

were trained for the last election and they could have further instruction and training to build on this capacity. If training for journalists is not possible before the election, Canada should play a role in ensuring that NGOs' voter education videos are broadcast on radio and television.

Impunity Canada needs to recognize the real problems of impunity and put pressure on the Cambodian government to resolve this issue immediately.

Multilateral Leverage Canada should continue to support the Japanese Four Pillars Initiative and work through the Friends of Cambodia of which Canada is a member. Wherever possible, Canada should be tough on Hun Sen and pressure him for free and fair elections this July.

3.2 Post Elections Recommendations: Canada's Role in the Long-Term

The election should not be the bench mark for determining what if any assistance should be provided to Cambodia. A clear message for the Canadian government is "don't use the upcoming election as a decision point for disengaging and pulling out of Cambodia". Use the election as an opportunity to change strategies of engagement as appropriate. Work to integrate Cambodia into the region and integrate civil society and the state into a larger, longer-term developmental process.

3.2a Regional Stability

Canada should assist Cambodia's integration into ASEAN, the regional body of South East Asia, and out of its current isolation. Canada should continue to use multi-lateral approaches to pressure a new government, likely under the leadership of Hun Sen, to work towards democratic development.

3.2b Development Assistance

There is a need for a review of Canada's aid program to Cambodia once the nature of the post-election government becomes clearer. The current emphasis on humanitarian aid needs to be expanded to include bilateral initiatives to help support the evolution of democratic practices. Canada will need to assess whether the conditions are present for sustainable development (capacity building) assistance. The issues of governance are paramount and the needs of the country are fundamentally long-term. There is a need for a long term, comprehensive strategy of assisting Cambodia including support for NGOs, education of the young, grassroots rural development and de-mining throughout the country.