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THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA  
QUESTION OF PEACE, STABILITY AND  
CO-OPERATION IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirty-eighth year

Letter dated 26 July 1983 from the Permanent Representative of  
the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations  
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the Communiqué of the Seventh Conference of the Foreign Ministers of Laos, Kampuchea and Viet Nam, held at Phnom Penh on 19 and 20 July 1983.

I should be grateful if you could have this letter and its enclosure circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 23 and 37 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kithong VONGSAY  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of the  
Lao People's Democratic Republic  
to the United Nations

\* A/38/150.

ANNEX

C O M M U N I Q U E  
OF THE SEVENTH CONFERENCE OF THE FOREIGN  
MINISTERS OF LAOS, KAMPUCHEA AND VIETNAM

The Seventh Conference of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was held in Phnom Penh on July 19th and 20th, 1983.

1. Reviewing the struggle of the three peoples of Indochina over the last six months, the conference noted with satisfaction that the situation was developing favourably for their respective national reconstruction and defence, thereby contributing to the cause of peace, friendship and cooperation in Southeast Asia. The peoples of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam shoulder to shoulder, in close cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries, and in solidarity with the non-aligned countries and their friends throughout the world, have overcome the most difficult period. In the light of February 1983 Summit Conference of the three countries of Indochina, the three peoples are advancing steadily. In particular, the conference rejoiced at the great successes in all fields, military, economic, political and diplomatic, recorded by the People's Republic of Kampuchea, thus repeatedly defeating the perfidious designs of the expansionist, imperialist and reactionary forces who attempt to reverse the revival process of the Kampuchean People's Republic. With its increasing growth and stability, The People's Republic of Kampuchea's international prestige grows each day. The peace - and justice - loving peoples over the world realize clearly that the People's Republic of Kampuchea is the sole genuine and legitimate representative of the Kampu-

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chean people. The so-called " coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea " represents nothing but a mask to cover up the Pol Pot clique's genocidal nature, which has been condemned by the Kampuchean people and the whole mankind. It cannot in any way change the situation in Kampuchea.

The decision of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on the annual withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Kampuchea and the two partial withdrawals in 1982 and 1983 demonstrate both the growth and strength of the People's Republic of Kampuchea as well as Vietnam's consistent policy of respect for the Kampuchean people's independence and right to self-determination. This is a demonstration of the three Indochinese people's goodwill not only in words but also in deeds. The just position and the acts of goodwill of the three countries of Indochina have been warmly welcomed by broad world public opinion. Only the Chinese leaders, the American imperialists, and the reactionaries within the Thai ruling circles oppose this trend as they want to maintain tension in Southeast Asia and poison the world political atmosphere, thus jeopardizing international peace and security.

2. On the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the signing of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the conference warmly welcomed the great successes of the Laos-Vietnam friendship in socialist construction and national defence of each country. It held the view that the Laos-Vietnam treaty represents a major contribution to the consolidation and strengthening of the special friendship and militant solidarity between the three countries of Indochina as well as an important factor for peace and stability in Southeast Asias.

3. The conference was informed of a certain number of diplomatic activities carried out by the three countries of Indochina since the extraordinary conference of the Foreign Ministers of the three countries on April 12th, 1983. It highly appreciated the outcome of Minister Nguyen Co Thach's visit to the Republic of the Philippines and the constructive attitude of the latter toward the promotion of dialogue between ASEAN and Indochina with a view to restoring peace and stability in Southeast Asia. It took note of the positive results obtained by the talks on June 9th, 1983 by the Foreign Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and of the Kingdom of Thailand. The conference welcomed the foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship and cooperation of the Labour Government of Australia and the great efforts made by Foreign Minister Bill Hayden aimed at <sup>restoring</sup> peace and stability in Southeast Asia. The conference also welcomed the personal efforts by the Secretary General of the United Nations in promoting dialogue among the countries of the region and in easing tension in Southeast Asia.

4. The Conference unanimously held the view that the Chinese leader's hostile policy toward the three Indochinese countries has not changed in the least. The conference once again severely condemned this policy of the Chinese leaders who in collusion with the American imperialists and the other reactionary forces, are frantically opposing and waging a kind of war of sabotage in many fields against the three Indochinese countries, and at the same time pursuing their designs of annexing the three Indochinese countries. The conference utterly rejected the big-nation chauvinist approach of the Chinese leaders embodied in their five-point proposal on the Kampuchea issue made public on

March 1st 1983. It condemned China for demanding that Vietnam withdraw its troops from Kampuchea, while continuing to give itself the right to act freely against the independence and security of the three countries of Indochina politically, economically and militarily. These Chinese actions constitute the root cause of tension and instability in Southeast Asia at present. The People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam have effected annual withdrawals of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Kampuchea and declared publicly that the Vietnamese volunteer troops would all be withdrawn once China's threat was removed. World public opinion demands that China terminate all threats so that conditions can be created for the withdrawal of all Vietnamese volunteer troops from Kampuchea.

Now as earlier, the three countries of Indochina set great store by the long-standing ties of solidarity and friendship with the Chinese people and strive continuously to restore relations of friendship and good neighbourhood with China on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence. They considered these relations as an extremely significant contribution to peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic and the People's Republic of Kampuchea fully supported the proposal made by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam concerning the resumption of Sino-Vietnamese talks on all matters of mutual concern with a view to normalizing relations between the two countries. In the immediate future, consultations between the two countries should be held at any level and in any place so as to prepare for the resumption of the talks. The Two parties would take the proposals put forward by each party as basis for the talks. The conference wholly supported the proposal of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam concern-

ing urgent measures to reduce tension along the Sino-Vietnamese border, a proposal that has remained unanswered by the Chinese side.

5. The conference took note of the ASEAN countries' indicated willingness to promote dialogues with the countries of Indochina without preconditions in order to settle the differences between the two groups of countries. However, the conference deplored that while the countries of Indochina have put forward many constructive proposals and initiatives, The ASEAN countries have rejected them all . The latest instance of this is the fact that the ASEAN countries have not responded to the peace initiatives and the acts of goodwill of the Indochinese countries, especially to the annual withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteers from Kampuchea. On the contrary, they have put forward new absurd demands, particularly the demand that Vietnam withdraw its troops 30 Kms away from the Thai-Kampuchea border as a precondition for dialogue. These actions obviously show that the ASEAN countries have blocked all roads to dialogue, under the pressure from the Chinese leaders and the U.S. imperialists.

The conference categorically rejected the slanderous allegation of China, the United States and a number of reactionary quarters within the ASEAN countries that Vietnam is sending Vietnamese nationals to Kampuchea with the aim of altering the latter's demographic composition. This is but a grotesque propaganda ploy used to conceal the failure of their attempt to accuse Vietnam of having invaded and occupying Kampuchea, against the fact that the Vietnamese volunteer troops are being gradually withdrawn from Kampuchea. Experience over the last forty years and especially during the past four years proves that all their illusions to weaken and divide the countries of Indochina as well as all attempts to tarnish them have failed dismally.

The three countries of Indochina also recognized that there exist differences between the countries of Indochina and those of ASEAN, including the so-called Kampuchean problem, which, in reality, is but the fruit of the policy of aggression and intervention carried out by Chinese expansionism. Therefore, the three countries of Indochina reiterated their proposals as follows :

A) Dialogues without pre-condition should be held between the two groups of Indochinese and ASEAN countries. The People's Republic of Kampuchea reaffirmed its attitude of goodwill, that it was prepared not to let its participation impede the opening of dialogue between the two groups of countries. All formulas regarding the composition of the participants as well as the agenda of these dialogues will seriously be examined by way of constructive consultations.

The three Indochinese countries noted with satisfaction that the two groups of countries of Southeast Asia, ASEAN and Indochina including countries within as well as outside the movement of non-aligned states, both accepted the resolutions of the Seventh Summit Conference of non-aligned countries on the situation in Southeast Asia. Therefore, the three countries proposed that the resolutions of the Seventh Summit Conference of non-aligned states be taken as the basis for the dialogues between ASEAN and Indochina.

The three countries of Indochina were also prepared to take the proposal of the ASEAN countries for a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality ( ZOPFAN ) as a basis for discussion between Indochina and ASEAN on turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace and stability. Once again they categorically rejected the erroneous resolutions of the United Nations and of the so-called

International Conference of the United Nations on Kampuchea because these resolutions still recognize the genocidal Pol Pot regime denounced by world public opinion and attempt to reimpose this regime, against the Kampuchean people's rebirth.

The fate of peace in Southeast Asia rests with the Governments of the countries of Indochina and ASEAN, which are the two main groups of countries in the region. That is why the conference earnestly called on the ASEAN countries, in the common interests of the Southeast Asian peoples, together with the Indochinese countries not to spare any efforts aimed at reducing the tension between the two groups of countries and to engage in bilateral or multilateral dialogue so as to increase mutual understanding and gradually settle the differences between the two groups of countries.

The three countries also called on the governments of all the countries in the world to contribute to the reduction of tension and to the promotion of dialogue in Southeast Asia for the sake of the noble cause of peace in Southeast Asia and the world.

B) The three countries of Indochina once again reiterated the position of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on the annual partial withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteers from Kampuchea on the basis of the state of security and stability in Kampuchea, particularly along the Kampuchea-Thailand border. The Vietnamese volunteer troops will all be withdrawn as soon as China puts an end to its threat. The three Indochinese countries welcomed all efforts on the part of the ASEAN countries to bring China's threat to an end so that the Vietnamese volunteer troops may be withdrawn from Kampuchea.

C) The conference reviewed the state of security along the border between Kampuchea and Thailand and reiterated its view that any proposal aimed at reducing the tension along the Kampuchea-Thailand border must stem from the principle of ensuring equal security for both sides. It expressed its full support to the constructive proposals made by the People's Republic of Kampuchea on this question in the Communiqué of the extraordinary conference of the Foreign Ministers of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam on April 12th, 1983, and declared its readiness to examine Thailand's proposal concerning the situation and security along the Kampuchea-Thailand border. It unanimously held the view that for the immediate future urgent measures should be taken to reduce tension along that border so as to ward off any danger of escalation into a major conflict and to gradually create mutual trust. Such measures were put forward at the talks between the Foreign Ministers of Vietnam and of Thailand in Bangkok on June 09th, 1983.

D) Recently, the Thai authorities have attempted to exploit for their own interests the problem of Kampuchean refugees, thus violating the sovereignty of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and aggravating tension along the Kampuchea-Thailand border .

The Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam wholly supported the idea put forward by the People's Republic of Kampuchea that the Red Cross societies of Kampuchea and Thailand should examine either directly or through intermediary their respective proposals regarding the humanitarian problem of Kampuchean refugees along the Kampuchea-Thailand border on the basis of respect for Kampuchea's as well as Thailand's independence, sovereignty and security.

6. The three countries of Indochina resolutely supported the world peoples in the struggle for peace, national independence and social progress against the aggressive policy of imperialism and international reactions. The three Indochinese countries reaffirmed the declarations of the parties and governments of the three countries warmly welcoming the initiatives of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw pact member states, in particular the June 28, 1983 Joint Declaration of the Summit meeting of Warsaw pact members countries. This declaration demonstrates the firm position, noble responsibility of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries in the struggle for peace and the easing of international tension. The three countries of Indochina warmly welcomed the success of the World peace Assembly held in Prague in June 1983 and considered it a very important contribution to the struggle of the world peoples against nuclear war, for peace and life on earth. The three countries of Indochina pledged to do their utmost to contribute to the common cause of peace of mankind.

PHNOM PENH , JULY 20 , 1983

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