

# បន្ទប់ស្ថានការណ៍ ថ្ងៃចោះឆ្នោត ឆ្នាំ២០១៣

## Situation Room on Cambodia Election Day 2013

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### Statement:

#### Local authorities forced local residents to provide thumb prints as to support the result of the July 28 election

August 20, 2013

We, a group of civil society, non-governmental organizations and members of situation room, are deeply disappointed and strongly condemning the act of local authority in Phnom Penh and in some other provinces who have been forcing voters to provide their thumb prints in order to support the preliminary contesting-result of the July 28 election.

According to some voters, they are being threatened by local authorities, forcing them to provide their thumb prints. There are report of instances that local authorities engaging in such act in some localities such as Sangkat O Reusey, Sangkat Srachoak, Sangkat Pong Teuk, Sangkat Boeung Payab, Sangkat Tuol Svay Prey-1, Sangkat Boeungkeng Kong-2 and Sangkat Chak Angrae Krom, including some other provinces.

This act, is a new form of intimidation in the aftermath of the July 28 national election and gravely violating the Cambodia National Constitution, particularly on the rights to freedom of expression of the voters. Moreover, this act has clearly threatened and breached the rights to confidentiality of voters, and this has also intensified tension and potential fear which is currently happening in Cambodia.

We strongly believe that any petition that is conducted in form of intimidation will not meaningfully contribute to trustable result of the election. We also believe that this act is undermining the process of free and fair election process and that only transparent and independent investigation on the allegation of irregularities will bring fair and just for Cambodian.

The Situation Room of association and non-governmental organization calls on the current government to take measure to immediately stop this act and ensure that the rights to freedom of expression of voters are fully protected.

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