<u>Press Releases: Close of Candidate</u> <u>Registration Period for Cambodia's</u> <u>National Elections</u>

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The United States deeply regrets the Royal Government of Cambodia's decision to prohibit leading figures from the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP) from participating in the July 2018, national elections. This decision prevents millions of Cambodian voters from exercising their democratic right to vote for candidates of their choice and calls into question the integrity of the electoral process. We urge the Cambodian government to reinstate CNRP candidates immediately.

In addition, in keeping with the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention's recent conclusion that CNRP leader Kem Sokha's imprisonment is arbitrary, we renew our call for his immediate release.

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