Declaration
On
the guidelines for the execution of the abortion law

The Senior Minister and Minister of Health

- Having seen the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia.
- Having seen the Royal Kram number [Khmer abbreviation] 0196/06 dated 24/01/96 announcing to use the Law on the Establishment of the Ministry of Health.
- Having seen the Law on Abortion that is declared for use by the Royal Kram number [Khmer abbreviation] 1197/06 dated 12 November 1997.
- In accordance with the need of the Ministry of Health.

Hereby Decided

Article 1:
This declaration aims to explain the technical conditions for the implementation of the regulations set forth in the Law on Abortion.

Technical Conditions

Article 2:
Doctors or medical assistants or secondary midwives can carry out an abortion only if they have received proper training with a training certificate from the Ministry of Health and only with the authorization of the Ministry of Health.

The training must be conducted according to the Clinical Protocol of the Ministry of Health with its focus on:
- techniques of abortion
- emergency treatment of various complications
- examination of the concerned person's health status to identify her strength to cope with the abortion
• counseling for the concerned person

**Article 3:**
Before deciding on an abortion, the service provider must consider the health problems described in the clinical protocols:
- Severe pelvic infections
- Severe diabetes
- Current jaundice
- Placenta praevia

**Article 4:**
Counseling for the concerned person must have the following contents:
- Clear explanation of the consequence of an abortion.
- Advice on the benefits of birth spacing services and existing contraceptive methods, and assistance to the woman to receive birth spacing services.
- After the abortion, the woman must be able to recognize a number of symptoms that requires immediate care such as fever, chills, muscle pain, abdominal pain or backache, abdominal distention, heavy and prolonged bleeding, foul-smelling vaginal discharge, prolonged menorrhea (6 weeks or more), vomiting or nausea.

**Article 5:**
For each abortion, there must be a written consent form with signature or thumbprint of the concerned woman and the related persons in each case as described in Article 8 of the Abortion Law.

**Article 6:**
The abortion must be confined within the conditions stated in Article 8 of the law and must be performed in accordance with the Ministry of Health's Clinical Protocols.

**Reporting**

**Article 7:**
The head of the abortion service team, of both public or private facilities, must prepare clear documentation for each abortion case and submit regular monthly reports to the Department of Hospital, Ministry of Health, on the number of cases of under 12 weeks of pregnancy, the number of cases of over 12 weeks of pregnancy, the abortion methods, the age of each patient, the emergency cases referred to hospitals and reasons for referral, without the name of the clients.

**Article 8:**
The Department of Hospital of the Department of the Technical Director General has the task to monitor the abortions performed in both public and private services in the Kingdom of Cambodia.

The monitoring must be carried out based on the technical conditions stated in Articles 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of this declaration.

**Article 9:** Any instruction that contradicts this declaration is regarded as invalid.

**Article 10:** The cabinet of the Ministry of Health, the Department of the Technical Director General, the Department of Administration and Finance, the Office of the Inspection Director General, the Department of Hospital and the Provincial-Municipality Health Department have the task to implement this declaration effectively from the time of the signature of this declaration.

Phnom Penh 30 August 2002

Senior Minister and Minister of Health

cc:
- Ministry of Royal Palace
- Secretariat General of the Senate
  - Dr. Hong Sun Huot
- Secretariat General of the National Assembly
- Secretariat General of the Royal Government
- Cabinet of the Prime Minister
- Provincial/Municipality head quaters
- Official Gazette
- Chronicle