

## For immediate release: 24th May 2010

## Global Witness responds to Cambodian Embassy's withdrawal of public debate offer

Global Witness is disappointed, but not entirely surprised, to hear that the Cambodian Embassy has withdrawn its offer for a public debate with us. We had responded to their proposal in good faith and saw this as an opportunity for sensible and necessary discussion about issues of public interest. However, it seems they are continuing their policy of opacity in natural resource management, which they appear to be unable to defend or to justify in public. We therefore hope that Cambodia's international donors will be bringing up issues of accountability, transparency and corruption at the forthcoming government-donor meeting in early June.

## /ENDS

Contact: Oliver Courtney, 020 7492 5848; 07815 731889; ocourtney@globalwitness.org