

views; a large percentage also indicated that they wanted much more voter/civic education in the run-up to the election.

b) Bilateral Donors and International Ngos

The US has been the major supporter of free media programs, primarily through TAF. TAF had assisted the KJA until it became highly politicized this year. It has also supported training of journalists directly and has helped the Royal University of Phnom Penh to develop and offer journalism courses (the ultimate goal being the establishment of a journalism school there). TAF has doubts about donor support in this area and is now conducting a review of its program. It expects that this will lead to less TAF involvement and more direct links between US university journalism faculties and Cambodian journalists. TAF suggested that assistance to journalists/editors/publishers in the management of their newspapers could be useful: this might be a route to more financially viable operations that could pay their employees properly, reducing the incentives for corruption.

American Assistance for Cambodia supports the Cambodia Daily as does **Japan Relief for Cambodia**.

d) Canadian Role

In 1994, CIDA/Partnership Branch and the Canadian Centre for the Protection of Journalists organized a workshop in Cambodia, bringing together a large number of Cambodian journalists on a variety of issues.

In 1996, the CIDA Governance Fund provided assistance for cooperation between the Canadian Department of Justice and Cambodian Ministry of Commerce in drafting intellectual property legislation.

In 1997, Radio Canada and CIDA/Communication Branch sponsored four Cambodian journalists' participation in Montreal at a *seminaire de perfectionnement*, including KJA co-president Tath Ly Hok.

Shauna Sylvester, Executive Director of the Vancouver-based Institute for Media, Policy and Civil Society suggested in November that Canada should support a model project on training of journalists for election coverage, possibly in Cambodia.

E. Conflict Resolution

1. Issues

Despite having a largely homogenous population (more than 90% ethnic Khmer and Buddhist), Cambodia remains a victim of intense divisions. These are partly historic, the legacy of centuries-old factionalism between groups with Thai or Vietnamese support, onto which is