

Prime Minister  
Samdech Hun Sen  
Office of the Prime Minister  
Jok Dimitrov Boulevard  
Phnom Penh  
**KAMBODSCHA**

## **Chhim Sithar**

Dear Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen,

On her return to Cambodia from a trade union representatives meeting in Australia, Chhim Sithar, president of LRSU (Labor Rights Supported Union of Khmer Employees) was arrested on 26th November 2022. The reason seems to have been a report by Human Rights Watch citing critical comments Samdech Hun Sen had made regarding aspects of the Cambodian government's repressive strike policies, resulting in incitement charges against Chhim Sithar.

Sithar had already been arrested before as a result of her trade union work and is accused of violating bail conditions. However, she was not aware of those restrictions because they had not been communicated to her or her lawyers.

As Sithar is merely exercising her human rights, i.e. the rights to freedom of speech and freedom of association, I urge you to ensure that Chhim Sithar is released immediately and unconditionally, and that the charges brought against her be reviewed by an objective body. Chhim Sithar - and the other members of the LRSU - should receive the protection granted by international human rights laws that Cambodia has ratified.

Yours sincerely,