



**មជ្ឈមណ្ឌលសិទ្ធិមនុស្សកម្ពុជា**  
**Cambodian Center for Human Rights**

**CCHR PRESS RELEASE – 26 November 2012**

**CCHR applauds the inclusion of gender identity in the UN Draft Resolution on Extrajudicial, Summary and Arbitrary Executions**

The Cambodian Center for Human Rights (“CCHR”) commends the Third Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations (the “Third Committee”), which is responsible for issues related to human rights, for including gender identity – for the first time – as a characteristic in need of protection, in a resolution on extrajudicial, summary and arbitrary executions (the “Resolution”). An amendment to remove sexual orientation and gender identity from the Resolution was introduced by the United Arab Emirates, on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, but was defeated by a vote of 86 against 44. The Resolution was approved by the Third Committee on 20 November 2012 by a vote of 108 to 1; 65 countries abstained.

**CCHR Project Coordinator Theng Nan comments:**

*“The overwhelming defeat of the amendment seeking to remove sexual orientation and gender identity from the Resolution demonstrates increasing international support for and recognition of the need to protect the human rights of all human beings, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Although there is still much progress to be made – including the repeal of antiquated laws criminalizing homosexuality in many countries – the inclusion of gender identity in this Resolution is a welcome step in the right direction.”*

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**Notes to Editor:**

CCHR, founded in November 2002, is a non-aligned, independent, non-governmental organization that works to promote and protect democracy and respect for human rights – primarily civil and political rights – throughout Cambodia.

CCHR is a member of the International Freedom of Expression Exchange (IFEX), the global network for freedom of expression.

The Cambodian Human Rights Portal [www.sithi.org](http://www.sithi.org) is the 2011 winner of the Information Society Innovation Fund Award in the category of Rights and Freedoms.