



**AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY  
PHNOM PENH**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY RECEIVES PETITION FROM OPPOSITION PARTY**

On 25 October 2013, HE Alison Burrows, Australian Ambassador to Cambodia, received a petition from a delegation from the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP), led by CNRP President, Mr Sam Rainsy. The petition sought Australian “assistance in resolving the current political deadlock by ensuring the enforcement of the Paris Peace Accords.”

At the meeting, Ambassador Burrows said “Australia has had a strong and long-standing commitment to the process of democratisation in Cambodia. We continue to promote and encourage respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Cambodia, and will continue to work in partnership with our Cambodian friends to further Cambodia’s rehabilitation and development.”

Cambodia has come a long way since the conclusion of the Paris Peace Agreements in 1991 and the first democratic elections held under the auspices of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) in 1993.

During her meeting with the delegation, Ambassador Burrows said that Australia urged both parties to continue their dialogue including on electoral reform, and said that it was important that the door was left open for the Cambodia National Rescue Party to take up its seats in the National Assembly.

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Australian Embassy Phnom Penh, 25 October 2013