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CREENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Letter dated 17 September 1979 from the Permanent Representative of the Lao
People's Democratic Republic addressed to the Secretary-General

The United Nations has brought to the attention of all Member States, in a timely document (A/34/460 of 10 September 1979) as the thirty-fourth session of the General Assembly is about to open, the text of a message addressed on 7 September 1979 by His Excellency Mr. Hun Sen, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, to the President of the General Assembly and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations concerning the representation of Kampuchea in the United Nations and the inclusion in the agenda of the thirty-fourth session of an item relating to Kampuchea.

The Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic wishes hereby to support unreservedly the correct views expressed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea on these two questions.

In the matter of the representation of Kampuchea, the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic has always invariably maintained that the only legitimate and lawful representative of Kampuchea is the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea, which exercises full authority throughout the country and has the support of the people of Kampuchea and of peoples devoted to peace, freedom and progress everywhere in the world. Having its seat in the capital city of Phnom Penh and exercising control over the entire territory, the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea alone possesses, from both the legal and the material and factual standpoints, the necessary qualifications to represent the people of Kampuchea in the United Nations and all other international organizations; in addition - a very important point - it alone is in a position to discharge the obligations arising from the Charter, from international law and from international commitments.

* A/34/150.

As for so-called "Democratic Kampuchea", subservient to the Chinese expansionists and of unhappy memory, that was finally overthrown by the Kampuchean people on 7 January 1979. Moreover, the principal leaders of that abhorred régime, including Pol Pot and Ieng Sary, were recently condemned to death by the People's Revolutionary Tribunal of Kampuchea and are wanted for genocide, which the international community has declared to be a crime against humanity. Consequently, the wretched individuals who continue to masquerade as the representatives of "Democratic Kampuchea", who owe their phantom existence to the perfidious manoeuvres of the expansionist and hegemonistic rulers in Peking, in connivance with the imperialists and reactionary forces, are totally unqualified to speak on behalf of the people of Kampuchea and to represent Kampuchea in the international arena.

In the interests of justice for the people of Kampuchea, which suffered so much from the slavery-like practices of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique, and of safeguarding the credibility of the United Nations, the Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic strongly supports the representations of Mr. Hun Sen, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, requesting the thirty-fourth session of the General Assembly to take the necessary action to put an end to the presence of the criminal band in the United Nations and to restore Kampuchea's seat to its legitimate, lawful and authentic representative, the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea.

Also for the twofold purpose mentioned above, the Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations wishes to state its resolute opposition to the inclusion in the agenda of the thirty-fourth session of the Assembly of an item entitled "The situation in Kampuchea", at the request of certain countries in the region which have always taken the opposite side against the people of Kampuchea and the other peoples of Indo-China.

The situation in Kampuchea is first and foremost a matter for the Kampuchean people itself. The consideration by the General Assembly of any question relating to Kampuchea requires the consent and full participation of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea, failing which it could only be inadmissible interference in the internal affairs of the Kampuchean people. The United Nations, by virtue of the principle of non-interference written in letters of gold in its Charter, should not lend itself to so dangerous a game.

I should be grateful if you would circulate this letter as an official document of the General Assembly under item 3 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Vithaya SOURINHO
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of the Lao People's
Democratic Republic to the United Nations
