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(NGOCRC)**



SUPPORTED BY



Save the Children

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ALTERNATIVE REPORT

ON

**THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (UNCRC)
OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ON THE INVOLVEMENT OF
CHILDREN IN ARMED CONFLICTS (OPAC)
IN THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**

2002 - 2012

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FORWARD

The Executive Committee, NGO members, Management Team, staff, and volunteers of the NGOCRC are very pleased to submit this Alternative Report on the Implementation of the UNCRC's OPAC in the Kingdom of Cambodia from 2002 – 2012 to the United Nations Committee on Convention on the Rights of the Child (hereinafter the Committee on CRC).

This report is structured in three major parts, Chapter I, *Introduction*; Chapter II, *Substantive Analysis*; and Chapter III, *Conclusions and Recommendations* per instructions from “*Reporting on the OPSC and OPAC, A Guide for Non-governmental Organizations*” produced in 2010 by the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Chapter I provides an overview of the country in relation to the UNCRC, specifically OPAC. Chapter II describes the General Measures, Prevention, Protection of the Rights of Victims and International Assistance and Cooperation in the implementation of the UNCRC and OPAC by the RGC, UN agencies, international and national NGOs, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), community officials and residents especially parents and children. Chapter III outlines the areas of strength and areas for improvement of the program and recommendations.

“*Maximum stakeholders’ participation*” was the guiding philosophy in the preparation of this report. With support from Plan International and Save the Children in Cambodia, in August 2012, NGOCRC prepared the Alternative Reports on OPAC and OPSC. Since then, a series of data gathering and consultation activities concentrating on child issues relevant to the two optional protocols were conducted in Phnom Penh and in the provinces such as Siem Reap, Preah Sihanouk, Banteay Meanchey, Preah Vihear, and Svay Rieng. Focus Groups Discussion (FGDs) and Key informant Interviews (KIIs) were conducted to gather the views and opinions of children, parents, community officials, Government Organizations (GOs), and NGOs/CSOs. Perspectives of high-level officials of the relevant government ministries were elicited through interviews. Data from all these activities including those from various documents reviewed were summarized, analyzed, and factored into the preparation of this report. Among the final steps in preparing this report was the conduct of a consultation-workshop to validate the information gathered. Child leaders, NGO members of the NGOCRC, representatives of UN Agencies, and CSOs participated in the forum.

With the help of this report, NGOCRC envisions a strengthened convergence of stakeholders that will bring about a more effective and efficient implementation of the UNCRC, specifically OPAC, in the Kingdom of Cambodia.

For the NGO Coalition on the Rights of the Child in Cambodia.

Yim Sokhary
Chairperson
NGO Coalition on the Rights of the Child

ACRONYMS

Acronym	Meaning
Cambodia Acts	Cambodia Against Child Trafficking
CDAP	Council for Demobilization of Armed Forces
CHRC	Cambodian Human Rights Committee
CMAC	Cambodian Mine Action Center
CMAA	Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority
CMVIS	Cambodia Mine/ERW Victim Information System
CNCC	Cambodia National Council for Children
COSECAM	NGO Coalition to Address Child Exploitation in Cambodia
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CVAP	Cambodian Veterans Assistance Program
CCWC	Commune Committee for Women and Children
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
DSR	Defense Strategic Review
DWP	Defense White Paper
ECPAT-Cambodia	End Child Prostitution, Abuse and Trafficking in Cambodia
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GO	Government Organization
KII	Key Informant Interview
LICADHO	Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights
MoEYS	Ministry of Education Youth and Sports
MoH	Ministry of Health
Mol	Ministry of Interior
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MoLVT	Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
MoND	Ministry of National Defense
MoP	Ministry of Planning
MoSVY	Ministry of Social Affairs, Veteran and Youth Rehabilitation
MoT	Ministry of Tourism
MoWA	Ministry of Women Affairs
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NGOCRC	Non-Governmental Organization Coalition on the Rights of the Child
OPAC	Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict
OPSC	Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography
RCAF	Royal Cambodian Armed Forces
RGC	Royal Government of Cambodia
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNIAP	United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Kingdom of Cambodia has been a member of the United Nations since December 14, 1955. It acceded to the UNCRC on October 15, 1992 and incorporated it in the 1993 Cambodian Constitution. On July 16, 2004, Cambodia ratified the OPAC. Having ratified the OPAC, the RGC, through the Cambodia National Council for Children (CNCC), prepared and submitted to the Committee on CRC the 1st and 2nd National Report on the Implementation of the OPAC covering the time period of 2002 to 2010.

This Alternative Report was prepared by an alliance of 50 national and international child rights NGOs in the Kingdom of Cambodia called the NGOCRC for submission to the Committee in consideration of the OPAC report of the RGC.

According to the 2008 census, the child population was more than one-third of the total Cambodian population. The mechanisms for the implementation of child protection in the country have been instituted in the national and sub-national operational levels through the national, capital and provincial offices of the CNCC. The CNCC is the formation of inter-ministerial on November 20, 1995 pursuant to Article 44 of the UNCRC. Its responsibilities include among others, overseeing, coordinating and monitoring the implementation of government and non-government programs geared towards the well-being of Cambodian children.

The OPAC implementation, in particular, falls under the responsibility of the Ministry of National Defense (MoND). It works in close coordination with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS), the Ministry of Interior (Mol) and the CNCC as well as with UN agencies, international and local NGOs that actively take part in programs and projects in fulfilment of the child rights in the country.

The laws prohibited the recruitment into direct and active involvement in armed conflict of children who are below 18 years old are explicit and clear. In the light of these laws, the RGC reports that “there has been no child recruited to voluntarily serve the national armed forces” since the Cambodian National Election in 1993. However, there is documented information that children were recruited by the Democratic Kampuchea (DK) in the ‘70s; by the Cambodian military and by armed groups in the ‘80s and ‘90s. There have been many reports confirming the existence of child soldiers in the Cambodian military forces long after the 1993 elections.

Cambodia has a history, even a policy, of forcibly drafting child soldiers during the DK occupation of the country and the civil war. During this regime, the children were separated from their parents or families, educated in DK propaganda schools and forced to join the armed forces. After the collapse of the DK regime, many children were forced to join the military. Even in the early and mid 1990s which were still years of struggle for most Cambodians, violation of child rights, especially illegality of recruiting volunteer starving children into the military was not reported and addressed. Leaders were still in the thick of war talks, this time rooted in the power struggles of the big political leaders of the emerging government.

In 2004, Cambodian Legislature passed a law establishing a court to investigate crimes committed during the period of the Khmer Rouge regime. The crimes committed by the DK leaders who used children in the war are being tried by the Extra-ordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC). However, it does not specifically apply to the recruitment of child soldiers.

Even the 1999 World Bank-funded demobilization program that targeted to assist 31,500 sick, disabled and old soldiers did not give special attention to soldiers who were under 18 when recruited. Yet, there must have been a significant number of them among the targeted groups because many of those who were recruited during the war remained with the military after the war.

Cases of child victims of mine and ERW also need to be looked into. While the OPAC does not cover these victims, the NGO community in Cambodia thinks that these cases are highly relevant to OPAC. The Cambodia Mine/ERW Victim Information System (CMVIS) of the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority (CMAA) Report indicated that a total of 64,160 casualties was recorded from 1979 to September 2012. Of this number 11.57% were children. Added to these figures were the so many children of the 56,871 adult casualties. Majority of these children were left fatherless, motherless or with just one caregiver or with a disabled father or mother. This is the number of children experiencing major physical, social, financial, and psychological difficulties that hinder the full development of their potentials as members of their respective families and communities.

Assistance to victims of mines and ERW as a lumped group are provided by Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY) and its provincial or district offices, with support from United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The program is under the overall direction of the Disability Action Council (DAC). International and local NGOs such as Handicap International, Meta Karona and Cambodian Red Cross also provide assistance directly to the victims and or their families.

There has been very limited information dissemination and training on the OPAC. Data gathered by the evaluation team indicated that the rights holders and duty bearers were familiar with the UNCRC, specifically the 4 categories of child rights, but not with OPAC. Plans are underway for CNCC with support from United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to develop a training manual and pocket guide on UNCRC for government's front-line workers. There is urgent need for the two optional protocols (OPAC and OPSC) to be included in the training contents.

The implementation of the UNCRC and OPAC in the Kingdom of Cambodia is supported by various international organizations. UN agencies and other development partners channel their assistance through the relevant ministries and institutions of the government. International NGOs and humanitarian organizations like Plan International, Save the Children, ChildFund, EveryChild, Handicap International and others run programs and projects responding to the priority issues and concerns of the children in relation to the UNCRC and the OPAC. Inherent in their assistance is the capacity building of the rights holders and duty bearers on the UNCRC which hopefully will extend to the OPAC. National NGOs like the Cambodian Red Cross are at the forefront in conflict affected areas to help facilitate evacuation of civilians and provision of basic necessities. The over 50 NGO members of the NGOCRC with funding from local and international donors provide services and assistance to children in strategic locations in the country.

Areas of strength and improvement as well as recommendations in the implementation of the OPAC in the Kingdom of Cambodia were identified in this report. Among the recommendations are the following:

- Children have to be represented in the CNCC.
- Develop mechanisms of the OPAC dissemination among national government officials and staff of NGOs/CSOs.

- Institute a monitoring mechanism for the implementation of the OPAC in all levels of military operations including private security agencies and include indicators of the OPAC implementation in the monitoring and evaluation of the performance of military personnel
- Ensure that military recruitment procedures strictly prevent recruitment of minors.
- Create laws that criminalize recruitment of children into the armed forces and institute penalties for the crime.
- Widen the target participants of training on OPAC to include government soldiers and officers, security company personnel, government community, and NGO officials, parents and children.
- Amend existing legal provisions in the existing national laws on the protection of children to include special rights and services for children with disabilities caused by armed conflict.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Kingdom of Cambodia has been a member of the UN since December 14, 1955. It is signatory to major international instruments such as the UNCRC. The Kingdom of Cambodia acceded to the UNCRC on October 15, 1992 and incorporated it in the 1993 Cambodian Constitution.
2. Since then, the government has instituted structural mechanisms for the protection of children¹ and created laws and regulations that aim to ensure that the best interest of the child is upheld and protected.
3. On July 16, 2004, Cambodia ratified the OPAC to protect children below the age of 18 years from involvement in armed conflicts and from forcible recruitment by a State or by other armed groups.
4. Having ratified the OPAC, the RGC, through the CNCC, later prepared and submitted to the Committee on CRC the 1st and 2nd National Report on the Implementation of the OPAC.
5. It is a long known fact that Cambodia has a history—even a policy--of forcibly drafting child soldiers during the DK occupation of the country and the civil war. During this regime, the children were separated from their parents/families, educated in DK propaganda schools and forced to join the armed forces.
6. The country was nearly depleted of the educated and skilled human resources and most of those who were left to pick up the pieces of their lives were either too old, without appropriate knowledge and skills and/or badly traumatized. After the collapse of the DK regime, many children were forced to join the military. The Royal Government, however, reports that there is no further military recruitment of children under 18 since the time the country ratified the UNCRC.
7. The Kingdom of Cambodia, despite being a nation of peace loving people, has a long history of armed conflicts, the latest of which was with Thailand which started in July 2008. The conflict emanated from the century-long dispute involving the area surrounding the 11th-century Preah Vihear Temple. Villagers from the affected areas had to be readily evacuated and some including children had to be rushed to the hospital due to the effects of inhaling poisonous fumes.
8. This Alternative Report is submitted to the Committee in consideration of the OPAC report of the RGC. It was prepared by an alliance of 50 national and international child rights NGOs in the Kingdom of Cambodia called the NGO Coalition on the Rights of the Child (NGOCRC). The process for preparing this report included review of relevant domestic laws and regulations, policies and standards, guidelines and national strategies and plans of actions. Consultations with rights holders and duty bearers (primary and secondary) through focus group discussions and interviews were conducted in 6 representative provinces out of the 24 provinces of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

¹ 1st and 2nd National Report on the Implementation of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict 2002-2010. CNCC, Cambodia.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. General Measures of the Implementation of the CRC and the Optional Protocol

9. The overall-all population of Cambodia, according to the 2008 census was 13.4 million, 41% of whom were children below 18 years of age.² The child population was more than one-third of the total population. It is for the best interest of this one-third that the Kingdom of Cambodia pledges full commitment to the implementation of the CRC and its Optional Protocols. The mechanisms for the implementation of child protection are being instituted from the national to the sub-national level, such as in the national, capital/ provincial CNCCs, the formation of ministerial and inter-ministerial working groups on child protection, and at the sub-national level in districts, villages, communes and *sangkats* through the CCWC.
10. The CNCC was created on November 20, 1995 pursuant to Article 44 of the UNCRC. In 2009, the composition and structures of the CNCC were reformed to establish CNCCs at the capital/provincial level, and to set up working groups to focus on child rights within each ministry and institution³. It provides strategic inputs to the RGC on the survival, development, protection and participation of children in programs and consultation activities on issues that affect their general welfare. CNCC's responsibilities include among others, overseeing, coordinating and monitoring the implementation of government and non-government programs geared towards the well-being of Cambodian children. It has four Sub-Commissions covering priority concerns on child protection and development namely: Child Labor and Other Forms of Child Exploitation, Child Sexual Exploitation, Early Childhood Development, and Law Review.
11. CCWCs are formed in the community level to provide advice and implement the policy of the government related to women and children. Specific responsibilities include among others the raising of awareness by community residents on laws and other policies related to women and children's rights, the mobilization of the respective communities on health, education, protection and child development including registration of newborn babies and children; and the collection and analysis of data related to issues and needs of women and children for integration in the Commune/*Sangkat* Development Plan and the Commune/*Sangkat* Investment Programme.
12. Working Groups or Committees that are inter-sector in nature are organized to meet, deliberate and submit recommendations on child issues to the CNCC or to the appropriate Ministries. Depending on the issues at hand, relevant government ministries, select national and international NGOs, including relevant UN agencies are invited to participate in relevant Working Groups/Committees as deemed necessary. Examples are Working Group to prepare the Report on the Implementation of the Optional Protocols of the UNCRC, Child Safe Tourism Committee, National Committee to lead the Suppression of Human Trafficking, Smuggling, Labor and Sexual Exploitation of Women and Children, and others.

² Cambodia Country Programme Document 2011-2015, UNICEF

³ Cambodia National Council for Children website. [http:// http://www.cncc.gov.kh](http://www.cncc.gov.kh)

13. Government Ministries and institutions that are actively and directly involved in the implementation of the CRC are the MoSVY, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ); the Secretariat of the CNCC; the Ministry of Tourism (MoT); the Cambodian Human Rights Committee (CHRC); the MoND; the Mol; the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA); the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training (MoLVT); the Ministry of Planning (MoP); the MoEYS; the Ministry of Health (MoH); and the Council of Jurists (CoJ).⁴
14. The MoND is the government ministry that is mainly responsible for the implementation of the OPAC. It works in close coordination with the MoEYS, the Mol and the CNCC.
15. The UN agencies, international and local NGOs actively take part in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programs and projects in fulfillment of the child rights as enshrined in the UNCRC and its Optional Protocols.

B. Prevention

B.1 Legal Status of the Optional Protocol

On the basis of Decision No.092/003/2007 of the Constitutional Council of the Kingdom of Cambodia, declaring that "International laws, recognized by the Kingdom of Cambodia, especially the UNCRC, are considered as the law of Cambodia," the Optional Protocol officially became law of Cambodia on July 10, 2007, three years after Cambodia ratified it.⁵

B.2 Relevant International Conventions and Treaties Ratified

16. As indicated in the RGC's 1st and 2nd National Report on the Implementation of the OPAC, the State has ratified at least 67 international instruments relevant to the OPAC since 1970 with the latest in 2007. Among them are:
 - Convention No. 28 on Forced or Compulsory Labor (1970)
 - Convention on the Rights of the Child (1992)
 - Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1992)
 - International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1992)
 - ILO Convention No.182 on the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor (2006)
 - Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (2007)

B.3 Relevant National Laws Adopted and Promulgated

17. The Kingdom of Cambodia has passed a number of laws in support of the OPAC. Some of these laws have specific measures to protect children below the age of 18 years from involvement in armed conflict and from forcible

⁴ 1st and 2nd National Report on OPAC, Royal Government of Cambodia.

⁵ 1st and 2nd National Report on OPAC, Royal Government of Cambodia.

recruitment by a State or by other armed groups. These laws and their relevant provisions are:

- 1) Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia which was adopted by the Constitutional Assembly on the 21 September 1993 and promulgated by the King on 24 September 1993 states in Article 48 that “The State shall protect the rights of children as stipulated in the Convention on Children, in particular, the right to life, education, protection during wartime, and from economic or sexual exploitation. The State shall protect children from acts that are injurious to their educational opportunities, health and welfare.”
- 2) Law on the General Statutes for Military Personnel of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces adopted by the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia on 15 September 1997 during the 8th Session of the 1st Legislature.

Among the relevant provisions are: a) Article 17: “Military personnel should observe all orders with (self) responsibility. Any order which obviously contradicts the laws or international conventions shall be prohibited. In this case, both the person who gave order and who execute such order shall be personally responsible respectively before the law.” b) Article 28: “May be appointed as regular military service personnel only for any person who has Khmer nationality, has certification of the past criminal records stating that never been convicted before, and has sufficient ability as required for the performance of functions.” c) Article 42: “May be recruited in service in terms of contractual service are those who have Khmer nationality except in wartime, have turned fully 18 years old, and have sufficient ability to fulfil functions as required.”

- 3) The Law on Compulsory Military Service was approved by the National Assembly on 25 October 2006 and promulgated (Preah Reach Kram) on 22 December 2006: This law requires every Khmer citizen, male and female, from ages 18 to 30 to fulfil military service for a period of 18 months.

B.4 Military Recruitment and Related Matters

18. The government reports that “there have been no remarkable difficulties and factors that hinder the implementation of the Protocol in the Kingdom of Cambodia” and that “there has been no child recruited to voluntarily serve the national armed forces”⁶ since the Cambodian general election in 1993.

B.5 Observations and Comments

19. The necessary laws prohibiting the recruitment of children who are below 18 years old into direct and active involvement in armed conflict are explicit, clear, and well in place.
20. However, there is documented information that children were recruited by the DK in the ‘70s; by the Cambodian military and by armed groups in the ‘80s and ‘90s. There have been many reports confirming the existence of child soldiers

⁶ *Ibid.*

in the Cambodian military forces long after the 1993 elections. Consider the following cases:

a. From the Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights (LICADHO)⁷

1. 1994 – Boys aged 13 to 15 were recruited by the government forces from Banon and Ke Phnom villages. Young boys were forced to carry weapons to the battle front, to join the fighting.

Two government soldiers accused of shooting two civilians were found to be 15 and 17 years old. After being held at the police station for 2 months, they were brought to the Kampong Cham prison in shackles where they were kept with adult prisoners.

2. 1994-1995 - Children from Battambang and other North-Western provinces volunteered to carry weapons and other military equipment for payment.
3. 1995 – During the fighting in Sdau, Treng and Bocul commune, Banon district, some parents complained that their children were recruited for a few days, and had their names put on the military payroll. After claiming the children's pay, the children are sent back to school.
4. 1998 – Parents who did not want their children to join the military paid army commanders for the release or the exemption of their children from forced conscription.
5. August 1999 – Fifteen (15) 16 to 20-year old youth who attended a CLDHRO/World Vision workshop disclosed that they were volunteers in the military. All except 1 volunteered for economic reasons. One said he wanted to hunt down the Khmer Rouge for burning down houses in his village.

- b. July 1997 – Col. David Mead, Australian Defense Attache interviewed 17 Cambodian People Party soldiers in Siem Reap military hospital. They turned out to be under 18 years of age. Wounded, a 15-year old boy could not explain why he was fighting.

21. The 1st and 2nd National OPAC Report of the RGC discusses in detail the requirements in the recruitment of soldiers as among the safeguards against recruiting child soldiers. The documented cases of the presence of child soldiers in the Cambodian fighting forces are proofs that compliance with the requirements is not strictly enforced.

B.6 Dissemination and Training

22. The OPAC Report of the RGC says:
“The RGC has disseminated this protocol and relevant instruments on human rights to the RCAF and the public. As for training, there has been no systematic training on this protocol, but there were training courses on children's rights and

⁷LICADHO Cambodia: *Briefing Paper on Child Soldiers*.<http://www.licadho-cambodia.org/reports/files/19Briefing%20paper%20on%20child%20soldiers.pdf>

international human rights law for military personnel. The protocol was published and incorporated into collection of documents relating to children's rights. This protocol was also disseminated to participants to workshops and trainings of law enforcement officers."

23. There has been very limited dissemination and training on the OPAC. NGOCRC Data Gathering Teams conducted Focus Group Discussions (FGD) with several groups of children and parents in Phnom Penh, Banteay Meanchey, Siem Reap, Preah Vihear, Preah Sihanouk and Svay Rieng as well as Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with staff of relevant GOs and NGOs, and select members of the community from November 2-10, 2012. Documentation of these activities indicated that the rights holders and duty bearers were familiar with the UNCRC specifically the 4 categories of child rights. They mentioned that NGOs in their respective areas provided them with series of training on the UNCRC. In schools, children were also being taught about the UNCRC. However, there is a need to intensify the dissemination of OPAC among staff of provincial and capital level GOs, NGOs, parents, teachers and students, especially in and around areas of armed conflict. Most of the rights holders and the duty bearers were not familiar with it. Consequently, they did not know whether there were OPAC cases in their respective areas especially in those areas which have been the focus of the border dispute fights between Cambodia and Thailand.
24. Similar data were gathered from interviews with staff of GOs and NGOs operating in Preah Vihear, on November 8-9, 2012. Respondents seemed reasonably familiar with the UNCRC in general and specifically in relation to trafficking and child abuse.
25. Plans are underway for CNCC with support from UNICEF to develop a training manual and pocket guide on UNCRC for government's front-line workers. Hopefully, the two optional protocols (OPAC and OPSC) will be included. It is envisioned that through these resources, the UNCRC will be mainstreamed in their work in their respective ministries/institutions.

C. Prohibition and Related Matters

26. The RGC's 1st and 2nd National Report on OPAC states that:
 "In 2004, the Cambodian Legislative adopted a law to establish a court to investigate crimes committed during the period of the Khmer Rouge regime 1975-1979 during which the Khmer Rouge leaders used children aged below 18 as their tools to commit other crimes which the nation demanded that they be prosecuted by a competent court. This court is called the ECCC.

 "The act of forcing prisoners of war or civilians to serve the armed forces of the enemy is a war crime punishable to life imprisonment and other additional penalties. As for legal person, in addition to one or more additional penalty or penalties, they shall be fined from 50 million Riels to 500 million Riels. According to Article 29 of the Penal Code, the accomplice of felony or misdemeanour receives the same punishments as the perpetrator."
27. The crimes committed by the DK leaders who used children in the war are being tried by the ECCC. This tribunal lacks jurisdiction over the use of child soldiers after the collapse of the DK.

28. The second paragraph of the quoted legal provisions criminalizes forcible recruitment of soldiers. But it does not specifically apply to the recruitment of child soldiers. The crime refers to the act of forcing prisoners of war or civilians from the enemy side to serve the conscripting armed forces.

C.1 Observations and Comments

29. In 1992/1993, refugees were still coming back from the Khmer-Thai border camps. Those who never left were still picking up the pieces of what remained of their lives. Many had to restart life in another province or village because nothing was left in their hometown, neither property nor family. The early and mid 1990s were still years of struggle for most Cambodians. More so with people in the military who, unlike their civilian counterparts, were still in the thick of war talks, this time rooted in the power struggles of the big political leaders of the emerging government. During this period, violation of child rights, especially illegality of recruiting volunteer starving children into the military was not reported and addressed.

D. Protection of the Rights of Victims

D.1 Disarmament, Demobilization and Re-Integration (DDR)

30. The 1999 World Bank funded demobilization program that targeted to assist 31,500 sick, disabled and old soldiers did not include a separate category of soldiers who were under 18 when recruited. The program was managed by a body created for the program, the Council for Demobilization of Armed Forces (CDAF). The OPAC report of the RGC noted that “there was no mention of demobilized soldiers as children aged below 18.” Yet, there must have been a significant number of them among the targeted groups because many of those who were recruited during the war remained with the military after the war. When the World Bank suspended the program in 2003, only 16,500 had been demobilized.⁸ The program was not revived.
31. Defense White Paper 2000 (DWP 2000) and the Defense Strategic Review 2002 (DSR 2002) which were developed to adjust Cambodia’s defense policy to the changing global security situation, revived the military’s demobilization plans. Both official Defense papers provided for the acceleration of defense reform “especially demobilization, raising the living standards of the defense force, reorganizing units and restructuring training systems.” This was adopted by DWP in 2006.⁹
32. The MoSVY was tasked with the implementation of the Cambodian Veterans Assistance Program (CVAP) with the help of the international community and the Cambodian authorities. Demobilization of the disabled, the elderly and the sick (Category 2) members of the armed forces was expected to have been completed by 2010. Core assistance to the demobilized soldiers was in the form of training on livelihood skills.

⁸<http://www.childsoldiersglobalreport.org/content/cambodia>

⁹Defending the Kingdom of Cambodia. <http://merln.ndu.edu/whitepapers/Cambodia-2006.pdf>

D.2 Observations and Comments:

33. Surviving child soldiers who were recruited during the DK regime at ages 10 to 15 would be approximately 47 to 52 years old in 2012. Under normal circumstances, they would still be fit, still able to work regularly. But theirs were far from normal circumstances. Theirs was a string of major stressors that stretched through decades: separation from their families, starvation, sickness, hours of hard labor, feelings of helplessness, anxiety, terror, exposure to traumatic experiences and hopelessness. These interacting horrific experiences can destroy any adult, not to mention a child, physically and psychologically. Most likely, the former child soldiers no longer have families to go home to once they leave the military camps: no skills beyond holding weapons and fighting, no education, few life skills. For such persons, the least that the State can do is to provide long-term systematic mental and physical health care and the safety net of a well-planned and well-implemented program of demobilization, rehabilitation, and reintegration into normal community life. After all, the best years of their lives were spent in the service of the motherland, whether voluntarily or by force.
34. Soldiers who died in armed conflicts offered the supreme sacrifice of defending the sovereignty of the nation. In return the government and the people should exert every possible means to provide adequate assistance to the families that they left behind. Below are some quotes of children in Preah Vihear who lost one of their parents in the conflict :
- “My father was a soldier. He died during the Khmer-Thai dispute. After his death, our family went into extreme poverty because my mother cannot find work. We hardly have food to eat. I was not able to go to school. We had to beg for money or food.”
 - “I live in the centre of Street Children Assistance and Development Programme (SCADP) where everyone is well cared and given chance to go to school.”
 - “GOs and other NGOs should support SCADP’s project in the area and provide more assistance to the kids for higher education.”

D.3 Mine and ERW Victims

35. While the OPAC does not cover victims of mine and ERW, the NGO community in Cambodia is with the perspective that it is highly relevant to OPAC. There are many different kinds of bombs and mines in Cambodia: US material from the "Vietnam" war era, and Chinese, Soviet and eastern bloc made materials left from the DK period in the 1970s and a decade of civil war that followed in the 1980s.
36. For several decades now, despite demining and information dissemination efforts of government and local and international organizations, they continue to affect adults and children alike. The CMVIS of the CMAA Report indicated that a total of 64,160 casualties was recorded from 1979 to September 2012. Of this number.
- 50, 839 (79.24%) were mine casualties and 13, 321 (20.76%) were ERW casualties.

- 19, 656 (30.64%) people killed, 35, 608 (55.50%) people injured and 8, 896 (13.87%) people amputated by mines and ERW.
 - 52, 080 (81.17%) casualties were men, 5,932 (9.25%) casualties were boys, 4728 (7.37%) casualties were women, 1357 (2.12%) casualties were girls and 63 (0.10%) casualties were unknown.
37. The top five provinces with the most number of casualties were Battambang, Oddar Meanchey, Preah Vihear, Banteay Meanchey, and Kratie. Mine/ERW casualties are associated with different set of activities.
38. In September 2012, 16 mine/ERW casualties were provisionally recorded by the CMVIS data gatherers. Of this number, 3 were boys and 1 was a girl. This figure for September 2012 represented an increase of 129% compared with the seven casualties reported in September 2011. The activities being done by the 16 people killed or injured by mines and ERW were:
- Travelling: 9 (56.25%),
 - Performing military duties: 2 (12.50%),
 - By standing: 2 (12.50%),
 - Handling Mine/ERW: 2 (12.50%)
 - Collecting food: 1(06.25%)

D.4 Observations and Comments

39. In total, there were 7,289 (11.37%) children casualties from 1979 to September 2012. These were the children directly affected by mines and ERWs. Added to these figures were the so many children of the 56,871 adult casualties. Assuming that each of the adult-victims had only 2 children aged below 18 years, when added, they total to 113,742. This number, plus the direct child victims total to 121,031 or 2.24% of the 5.4 million below 18-year old children in the 2008 national census. Majority of these children were left fatherless, motherless or with just one caregiver or with a disabled father or mother. This is the number of children experiencing major physical, social, financial, and psychological difficulties that hinder the full development of their potentials as members of their respective families and communities. These are the children who most likely are not in school as they are pre-occupied with helping their single parent earn for their everyday survival needs. They would most likely end up in servitude to pay the single parent's debts, work long hours in brick factories, beg on the streets, or worst, forced to become child prostitutes.
40. Based on sharing by some community residents in affected areas, majority of the 7,289 or 11.37% who were directly affected but survived did not pursue education due to unprocessed trauma and psychological effects of their experiences, limited mobility, low self-esteem, shyness or fear of being bullied by peers and distance of school from home.
41. Interviews with CMAA and UNDP officers indicated that Mine Risk Education Program which is an inter-agency collaboration conducted for military and police officers and the general population especially in constantly affected areas has been on-going for several years now. Despite it, some police officers and residents continue to disregard the precautions. Some people would bring home ERWs and hide them under their houses, giving easy access to children who tinker with them when their parents are out. Even some police officers would collect reported ERW and bring them to their headquarters despite the

repeated announcement to call hotlines when mines and ERWs are found so that trained personnel could handle them.

42. According to the CMMA officers, assistance to victims of mines and ERW together with victims of road accidents and other mishaps are provided by MoSVY and its provincial or district offices, with support from UNDP and USAID. The assistance program is under the overall direction of the DAC. In addition, several international and local NGOs such as Handicap International, Meta Karona and Cambodian Red Cross provide assistance directly to the victims and or their families. Assistance included hospitalization, rehabilitation, prosthetics, and vocational training/livelihood skills and opportunities, among others. Professional debriefing and counselling services to survivors and to the family members of those who died is an area for strengthening.
43. The RGC's implementation of programs on prevention, and protection of the rights of the mine and ERW victims as well as victims of other incidents are guided by its growing commitment to international and local laws and policies such as:
 - Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Ratified in September 2012)
 - Law of the Protection and the Promotion of the Rights of Persons With Disabilities(2009)
 - Plan of Action on People With Disability (2007 – 2013)

E. International Assistance and Cooperation

44. The implementation of the UNCRC and OPAC in the Kingdom of Cambodia has been getting the support and cooperation of various international organizations over the years. The UN agencies and other development partners channel their assistance to various programs and projects through the relevant ministries and institutions of the government. For example, UNICEF and UNDP provide technical and financial support to the victims of mines, ERW and other accidents through the MoSVY and some NGOs.
45. International NGOs and humanitarian organizations like Plan International, Save the Children, ChildFund, EveryChild, Handicap International and others have several packages of programs and projects responding to the priority issues and concerns of the children in relation to the UNCRC and the OPAC. Inherent in their assistance is the capacity building of the rights holders and duty bearers on the UNCRC which hopefully will extend to the OPAC. Some of these international NGOs have programs and projects that are highly relevant to the OPAC such as the Birth Registration campaign which has been supported by Plan International and the production of prosthetics for the victims of mines and ERW by NGOs such as Handicap International.
46. National NGOs like the Cambodian Red Cross are at the forefront in conflict affected areas to help facilitate evacuation of civilians and provision of basic necessities. The over 50 NGO members of the NGOCRC with funding from local and international donors provide services and assistance to children in strategic locations in the country. Common across these NGO members is their continuing dissemination of the UNCRC which has yet to expand to cover the OPAC to various stakeholders in their respective areas of operations.

III. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Legal Status of the Optional Protocol

Area of Strength:

- By virtue of Decision No. 092/003-2007 of the Constitutional Council of the Kingdom of Cambodia, the OPAC was officially incorporated into the National Laws of Cambodia.

B. Mechanisms for the Implementation of the CRC and the Optional Protocol

1. Areas of Strength:

- 1.1 The mechanisms for the dissemination, promotion and implementation of the UNCRC are well in place and are functioning effectively. Numerous laws and regulations have been passed by the Kingdom of Cambodia to ensure that the provisions of the UNCRC are being implemented even in the remote villages of the country.
- 1.2 Collaborative alliances and networking formed between the RGC and local and international NGO coalitions are strong and have been actively working together to implement the UNCRC. Among the NGO and INGO coalition partners of the RGC in the UNCRC implementation are: the NGOCRC with 50 NGO members; End Child Prostitution, Abuse and Trafficking with 28 NGO members; NGO Coalition to Address Child Exploitation in Cambodia with 24 NGO members; the UN Interagency Project on Human Trafficking, CHABDAI and Cambodia ACTs to name a few.
- 1.3 The CNCC, as the overall coordinating body assisting the RGC in the implementation of the UNCRC, has formed Working Groups for Children across the government ministries and offices. Provincial/capital CNCCs have also been established to support the UNCRC implementation to ensure that programs and activities on the dissemination of information, education and training on the rights of the child and on the UNCRC issues of child trafficking and different forms of child abuse reach target groups in the local community level.

2. Area for Improvement:

The existing well-organized mechanisms for the implementation of the UNCRC address the general protection and promotion of the rights of the child and, specific related issues like child trafficking, child physical, and sexual abuse, etc. These mechanisms though, currently fail to fully address the OPAC either in terms of its dissemination, and more significantly, its implementation.

3. Recommendations:

- 3.1 CNCC is a council whose duties are, among others, to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the UNCRC. However, the voices of the Cambodian children are not represented in the

council. It would be in the best interest of the children if some of their representatives were to sit as members of the council.

- 3.2 Develop mechanisms of the OPAC dissemination that will target sub-national government officials and staff of NGOs/CSOs. Effective implementation of the provisions of the OPAC necessitates the understanding of its provisions.

C. Recruitment and Legislations

1. *Area of Strength:*

The RGC is fully aware of the UNCRC and the OPAC and is vocal about its full support and endorsement. There are several legal instruments, both national and international, that explicitly prohibit the conscription of children below the age of 18 years.

2. *Areas for Improvement:*

Monitoring of the implementation of the legal provisions concerning the involvement of the children in armed conflicts on the ground is either weak or non-existent. The 1st and 2nd National Report of the RGC on OPAC covering 2002 to 2010 stated at least five times that the CAFC had not recruited a child under 18 years of age since the ratification of the Constitution in 1993 - a prohibition that was further strengthened by the ratification of the OPAC in 2004. But the number of documented cases attesting to the contrary is more compelling. The documenters of anecdotal cases and sightings of child soldiers in the midst of the Cambodian armed forces are credible professionals.

3. *Recommendations:*

- 3.1 Institute a monitoring mechanism for the implementation of the OPAC in all levels of military operations including in security agencies/companies.
- 3.2 Include OPAC implementation indicators in the monitoring and evaluation of performance of military officers, both on the levels of routine and periodic monitoring and evaluation.
- 3.3 Ensure that prescribed procedures that prevent recruitment of child soldiers are strictly adhered to (verifying birth certificates and family identity cards, etc.) in all levels of military installations, and that no unofficial recruitments are taking place especially in villages and remote areas.
- 3.4 Create laws that criminalize the recruitment of children into armed forces and clearly define penalties for the crime.
- 3.5 Create strong and well-staffed national and sub-national-level mechanisms that ordinary persons, families and/or relevant institutions can access to file complaints against recruitment of child soldiers without fearing for their safety.

D. Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR)

1. Area of Strength:

There have been two demobilization programs initiated for soldiers of the 'Royal Armed Forces, the CDAF in 1999 and the CVAP in 2006. The main purpose, of both was to trim down the armed forces since the country was no longer engaged in major wars.

In July 2010, the MoND began a one-month countrywide census of military personnel with the purpose of cutting out 'ghost soldiers' from the Cambodian government pay roll. All soldiers of the RCAF were required to report to their respective command posts with their ID cards and to specify the number of children they had. Survey results showed that the Cambodian military was 110,000 on paper, but only 70,000 warm bodies reported to their respective command posts. Areas for Improvement:

- 1.1 The demobilization programs initiated by the RGC with support from the international community made no attempts at identifying past and present child soldiers with the purpose of demobilizing and preparing them for re-entry into their respective families and communities.
- 1.2 The center piece of the demobilization programs was livelihood skills training. There was no provision for the demobilized soldier's psychosocial assistance and support, a critical need of former military personnel, especially child soldiers.

2. Recommendations:

- 2.1 Identify soldiers still in the armed forces who were recruited as child soldiers during and after the DK period and include them in the government's demobilization program.
- 2.2 Ensure that the demobilization, recovery and reintegration program include well-planned interventions for psychological healing, value re-orientation, skills training and re-entry into family and community life.
- 2.3 Prepare the families (if any) and the communities to receive the returning ex-soldiers/child soldiers.
- 2.4 To rehabilitate child soldiers and former child soldiers by providing mechanisms and programs of psychosocial and other appropriate interventions to them and their families. This program should include debriefing, counselling, anger management, parenting, appropriate livelihood skills training, initial financial assistance, and connecting them to the appropriate network of community resources that can provide them with continuing assistance while they are in the process of healing and adjusting to their changed life situation.

E. Dissemination and Training

1. Areas of Strength:

- 1.1 RGC has been actively supportive of the UNCRC;
- 1.2 Mechanisms for information dissemination, training and implementation of the UNCRC have been effectively put in place by the CNCC. These mechanisms have been effectively functional and have been successfully discharging their responsibilities from the national to the community levels;
- 1.3 The CNCC as the overall coordinating body in the implementation of the UNCRC has formed CNCC at capital/provincial level to ensure that programs and activities on the dissemination of information, education and training on the rights of the child and on the UNCRC issues of child trafficking and different forms of child abuse reach target groups in the local community level. FGDs and interviews conducted among parents, teachers, students, NGOs and GOs staff in Phnom Penh, Banteay Meanchey, Siem Reap, Preah Vihear, Preah Sihanouk and Svay Rieng revealed that CRC and issues related to it are familiar to the respondent groups.

2. Areas for Improvement and Recommendations:

- 2.1 Widen the target participants of training on OPAC to include government soldiers and officers, security company personnel government, community and NGO officials, parents, and children.
- 2.2 As part of prevention programme, the Kingdom of Cambodia must strengthen awareness raising initiatives among security companies, police academy or police schools to avoid recruitment of children into any form of armed entities.

F. Mines and ERW Victims

1. Areas of Strength

- 1.1 The international community has been partnering with the RGC in demining Cambodia, especially the country sides where the highest number of mines was buried during Cambodia's long history of armed conflicts. Consequently, casualties of mines and ERW have recently been on the decline.
- 1.2 Information about the victims through CMVIS of the CMAA is regularly updated.
- 1.3 Programs of intervention for mine victims are being implemented by the provincial and district offices of the MoSVY in collaboration with the DAC.

2. Areas for Improvement

- 2.1 There are no national legislation and appropriate mechanisms to protect children affected by war.*
- 2.2 National legislation does not contain sufficient provisions, detailing the rights of children with disabilities, such as specific rights for disabled girls and access to complaint procedures.
- 2.3 National legislation does not guarantee that all health care and services provided to children with disabilities is based on the free and informed consent of those concerned, and that involuntary treatment and confinement are not permitted by law.*
- 2.4 Data collected by CMVIS do not specify the ages of the children of adults victims of mines and ERW.
- 2.5 Adequate psychosocial intervention for survivors and for family members of those who died are not being provided.

3. Recommendations:

- 3.1 National legislation should be amended or developed to include additional rights and services for children with disabilities, including specific right for disabled girls and access to an independent mechanism for considering complaints.*
- 3.2 Ensure that children with disabilities receive special education to enable them to continue their studies.
- 3.3 National legislation should be adopted to ensure that all health care and services provided to persons with disabilities, including all mental health care and services, is based on the free and informed consent of the person concerned, and that involuntary treatment and confinement are not permitted by law.
- 3.4 National legislation relevant to children in armed conflict should be developed in order to include provisions on the protection and care of children who are affected during armed conflicts*¹⁰
- 3.5 Study the current living conditions of the soldiers' children and their families and provide appropriate programs of support (education, shelter, food, and medical care).
- 3.6 Indicate the ages of the children of adults-victims for a more thorough analysis and appropriate intervention.

¹⁰ * All taken from the *Gaps Analysis of Child Protection Legislation in Cambodia*. CNCC. Phnom Penh: 2011.

- 3.7 To minimize continuing adverse effects of victimization to mines and ERW, provide appropriate program of psychosocial interventions to the survivors and their families, as well as to the bereaved families of those who died in the blasts. This program should include debriefing, grief counselling, appropriate livelihood skills training, initial financial assistance, and connecting them to the appropriate network of community resources that can provide them with continuing assistance while they are in the process of healing and adjusting to their changed life situation.
- 3.8 The State shall prepare in advance, contingencies (safe place, food, clean water, and medical care) for children and people in former and possible areas of conflicts.

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IV. ANNEXES

Annex 1

LIST OF STAKEHOLDERS INTERVIEWED

Phnom Penh

	Name	Position	Institution/Organization
1.	H.E. Chan Haranvadey	Under Secretary of State	MoSVY
2.	H.E. Khiev Bory	Secretary General	CNCC
3.	H.E. Sivann Botum	Secretary of State	MoWA
4.	Ms. Tao Sokmara	Deputy Director General	General Department of Local Administration, MoI
5.	Mr. Pun Sophanara	Chief of Education Office and Member of CSTC	Education and Training Department, MoT
6.	Ms. Mao Sothea	Assistant	Office of the Chief of CSTC, MoT
7.	Mr. Chhiv Lim	Project Manager	CMAA
8.	Mr. Muon Monoketya	CMVIS Database and Data Gathering Section Supervisor	CMAA
9.	Mr. Esteban Olhagaray	Protection and Communication Specialist Clearing for Results Phase II/Poverty Reduction	UNDP
10.	Ms. Souad Al Hebshi	Chief, Child Protection	UNICEF
11.	Mr. Plong Chhaya	Child Protection Specialist	UNICEF
12.	Ms. So Serey Vathana	Child Protection Officer	UNICEF
13.	Ms. Catherine Phuong	Coordinator, Rule of Law Unit	UNOHCHR in Cambodia
14.	Mr. Vong Ton	Programme Associate	UNOHCHR in Cambodia
15.	Mr. Chin Chanveasna	Executive Director	ECPAT-Cambodia
16.	Mr. Khoem Vando	Project Officer – Phnom Penh	Action Pour Les Enfants (APLE)
17.	Mr. Phok Bunroeun	Executive Director	Cambodian Children Against Starvation and Violence Association (CCASVA)
18.	Mr. Meas Youth	Executive Director	Children and Poor Communities Development Organization (CPCDO)
19.	Mr. Thaneth	General Manager	Center for Child Hope (CCH)
20.	Ms. Kong Thanh,	Village Leader	Poprakthung Village, Kakap Commune, Sensok District
21.	Ms. Chai Sokha,	School Director	Tang Krosang Primary School, Kakap Commune, Sensok District

Banteay Meanchey Province

Name	Position	Institution/Organization
1. Dr. Che Pichet	Deputy Director	Provincial Office of Health
2. PS Sith Luos	Police Supervisor	Provincial Police Office
3. Atty. Hang Som On	Director	Legal Aid of Cambodia (LAC) in Banteay Meanchey
4. Mr. Oeur Channtrea	CR Advocacy Officer	Legal Aid of Cambodia (LAC) in Banteay Meanchey
5. Ms. Khan Sothaly	Project Officer	Legal Aid of Cambodia (LAC) in Banteay Meanchey
6. Mr. Chhoe Channa	Director	Provincial Office of Education Youth and Sports (PoEYS)
7. Mr. Chhoun Phanna	Head, Office of Secondary Education	Provincial Office of Education Youth and Sports (PoEYS)
8. Mr. Vun Vuthy	Deputy Administrator	Provincial Office of Education Youth and Sports (PoEYS)
9. Mr. Chhou Bunroeung	Deputy Officer, Office of Planning, Accounting and Equipment	Provincial Office of Education Youth and Sports (PoEYS)
10. Ms. Ye Hat	Deputy Officer, Informal Education	Provincial Office of Education Youth and Sports (PoEYS)
11. Ms. Bun Sokny	Counselor	Cambodia Women's Crisis Center (CCWC)
12. Ms. Pick Kinny	Counselor	Cambodia Women's Crisis Center (CCWC)
13. Mr. Ouk Peok	Commune Leader	Banteay Neang Commune
14. Mr. Kert Visal	Youth Leader	Banteay Neang Commune
15. Ms. Thoung Borei	CCWC	Banteay Neang Commune
16. Mr. Noun Doeun	Village Leader	Banteay Neang Village, Banteay Neang Commune
17. Mrs. Chheang Bo kei	School Principal	Banteay Neang Primary School

Siem Reap Province

Name	Position	Institution/Organization
Mr. Ngor Buntown	Chief	Banteay Srey District Health Centre
Mrs. Sann Saray	Commune Council, on Women's Affairs	Knar Sanday Commune, Banteay Srey District
Ms. Vann Reth	Deputy Leader	Community Youth and Child Support Club, Knar Sanday Commune, Banteay Srey District
Mr. Em Ing	Deputy Commune Leader	Sala Kravan Village, Romchek Commune, Banteay Srey District
Mr. Pho Chan Thoo	School Director	Banteay Srey District
Mr. Dueng Thavery	Deputy Chief	Siem Reap Police Office
Ms. Phea Sombolina	Manager	Health Centre
Mr. Li Moniroth	Center Manager	Acting for Women in Distressing Situations (AFISIP)
Ms. Thav Minea	Center Manager	WHI
Mr. Bueng Pich	Head	DoSVY, Siem Reap
Mr. Nab Han	Deputy Head	DoSVY, Siem Reap

Preah Sihanouk Province

Name	Position	Institution/Organization
Mrs. Yok Sopheak	Deputy Chief	Commune Council, Bei Commune
Mr. Cheav Kimhun	Chief	Health Center, Bei Commune
Miss Nheak Srey Oun	Club Leader	Child Advocate Network, Village 1 Sangkat Krong 3, Kampenh, Preah Sihanouk province
Mrs. Mom Sophorn	Village Chief	Sangkat Lek 1, Preah Sihanouk province
Mrs. Koe Bunthy	Principal	Bet Trang Primary School, Sangkat Bet Trang, Preah Sihanouk province
Mrs. Rus Touch	Deputy School principal	Bet Trang Primary School, Sangkat Bet Trang, Preah Sihanouk province
Mr. Hoh Chin Hi	Chief	Sangkat Ream, Krong Preynup, Preah Sihanouk province
Mr. Kim Sitha	Chief of Administration Unit	Provincial Department of Health, Preah Sihanouk province
Mr. Soun Sopheat	Vice-Chief	Anti- Human Trafficking and Juvenile Protection Unit, Provincial Government, Preah Sihanouk province
Mr. Mork Saroeun	Deputy Director	Provincial Office of Education Youth and Sports (PoEYS)
Mrs. Sao Kan	Director	Provincial Department of Women Affairs
Mr. Yi Moden	Project Manager	Action Pour Les Enfants (APLE), Preah Sihanouk province

Svay Rieng Province

Name	Position	Institution/Organization
Chy Chai	Judge	Provincial Court
Mr. Oung Sam Ol	Vice-Chief of Anti- Human Trafficking and Juvenile Protection Unit	Provincial Police Office
Mr. Em On	Chief Office of kindergarten Unit	PoEYS
Mr. Neth Souvan	Vice-Chief of Youth Unit	PoEYS
Mr. Prum Vannak	Deputy Director	DoSVY
Mr. Sieng Ramo	Project Manager	CCPCR
Mr. Toen Heantang	Field Coordinator	WattanakPheap
Mr. Khao Sokhoeun	Training Coordinator on Anti-Child Trafficking	Santeh Sena
Mr. Say Saran	Sangkat Vice- Chief	Sangkat SvayToeur, Krong Svay Rieng
Mrs. Phok Sokha	Chief of CCWC	Sangkat SvayToeur, Krong Svay Rieng
Mr. Prak Vuthy	Primary School Principal	Sangkat Koytrabek, Krong Svay Rieng

Preah Vihear Province

Name	Position	Institution/Organization
Mr. Phang Sokom	Commune Leader	Commune Council
Ms. Mon Som Ul	Officer	Women Affairs Office
Mr. Chhay Soa Moni	Chief	Provincial Health Office
Mr. Chan Roth	Provincial Manager	LICADHO
Ms. Munh Chan Penh	Head	Provincial Office of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth
Ms. Phang Ravi	Deputy Head	Provincial Office of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth
Ms. Yim kokon	Child Wellbeing Leader	Provincial Office of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth
Mr. Sok Sovan	Admin Manager	Provincial Office of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth

Annex 2

LIST OF FGD PARTICIPANTS

Child-Participants

Phnom Penh	Banteay Meanchey Province	Siem Reap Province
1. Lim Heng (M)	1. Kert Visal (M)	1. Matt Morm (M)
2. Phat Sovannara (M)	2. Khleung Srey Moch (F)	2. Chhonh Chanthou (F)
3. Brak Siela (M)	3. Seng Sino (M)	3. Ourm Saleab (F)
4. Eang Kimleang (F)	4. Tem Sakana (F)	4. Oeum Phally (F)
5. Khat Channun (F)	5. Sor Chantha (F)	5. Soeun Saloet (F)
6. Brach Bopha (F)	6. Teng Sorn (M)	6. Tes Sro Em (F)
7. Chap Pinut (M)	7. Rin Rattanak (F)	7. Bres Thach (F)
8. Mao Sreyvin (F)	8. Mon Sov Chi (F)	8. Soeun Salen (F),
9. Lim Sreynat (F)	9. Lin Kimlay (F)	9. Chhoem Sarun (F)
10. Hor Sokheng (F)	10. Mao Phearun (M)	10. Chhet Uch (F)
11. Ly Bona (M)		11. Mok Srey Hom (F)
12. Sang Marady (F)		12. Chhoem Sreymom (F)
13. Yim Bonroth (M)		13. Vann Champey (F)
14. Heang SreyNeang (F)		
15. Chay Sokha (F)		
16. Pov Srey Leak (F)		
17. Nhib Siela (F)		

Preah Sihanouk Province	Svay Rieng Province	Preah Vihear Province
1. Mann Sothea (M)	1. Toch Phirun (M)	1. Khann PechChenda(M)
2. Than Socheata (F)	2. Chea Sopanha (F)	2. Horm Reaksmeay (F)
3. Sok Sreynich (F)	3. Mok Daneang (F)	3. Hour CheangHeng (M)
4. San Vuthy (M)	4. Leng Chanratana (M)	4. Lonh Samphoas (F)
5. Keo Sreyneang (F)	5. Chan Kira (M)	5. Khleun Chan Horm (M)
6. Keo Phearun (M)	6. Kong Sovanda (M)	6. Horm Pheak-kdey (F)
7. Kim Sophearun (M)	7. Sok Sokunthea (F)	7. Lonh Makara (F)
8. Chea Sreymeas (F)	8. Mom Chantha (M)	8. Dieb Lyna (F)
9. Kim Chan Mony (M)	9. Ouk Sovanthida (F)	9. Meun Sreyneth (F)
10. Tep Sovannary (F)	10. Seng Channy (F)	10. Vong Tomla (F)
11. Suon Makara (M)	11. Ken Bandith (M)	11. Yeun Sokhea (F)
12. Pa Chhay Lay (F)	12. Prom Sok (M)	12. Prak Kunthea (F)
13. Long Rothnimol (F)	13. Ken Vitou (M)	13. Touch La (M)
14. Pa Sinat (M)	14. Sou Sovichea (M)	14. Kong Sothea (F)
15. Danh Linda (F)	15. Reach Reaksmeay (F)	15. Puy Khouch (M)
16. Long Sambor (M)	16. Kong Thida (F)	
17. Chi Thearady (F)	17. Na Maneth (M)	
18. Hun Kosal (M)	18. Ken Bunpanha (M)	
19. Long Uddom (M)		

Adult-Participants/Parents

Phnom Penh	Banteay Meanchey Province	Siem Reap Province
1. Mr. Phok Bunroeun	1. Ms. Rin Rattana	1. Mr. Thim Ving
2. Ms. PovSrey Leak	2. Ms. Houern Chenda	2. Ms. Van Rith
3. Mr. Thon Phearon	3. Ms. Voun Pheap	3. Mr. Ngor Bun Thoun
4. Mr. Phy Sithol	4. Ms. Linh Chana	4. Ms. Say Saray
5. Ms. Moeun Chenda	5. Mr. Reun Kakada	5. Ms. Key Samut
6. Ms. Svay Putheavy	6. Mr. Keot Sisal	6. Ms. Sern Chek
7. Ms. Khorn Neth	7. Ms. Oun Chanoy	7. Ms. Premg Many
8. Ms. Kong Thay	8. Mr. Teap Bouny	8. Ms. Marn Phala
9. Mr. Ban Seyha	9. Ms. Lout Maly	9. Ms. Rem Som
10. Ms. Yang Chantha	10. Ms. Yin Kimyan	10. Mr. Pras Ruos
11. Ms. Son Theara	11. Mr. Hourt Houng	11. Ms. Prum Vy
12. Ms. Meng Vanthy	12. Mr. Seng Sina	12. Ms. Hong Ny
13. Mr. Kong Kuymeng		13. Ms. Pov Phnov
14. Ms. Pov Nary		14. Ms. So Moa
15. Ms. Chhay Sokha		15. Mr. Poy Non
16. Ms. Pha Sreymom		16. Ms. ChrenSor
17. Mr. Heum Sokchan Chamroeun		
18. Ms. Long Pov		
19. Mr. Yann Sophea		

Preah Sihanouk Province	Svay Rieng Province	Preah Vihear Province
1. Mr. Chan Sitha	1. Mrs. Svay Chiv	1. Ms. Hean Sreymom
1. Mrs. Tep Sambath	2. Mrs. Gnem Gnor	2. Ms. Hin Thol
2. Mrs. Tep Sokha	3. Mrs. Sok Ol	3. Ms. Hem Ven
3. Mr. Phok Samrith	4. Mrs. Yeay Chork	4. Mr. Eth Serey
4. Mr. Toch Sath	5. Mrs. Seng Mom	5. Ms. Lonh Ten
5. Mr. Som Han	6. Mrs. Seng Chreb	6. Ms. Chork Souen
6. Mr. Lerk Chorm	7. Mrs. Meas Yun	7. Ms. Son Ream
7. Mr. Lek Sarin	8. Mrs. Pum Sam ol	8. Ms. Mut Kimsean
8. Mrs. Long Kolab	9. Mrs. Hut Sokheng	9. Ms. Tou Ny
9. Mrr. Orn Samoth	10. Mrs. Mehn Sim	10. Ms. Chou Phalla
10. Mr. Kong Sovanda	11. Mrs. Ouk Duch	11. Mr. Hor Dany
11. Mrs. Phok Maravy	12. Mrs. Khim Niv	12. Mr. Bin Chhin
12. Mrs. Phok Yan	13. Mrs. Siem Seang	
13. Mr. Phok Putheary	14. Mr. Kol Thin	
14. Mrs. Sek Sophal	15. Mr. Pung Leng	
	16. Mrs. Dy Botum	
	17. Mrs. Yong Ny	

Annex 3

LIST OF NGO MEMBERS OF THE NGOCRC

1. Cambodian Children Against Starvation and Violence Association (CCSVA)	18. EveryChild	35. Protection of Children's Rights and Development Organization (PCRDO)
2. Cambodian Children Development (CCD)	19. Hagar Cambodia (Hagar)	36. Protection of Juvenile Justice (PJJ)
3. Community Council for Development Organization (CCDO)	20. Happy Tree Social Services (Happy Tree)	37. Plan International Cambodia
4. Center for Children's Happiness (CCH)	21. Healthcare Center for Children (HCC)	38. River Kids Foundation (RKF)
5. Cambodian Children Orphanage for Living & Training (CCOLT)	22. International Christian Mission (ICM)	39. Save the Children International
6. The Cambodian Center for the Protection of Children's Rights (CCPCR)	23. International Child Support (ICS)	40. Street Children Assistance and Development Program (SCADP)
7. Italian Association for Aid to Children (CIAI)	24. Jeannine and Billy's Children Foundation (JBCF)	41. Sacrifice Families Orphans Development Foundation (SFODA)
8. Cham Khmer Islam Minority Human Rights and Development Association (CKIMHRDA)	25. Khemara	42. Save Incapacity Teenagers (SIT)
9. Children and Life Association (CLA)	26. Khmer Kampuchea Kroum for Human Rights & Development Association (KKKHRDA)	43. Sovann Komar LLC
10. Cambodian Organization for Children & Development (COCD)	27. Komar Etrumdem Kampuchea (KnK Network Cambodia)	44. Terre des Hommes Germany-Cambodia (TdH Germany-Cambodia)
11. Children & Poor Communities Development Organization (CPCDO)	28. Krousar Thmey	45. Terre des Hommes Netherlands - Cambodia (TdH Netherlands - Cambodia)
12. Child Rights Foundation (CRF)	29. Khmer Youth Camp for Culture (KYCC)	46. Vulnerable Children Assistance Organization (VCAO)
13. Children Support Foundation (CSF)	30. Legal Aid of Cambodia (LAC)	47. VDTO Bamboo Shoot School (VDTO)
14. Children's Umbrella Support Organization (CUCO)	31. Cambodia League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights (LICADHO)	48. Wathnakpheap (WP)

15. Cambodian Volunteers for Community Development (CVCD)	32. Mith Samlanh	49. World Vision Cambodia (WVC)
16. Development Khmer Kid Prosperity (DKKP)	33. Operations Enfants du Cambodge (OEC)	
17. Enfats & Development (E & D)	34. Project Against Domestic Violence (PADV)	