

អង្គការពសហមេធាវីសំបុត្រកំណាចដើមបណ្តឹងរដ្ឋប្បវេណី

**Section des co-avocats principaux des parties civiles
Civil Party Lead Co-Lawyers' Section**

PRESS RELEASE

PASSING AWAY OF VANN NATH

Phnom Penh, 6 September 2011 - Civil Party Lawyers at the ECCC and the Lead Co-Lawyers for Civil Parties were informed of the death of Mr. Vann Nath, one of the very few surviving victims of the Tuol Sleng Security Center (S-21), one of the most important security center under the Khmer Rouge regime. The lawyers and the Civil Parties that they represent send their deepest condolences to Vann Nath's family and relatives.

Vann Nath has fought his entire life for justice to be done, for victims to be heard and for the truth known.

Mr Vann Nath testified and confronted Duch, the former chief and director of S-21. His struggle is for all of us a model of integrity and hope. Unfortunately he will not have had the chance to know the outcome of the ECCC Supreme court decision on appeal against the judgment in case 001.

The death of Vann Nath reminds us of the absolute and urgent necessity that the trial in case 002 starts as soon as possible, in order that victims of the Khmer Rouge can see that those allegedly responsible for crimes against them are prosecuted, and to allow, more than 30 years later, for a true reconciliation in Cambodian civil society.

Vann Nath leaves behind his legacy, through his paintings of the horrors that occurred at S-21, of a part of Cambodian history that should never be forgotten.