

## Joint Press Release

### **Civil Society Organizations Celebrate the 114th Anniversary of International Women’s Day Under the Theme: “Empowering Women and Girls for Equality, Economic Stability, and Social Justice”**

Phnom Penh, 26 February 2025

We, a coalition of civil society organizations—including associations, trade union confederations, trade union federations, youth networks, local communities, and citizens from underdeveloped areas—working across various sectors such as the textile and garment industry, food, services, informal economy, hotels, casinos, construction, domestic work, agriculture, land and natural resources, gender, and social justice, will come together to celebrate the 114th anniversary of International Women’s Day. This year’s celebration will be held under the theme “**Empowering Women and Girls for Equality, Economic Stability, and Social Justice**” at Freedom Park in Phnom Penh on **8 March 2025, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM**.

This event aims to commemorate the heroic deeds of women heroes from the past to the present who have strived to overcome obstacles, demanding rights, freedom, equality, social justice, and working conditions, etc., which are admirable examples of courage. Additionally, it will celebrate the achievements made through the collective efforts of various stakeholders who have actively contributed to the protection and promotion of women’s and girls’ rights and freedoms in Cambodia.

The event will feature representatives from relevant government ministries, embassies, international institutions, and civil society organizations working in different fields. Participants from diverse backgrounds will engage in meaningful discussions and share their experiences and perspectives on topics such as human rights, particularly women’s rights, gender equality, social justice, and effective mechanisms to advance the rights and well-being of women and girls.

Furthermore, the event will provide a platform for representatives of civil society organizations, labor activists, and community leaders to address the pressing challenges that women and girls continue to face. These include gender-based violence and harassment in the workplace and online, wage theft, loss of wages and benefits for textile workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, debt bondage, inequality, injustice against female victims, poor working conditions, and the responsibilities of brands and employers in ensuring fair wages for workers in the supply chain.

We invite the public to join us in commemorating this important day, either in person at Freedom Park or online, according to the schedule of activities outlined below:

- On 26 February 2025, release a press release on the celebration of the 114<sup>th</sup> anniversary of International Women’s Day 2025.

- From 1-5 March 2025, organize a radio discussion program on various topics, with a live broadcast on the Facebook page of the partner organization organizing the program.
- On 1 March 2025, organize an online question-and-answer program focusing on topics related to International Women’s Day, as well as lessons on women and girls and gender equality.
- From 1-7 March 2025, post a countdown flyer marking the days leading up to the celebration.
- On 5 March 2025, release a Joint Statement on Civil Society Organizations Celebrate the 114th Anniversary of International Women’s Day Under the Theme: “Empowering Women and Girls for Equality, Economic Stability, and Social Justice.
- From 1-7 March 2025, release a series of short videos highlighting the 16 demands by a coalition of civil society organizations to the government for improvement of various issues in other thematic work areas.
- From 1-8 March 2025, post campaign photo frames on Facebook so that social media users can download and use them on their profiles.
- On the morning of 8 March 2025, organize a gathering with approximately 1,000 participants to celebrate the 114th anniversary of International Women's Day under the theme "Empowering Women and Girls for Equality, Economic Stability, and Social Justice." The event will also be live-streamed on the official Facebook page of the organizing organizations.

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