

## Public Affairs shuffle

Written by  
Wednesday, 20 May 2009 06:00

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The tribunal announced some significant personnel changes yesterday that will affect the way journalists interact with the court. In the most striking reassignment, [Helen Jarvis will leave her position](#) as Chief of Public Affairs to become Head of the Victims Unit.

Jarvis has been involved with the tribunal since 1999 and is replacing Keat Bophal, who recently resigned from the ECCC.

Press Officer Reach Sambath will move into Jarvis' position as Chief of Public Affairs. Dim Sovannarom, who has worked with TVK and at the Royal University of Phnom Penh, has been tapped for Sambath's old job.

Meanwhile, no permanent replacement has been found for former UN spokesperson Peter Foster, who [left his position in December](#). But in early March, Norwegian Lars Olsen was selected as the court's Legal Communications Officer and he will fill in as UNAKRT spokesman when necessary.

According to a release from the court, Olsen's "principal responsibility will be to ensure the accuracy, quality, consistency and timeliness of all legally related information issued publicly by the ECCC, particularly the Court Documents section of the ECCC website."

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Such an improvement is long overdue, in my opinion, as the process by which documents are made public has been somewhat inconsistent and far from prompt.

As part of a larger effort to keep the public better informed about news at the ECCC, the first of planned weekly press briefings will be held tomorrow by the Office of Public Affairs. Both Acting Director of Administration Tony Kranh and Deputy Director of Administration Knut Rosandhaug are scheduled to speak.

\* *Pictured: Helen Jarvis.*