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> 23rd, July, 2013 Phnom Penh

THE CAMBODIAN CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT MEDIA LAUNCHES A NEW MULTIMEDIA PLATFORM

To mark the launch of its news website, The Cambodian Center for Independent Media (CCIM) will publish two online video and one online radio reports on July 24th 2013 as exclusive testimonies on the situation of the working conditions in the country, resulting from a yearlong investigation.

The website is accessible through www.vodhotnews.com and allows easy and quick access to independent news about Cambodia and international affairs in Khmer language. The launch of the website is part of the radio's on-going efforts to enhance the quality and availability of information to Cambodian citizens who can access the Internet inside and outside of the country. To date the vodhotnews.com website has received over 1 million visits.

New features will include daily reports from a team of 11 journalists covering a new range of issues varying from political and social topics to health and sports. The website boasts a modern, colourful design and is divided into several sections including human rights and good governance. Each page provides readers with news and in-depth reports and leaves them with an opportunity to share and send reports to their online network.

The website offers two special features: a database of citizen journalists' reports related to local issues impacting their communities and provinces and a video and photo gallery. As a whole, 24 citizen journalists will report to www.vodhotnews.com from 12 different provinces via smart phones and act as local correspondents.

"This new website is meant to inform, educate and also entertain" says Sun Narin, the online news editor. "We will publish stories from VOD's citizen journalists on issues that really impact their community. We want them to be the eyes of VOD in their province", he adds. Through this website, VOD becomes the first national multimedia platform in Khmer language to work with citizen journalists.

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CCIM was established in June 2007 and is registered with the Ministry of Interior as a non-governmental organization. CCIM is the legal entity of VOD Radio and started operating its own radio station in October 2008, bringing educational and informative programs to the Cambodian airwaves. It is now accessible on 106.5 FM in Phnom Penh and 95.5 in Siem Reap, reaches more than 2 million people in 14 provinces.