



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

VOICE AND SENHOA TO BECOME TWO SEPARATE AND INDEPENDENT ORGANIZATIONS

In recent times, the Cambodian Government has expressed concerns over the political advocacy activities of VOICE interfering with its humanitarian anti-trafficking work in Cambodia. On 9 December 2009, the Board of Directors of VOICE called an urgent meeting in which board members expressed a fervent wish for the humanitarian work serving underprivileged communities in Cambodia to continue. The organization addressed all concerns raised by the Cambodian government and has made the decision to split VOICE's work into two separate entities: refugee advocacy (to be delivered by VOICE) and anti-trafficking work (to be delivered by SENHOA).

A new anti-trafficking nonprofit organization called "SENHOA" has been established in California, United States with the core mission of providing vulnerable women and children with vocational training, economic opportunities and social reintegration programs. SENHOA is also working with the Cambodian Government to register as a non-profit entity in Cambodia.

VOICE will elect new board membership in the near future and continue to work on issues relating to its core mission. As from December 2009, VOICE has closed its office in Siem Reap and withdrawn from Cambodia.

VOICE and SENHOA have become two different and independent humanitarian non-profit organizations that are governed by different individuals. Both organizations would like to emphasize that they remain fully supportive of each other and united in their passion and dedication to serving underprivileged communities. It is believed that this is a more focused and positive direction which will yield stronger and more sustainable organizations.

On behalf of both organizations, we would like to thank the Government of Cambodia, the US Embassy in Cambodia, partnering NGOs and our donors for their continual support during this period.

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