek to have the programs aired on the most popular TV and radio stations. It has been quietly approached about the possibility of running a successor to the highly-thought of Radio UNTAC, but is dubious about whether this would work.

The ngos have elected **Chea Cham Reun** as their representative on the NEC. However, Reun, head of the Khmer Youth Development Organization, was immediately criticized by many ngos as the representative of a CPP organization, amid allegations that he had purchased ngo votes (he claimed that he had merely been "lobbying").

c) Multilateral Bodies

The major tasks for the multilateral agencies will be to provide and coordinate technical and, to a lesser degree, financial assistance, especially to the NEC, and to provide and coordinate international monitoring, both short-term (around election day) and long-term (during the voter registration and other preparations).

The UN, acting on a request from the Cambodian government made in August last year, will assume the role of coordinator of international assistance, including international monitors. The UN's **Election Unit** will coordinate monitoring: it hopes to begin fielding long-term observers for the registration process to begin in April.

UNDP, whose representative in Cambodia is Paul Matthews, will continue to chair donor/ngo meetings and liaise with the government. It will channel financial and technical support through an election trust fund. The fund will allow bilateral donors to provide general support to the elections or to earmark sums, with UNDP assuming the administrative duties. UNDP itself will provide \$500,000 for coordination costs and contingencies. It will also provide vehicles that will first be used in the UNDP-supported national census in March. With Australian assistance, it has brought back from New York the computers used in UNTAC for voter registration. It may also provide approximately \$150,000 for civic education.

UNDP expects that an agreement will be reached with UN Volunteers (UNV) to provide around 250 people, mainly for long-term monitoring (in 1993, there were 700 UNV in Cambodia, of whom 500 supported UNTAC. They were key to explaining to Cambodians the why, how, and where to vote that helped to result in a 97% registration and a 90% voter turnout on election day).

Other UN agencies will also play a role. The **SRS**G has been a channel of communication between the Cambodian government, the Secretary-General in New York donor countries (the Friends of Cambodia) and ASEAN's troika. He has been attempting to facilitate the return of the political leaders who fled during the factional fighting in July, including by arranging for 4 monitors available to the returnees should they feel the need for their presence (the monitors are a