

OHCHR-Cambodia

HRC resolution 41/9 on the negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights

The Office of the High Commissioner to prepare a report on the challenges faced and best practices applied by States in integrating human rights into their national strategies and policies to fight against corruption, including those addressing non-State actors, such as the private sector,

In 2019, OHCHR-Cambodia became co-leader of the informal Development Partner Anti-Corruption group, together with Transparency International Cambodia. The group's objective is to share information related to anti-corruption initiatives among development partners. Additionally, the Office participated in a deep engagement workshop organized by the U4 research institute on corruption and the health sector. The workshop aimed to identify possible areas of intervention within the health sector to reduce corruption, with a broader aim of integrating some of these proposals into other sectors, such as the judiciary.

Recognizing the negative effect of corruption on people's trust in the justice sector, the government recently announced a renewed focus on the fight against corruption in the judiciary, which is very welcome. The Ministry of Justice has recently made efforts ensure that court fees are clearly displayed. In May 2019, the Government announced an increase in the salary of judges and prosecutors of about 74 USD. With a view to enhancing the transparency and efficiency of the criminal justice process, the Ministry of Justice, with technical support from OHCHR, completed the rolling out of a Criminal Case Management System for all 24 Courts of First Instance in August 2019. To date, the public's easy access to this information, especially on cases concerning them, varies from court to court, but OHCHR continues advocating for its increased accessibility. In this regard, the Office also advocated for the publication of judgments in order to enhance access to justice, transparency and accountability, but has not been successful to date. A long planned study on integrity in the judiciary has yet to be carried out. OHCHR welcomes the inclusion of the planned study in the Joint Monitoring Indicators of the Technical Working Group on Legal and Judicial Reform, and will continue engaging with the Ministry of Justice and other relevant stakeholders for its prompt implementation.