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KHMERS KAMPUCHEA-KROM FEDERATION

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Open Letter to President Nguyen Phu Trong of Vietnam

December 12, 2020

Attn: President Nguyen Phu Trong
c/o Ambassador Ha Kim Ngoc
Vietnamese Embassy
233 20th Street, N.W., Suite 400
Washington, DC 20036

Subject: Appeal to Seek Justice for a Khmer-Krom Family in Tra Vinh Province, Vietnam

Dear President Trong:

Despite the impact of COVID-19, people around the world have still celebrated International Human Rights Day. Unfortunately, we saw disturbing news on social media regarding the injustice land disputed between a Khmer-Krom family and a Vietnamese realtor, Mr. Cao Anh Liet, in Preah Trapeang (Tra Vinh) province.

On December 11, 2020, we saw a Khmer-Krom man, Mr. Kim Soc Khone, shared on his Facebook page asking the Vietnamese government and the world to find justice for his family. The incident happened at the sub-village 9, ward 9, Preah Trapeang (Tra Vinh) city.

Based on what we saw on the video, Mr. Cao Anh Liet ordered his workers to build a wall to block the front gate of Mr. Kim Soc Khone's house. During the incident, we also saw the Police Officers came. Mr. Kim Soc Khone asked those Law Enforcement Officers for help to stop people from blocking his house's entrance. But those Policemen did not do anything at all.

Blocking the entrance to someone's house is unethical. This incident has ignited the anger of the Khmer-Krom in the Mekong Delta and around the world. It clearly shows that the Khmer-Krom people have been treated with discrimination.

In this regard, we would like to urge you to order your Anti-Corruption Unit to investigate this issue. It must be a corruption in the court system in Tra Vinh province to allow Mr. Cao Anh Liet the power to block the entrance to Mr. Kim Soc Khone's house.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and assistance regarding this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Sereivuth Prak
KKF Executive President

