



17 December 2019, Phnom Penh

Cambodian civil society urges the Royal Government of Cambodia to take immediate action to implement the new recommendations of the United Nations committee in charge of reviewing Cambodia's implementation of the treaty on women's rights.

The United Nations Committee on the Convention for the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) considered the latest progress report from the Royal Government of Cambodia at its 74th review session in 2019. The Cambodian NGO Committee on CEDAW (NGO-CEDAW) advocated for specific recommendations in this process through written submissions for the March 2019 pre-session and the October 2019 main review session of the CEDAW Committee. NGO-CEDAW also sent a delegation of civil society representatives to meet directly with the Committee in Geneva, Switzerland in October 2019. Members of the delegation gave oral statements at the public meeting for NGO participants on 28 October 2019. The Committee issued written recommendations on 8 November 2019 for the Royal Government of Cambodia's actions over the next 4 years. These suggestions must be acted upon if Cambodia is to meet the Sustainable Development Goal 5 of achieving gender equality by 2030.

In particular, civil society organizations joining a dissemination workshop on the CEDAW Concluding Observations on 17 December agreed to highlight the following themes covered by recommendations of the CEDAW Committee:

1. Strengthening the legislative framework (paragraphs 8-9 of the Concluding Observations)
2. Budget and national mechanism for the advancement of women (paragraphs 14-15)
3. Freedom of expression for civil society (paragraphs 18-19)
4. Education (paragraphs 34-35)

The full list of concluding observations of the CEDAW Committee in English are at:

https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CEDAW%2fC%2fKHM%2fCO%2f6&Lang=en

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