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HIGH COMMISSIONER CONCERNED OVER CRITICISM OF UN'S HUMAN RIGHTS WORK IN CAMBODIA

High Commissioner for Human Rights Louise Arbour expressed concern today over comments attributed to the Prime Minister of Cambodia over the last two days regarding United Nations human rights work in that country.

The High Commissioner was referring to reports that Prime Minister Hun Sen had denounced the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for human rights in Cambodia, Yash Ghai, and the work of her Office in the country.

"The different Special Representatives over the years and the staff of my Office in Cambodia, established in 1993, have been mandated by the international community to monitor respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to cooperate with the Government and civil society in order to ensure that the standards accepted by the Government are observed", Ms. Arbour said.

"I trust that they will continue to receive the full cooperation of the Government", she added.

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