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Items 22 and 34 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA
QUESTION OF PEACE, STABILITY AND CO-OPERATION
IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-sixth year

Letter dated 25 March 1981 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Philippines to the Secretary-General

I wish to transmit to you the text of my statement on the so-called elections in Kampuchea which was issued today in my capacity as Chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee:

"1. The ASEAN Member States cannot recognize the validity of any elections which would compel the Kampuchean people to endorse candidates foisted on them by foreign forces. Under the shadow cast by the presence of 200,000 Vietnamese troops, the Kampuchean people cannot pursue their national interests, form a government of their own choice or freely elect their leaders.

"2. The ASEAN Governments denounce the so-called elections that are being conducted by the Heng Samrin régime in Kampuchea. These elections contravene the provisions of United Nations General Assembly resolution 35/6 which call for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Kampuchea and for United Nations supervised elections to allow the Kampuchean people to determine for themselves their own future, free from outside interference, subversion or coercion. The elections are being staged in an attempt to confer a false legitimacy upon the Heng Samrin régime in the face of the firm and just demand by Kampuchean nationalists for the removal of foreign forces from their country. The world is aware that Vietnamese forces are in Kampuchea against the will of the Kampuchean people. These forces overthrew the legitimate government of Democratic Kampuchea and imposed a régime which later claimed to have invited the Vietnamese forces. The Heng Samrin régime has been rejected by the international community.

* A/36/50.

"3. The ASEAN Governments call upon the world community to denounce these fraudulent elections. They also call upon the United Nations Secretary-General to reject these so-called elections and to expedite the implementation of General Assembly resolution 35/6 which was adopted by an overwhelming majority at the United Nations last year to find a comprehensive and durable political solution to the Kampuchean problem, which would be acceptable to the Kampuchean people and to all parties concerned."

I would appreciate it if this letter and the text of my statement could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 22 and 34 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Carlos P. ROMULO
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of the Philippines
