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**Khmer-Krom Face Reprisals after Celebrating the Adoption of the
15th Anniversary of UNDRIP**

Pennsauken, NJ, 25 October 2022 – The Khmers Kampuchea-Krom Federation (KKF) condemns the injustice acts of the government of Viet Nam for using reprisals against the Khmer-Krom who merely participated in the celebration of the adoption of the 15th anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) on September 13, 2022. It is a serious concern because Vietnam was recently elected to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) for the 2023-2025 term and immediately started using reprisals against the Khmer-Krom.

On October 24, 2022, around 9:40 am (Vietnam's time), the Vietnamese authorities came to arrest Mr. Chau Ly Na at his company without a warrant. They brought him for interrogation at the local police at Thanh Phu commune, Vinh Cuu district, Dong Nai province. Mr. Chau Ly Na was interrogated regarding his role as one of the organizers organizing the celebration of the adoption of the UNDRIP. During the integration, the Vietnamese authorities threatened him that if he kept advocating for the Khmer-Krom's rights as the indigenous peoples, he could face continuous summoning to see the police and lose his job. He even was threatened that he could face seven years in prison. He was forced to sign the confession to stop his advocacy work, but he refused to sign. The authority took his phone and threatened him to give his secret code to access it, but he refused to provide it.

Around 5 pm, October 24, 2022, facing resistance from Mr. Chau Ly Na because he knows his rights as the indigenous peoples of the Mekong Delta, the Vietnamese authorities had no choice but took him back to his rental home without returning his phone. Without a warrant, the



Vietnamese authorities searched his home and took away T-shirts having the message of celebrating the 15th anniversary of the UNDRIP.

On October 23, 2022, Mr. Danh Minh Quang, living in Dai Tam commune, My Xuyen district, Soc Trang province, shared a video expressing his frustration and accusing the Vietnamese authorities of using reprisal against him to losing his job because he attended the celebration of the 15th anniversary of the adoption of the UNDRIP in Tra Vinh province on September 13. After returning from attending that significant event on September 15, he was summoned to see the police and faced interrogation regarding his participation in the event. Since then, Mr. Danh Minh Quang said that he could not find a job now because wherever he goes to apply for a job, no one will hire him because of scaring of reprisals from the government.

In this regard, the Khmers Kampuchea-Krom Federation (KKF) urgently calls on the United Nations and international community to ask Vietnam to stop reprisals against Mr. Chau Ly Na, Mr. Danh Minh Quang, and other Khmer-Krom who merely advocate for the indigenous rights as enshrined in the UNDRIP that Vietnam signed to adopt it.

