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His Excellency Hun Sen  
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia  
Office of the Prime Minister  
41 Russian Federation Blvd  
Phnom Penh  
Cambodia

\_\_\_\_\_ 2023

Dear Prime Minister,

As a member/sympathizer of ACAT Switzerland, I would like to express my deep concern about the unfair court verdict against opposition politician **Kem Sokha**. On 3 March 2023, he was sentenced to 27 years under house arrest on purely politically motivated charges. This severity is intended to punish his human rights activities and thwart his electoral ambitions in the run-up to the elections.

Cambodia is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, article 19 of which stipulates that everyone shall have the right to hold opinions without interference as well as the right to freedom of expression, and article of which 22 states that everyone shall have the right to freedom of association with others. Article 14 further provides that everyone is entitled to a fair and public hearing by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal established by law.

**Therefore, I urge you:**

- **to overturn Kem Sokha's conviction and order his release;**
- **to ensure that Cambodian human rights defenders can carry out their activities freely under all circumstances and to refrain from all forms of harassment, including judicial harassment;**
- **to respect the right to freedom of opinion, speech and association of Cambodian citizens.**

Thank you for your consideration. Yours respectfully,

**Copy to:** Embassy of Cambodia in Switzerland, chemin Taverney 3, Case postale 213,  
1218 Le Grand-Saconnex

*ACAT-Switzerland is a politically neutral and independent human rights organisation affiliated to the International Federation of ACAT (FIACAT), which has consultative status with the United Nations, observer status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and participatory status with the Council of Europe*