News Conference

The Honorable Justice Michael Kirby, Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for Human Rights in Cambodia, will speak at a news conference on Thursday, January 27, 1994 at 7:00 p.m. at the Foreign Correspondents Club of Cambodia.

Justice Kirby will discuss his first visit to Cambodia as Special Representative. He will explain the United Nations’ human rights activities here, as well as the mandate and work of the Cambodia Field Office of the U.N. Centre for Human Rights -- the first field office of its kind.

The Secretary General of the United Nations appointed Justice Kirby as his Special Representative in November 1993 in pursuance of the Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/6. The Special Representative is to maintain contact with the Government and people of Cambodia, guide and coordinate the U.N. human rights presence in Cambodia, assist the Government in the promotion and protection of human rights and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eight session and the Commission on Human Rights at its fiftieth session under the agenda item entitled, "Advisory services in the Field of Human Rights."

Justice Kirby is President of the Court of Appeal, Supreme Court of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia and is chairman of the Executive Committee of the International Commission of Jurists. A recipient of the Australian Human Rights medal, he has been active in a number of areas, including international labor, cultural, communications and human rights matters, as well as the global fight against AIDS.

The FCCC is located on Samdech Sotheauros Boulevard on the waterfront, north of the Royal Palace. Khmer language interpretation will be provided for members of the Cambodian press.

For more information please contact Leah Melnick (015) 91-3447 or Christophe Peschoux (015) 91-3445.