



41st Human Rights Council Session

Item 6. Universal Periodic Review (“UPR”) Outcome Cambodia

Sexual Orientation, Gender identity and Expression and Sex Characteristics rights and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

Statement by: International Lesbian and Gay Association

Endorsed by: ASEAN Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity/Expression Caucus (“ASC”), Cambodian Center for Human Rights (“CCHR”), Destination Justice (“DJ”), Micro Rainbow International (“MRI”), Rainbow Community Kampuchea (“RoCK”), Reproductive Health Association of Cambodia (“RHAC”), and the Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (“RFSU”).

Delivered by: Gabriel Galil

Mr. President,

ILGA World delivers this statement in consultation with Cambodian civil society organizations working on the promotion and protection of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sex characteristics (“SOGIESC”) rights and sexual and reproductive health and rights (“SRHR”) in Cambodia, including the Cambodian Center for Human Rights (“CCHR”), Micro Rainbow International (“MRI”), Rainbow Community Kampuchea (“RoCK”), Reproductive Health Association of Cambodia (“RHAC”), in addition to ASEAN Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity/Expression Caucus (“ASC”), Destination Justice (“DJ”) and the Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (“RFSU”).

We welcome the decision by the Royal Government of Cambodia (“RGC”) to accept a number of recommendations related to guaranteeing equal rights for all Cambodians, and in particular the RGC’s decision to accept all nine recommendations specifically related to the protection of the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer (“LGBTIQ”) people in Cambodia.

We call on the RGC to work with all relevant stakeholders in order to promptly and fully implement all accepted recommendations, in particular the nine recommendations specifically related to SOGIESC rights and SRHR, with a view of enabling marriage equality for same-sex couples, enacting laws and policies protecting LGBTIQ people from discrimination on the basis of SOGIESC, and introducing legislation allowing legal gender recognition for transgender persons. We are convinced that the implementation of the measures detailed in these recommendations will significantly contribute to advancing on the protection of the human rights of LGBTIQ communities across Cambodia.

We thank the governments of Australia, Canada, Iceland, Mexico, Netherlands, Sweden and Uruguay for having made these recommendations on SOGIESC rights. We encourage the recommending states to continue working with the RGC and all stakeholders in realizing all these recommendations.

We also encourage the RGC to continue and strengthen its ongoing efforts towards the effective implementation of a new comprehensive sexuality education curriculum in schools.

As civil society, we stand ready to continue our dialogue and cooperation with the RGC and all relevant stakeholders to ensure the full and meaningful implementation of UPR recommendations and other measures in order to fully protect equal rights for LGBTIQ communities in Cambodia.

I thank you,