STATEMENT ON THE ICC PRE-TRIAL CHAMBERS DECISION AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR TO RESUME INVESTIGATION

The Children's Legal Rights and Development Center, Inc. (CLRDC) and the In Defense of Human Rights and Dignity Movement (IDEFEND), Philippines-based NGOs, welcome the decision of the ICC Pre-Trial Chamber granting the request of Prosecutor Khan to resume the investigation in the Philippine's Drug War and the killings in Davao City.

This development is one step towards the attainment of justice for all the victims of the violent drug war policies, especially the children affected by the Anti-drug campaign under the previous administration, which resulted in the demise of more than 150 children, let alone thousands of them orphaned and traumatized.

We call on the current administration to cooperate and support the ICC process in conducting investigations to the crimes against humanity connected to the war on drugs. We urge the government to hold the perpetrators accountable and provide support to the families left behind. We call on the government to put into action its commitment to the recommendations accepted in the 2022 UPR pertinent to the war on drugs.

#StoptheKillings
#RejointheICC