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SECURITY COUNCIL
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Letter dated 8 April 1980 from the representatives of
the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam to
the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We, the Permanent Representative of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations and the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations, have the honour to forward herewith the joint communiqué of the Conference of the Foreign Ministers of Kampuchea, Laos and Viet Nam signed on 5 January 1980 at Phnom Penh, and kindly request Your Excellency to have this letter and its enclosure circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 22 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Boun Omme SOUTHICHAK
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.
of the Lao People's
Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

(Signed) HA VAN LAU
Permanent Representative
of the Socialist Republic
of Viet Nam
to the United Nations

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ANNEX

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

of the Conference of the Foreign Ministers
of Kampuchea, Laos and Viet Nam

On the occasion of the first anniversary of the Kampuchean people's historic victory on 7 January 1979, a conference was held in Phnom Penh on 5 January for the foreign ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

The meeting was attended by Hun Sen, Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, Phoun Sipaseuth, Foreign Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Nguyen Duy Trinh, Foreign Minister of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

In an atmosphere of enthusiasm and conviction in the certain victory of the just cause of the peoples of Kampuchea, Laos and Viet Nam, and in a spirit of fraternity, comradeship and mutual trust, the three foreign ministers met, for the first time, to inform one another of the situation in their respective countries and to exchange views on international matters of common concern and on measures to strengthen the great militant solidarity and friendship, and cooperation between the three countries in construction and defence. The parties saw eye to eye with one another on all points.

I

Following the historic victory recorded by the Kampuchean people on 7 January 1979, in completely overthrowing the genocidal Pol Pot - Ieng Sary regime, instrument of the Beijing expansionists, the peoples of Kampuchea, Laos and Viet Nam, united, relying on and supporting one another, have thwarted successive frenzied counter-attacks by the reactionary Beijing rulers in collusion with U.S. imperialism and other reactionary forces. They have recorded many great successes in defending and consolidating their independence and sovereignty, while making new achievements in economic construction and national defence.

The emergence of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the successes scored by the Kampuchean people over the past year have combined to change the face of this country, ending the genocidal regime and launching the nation

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on a new path of development. The Kampuchean people, now real masters of their destinies and united under the banner of justice of the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea and the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Council (KPRC), are endeavouring to overcome the serious consequences of the genocidal regime, to step up production, to combat famine, to restore medical, cultural and educational activities, and to normalize their lives. Their dignity, as well as their rights to health care, employment, education, religion, marriage, family life and residence are respected and guaranteed. The over four million Kampucheans, who have seen the superiority of the new system, are striving to build and consolidate the people's administration; to crush all sabotage by reactionaries in the pay of the expansionists, the imperialists and other foreign reactionaries; to maintain law and order in the whole country, and resolutely to protect their peaceful life. Alongside its efforts in national reconstruction, the KPRC is pursuing a foreign policy of independence, peace, friendship and non-alignment in order to turn Kampuchea, once used as a base for aggression against neighbouring countries, into a positive factor for peace and stability in Southeast Asia. The People's Republic of Kampuchea is therefore enjoying growing sympathy and support from the world's people.

Events in Kampuchea over the past year have shown that under the new system in which the administration and the people are one, there is no room for Pol Pot, Ieng Sary, Khieu Samphan and other reactionaries including Sihanouk among the population. The KPRC, which embodies the aspirations and will of the entire Kampuchean people, is their sole genuine and legal representative. All plots by the Beijing expansionists, the U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces to undermine the independence and sovereignty of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and to use the United Nations in their campaign for a "political solution" in order to change the situation in their favour, will be of no avail. The situation in Kampuchea is irreversible.

The Lao people, upholding their spirit of self-reliance, promoting their industry and creativeness, sharpening their vigilance and enhancing their determination to surmount all hardships and difficulties, have recorded brilliant achievements in all fields of national construction and defence. Agricultural and industrial production have been strongly developed. Agricultural co-operativisation has been basically completed and has continuously been strengthened, thereby contributing to the improvement of living standards, to the development of culture, and to the creation of necessary conditions for the laying of the material and technical bases for socialism and for the defence of glorious Laos.

The Lao people have thwarted successive interventionist, rebellious and subversive moves taken by Beijing against the revolutionary administration. They have firmly defended the security and territorial integrity of their country while contributing in a major way to the maintenance of peace and security in fraternal Viet Nam and Kampuchea by thwarting Beijing's dangerous scheme to sabotage Lao - Kampuchean-Vietnamese solidarity, by using Laos against the revolutions in all three countries.

The resounding victory of the Vietnamese people in crushing the aggression by the Chinese expansionists has defeated Beijing's design to subjugate and annex Viet Nam for expansion into the whole of Indochina and Southeast Asia. This victory has further enhanced the position and strength of all the

three peoples in their joint struggle against their common enemy. The Vietnamese people's courageous struggle in defence of their independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and for national construction, as well as their determination to honour all their commitments to the fraternal peoples of Kampuchea and Laos, are entirely just and have won the admiration of the world's people. Promoting this just cause and with the strong backing of progressive world public opinion the Vietnamese people have defeated all campaigns of slander and distortion mounted by Beijing and Washington to vilify and discredit Viet Nam. In the hearts of the world's people, Viet Nam will always remain a symbol of independence and freedom, of staunchness and loyalty ; it will always be a banner of justice and victory.

The most significant common victory of the three peoples has been their ever-strengthening militant solidarity. This solidarity, closely tied to the solidarity of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, has become invincible. It can defeat any aggressor and change the balance of forces in Southeast Asia in favour of peace, national independence and social progress.

II

Events in recent years, and especially in 1979, show that while U.S. imperialism remains the principal enemy of humanity, Chinese great-nation expansionism and hegemonism is the direct and most dangerous enemy of the three Indochinese countries. It is also a dangerous enemy of peace, national independence and social progress in Southeast Asia. Working hand in glove with U.S. imperialism and other imperialist and reactionary forces to achieve its expansionist, hegemonistic designs, Beijing is going further and further along the path of reaction against the world's people.

To Beijing, the completely independent and sovereign Kampuchea, Laos and Viet Nam of today, helping one another in national construction and defence, are a great obstacle to its expansionist designs on Southeast Asia. That is why it resorts any wicked and ruthless manoeuvre to sow discord among the three countries and undermine their independence and sovereignty.

The expansionists rave about "anti-hegemony" yet practise hegemony themselves. Following the United States' example of an internationalgendarme they arrogate the right to teach other nations. Applying a policy of divide-and-rule to destroy the militant solidarity between the Indochinese nations and subjugate these countries, they charge Viet Nam with scheming for an Indochinese Federation. The three foreign ministers solemnly declare that the question of an Indochinese Federation ended with the fall of French Indochina.

The expansionists clamour about the "right to self-determination" only to distract attention from their own interventionist, subversive and aggressive activities. They are the most active among the reactionary forces now trying to revive the genocidal regime of "Democratic Kampuchea" in violation of the Kampuchean people's right to self-determination. They are also recruiting Lao reactionaries in exile to resist the revolutionary cause of the Lao people.

The Beijing reactionaries and the imperialists are raising the slogans of "humanitarianism" and "human rights" to oppose the Indochinese countries. But the Chinese expansionists are known to have been behind the genocide in Kampuchea and to be trying to revive the genocidal regime, and the U.S. imperialists were authors of an atrocious war against the Indochinese people, during which they used 15 million tons of explosives and even chemical weapons to massacre the local populations. The slanders made by those guilty of genocide and war will convince no one to put the blame on Viet Nam, who defeated them.

The fact is that the people who make the greatest noises about famine are making use of "humanitarian aid" for intervention in Kampuchea, and are the most zealous supporters of remnants of the Pol Pot - Ieng Sary forces against the Kampuchean people. Meanwhile, the most important, effective and timely aid to the Kampuchean people in their fight against famine has been given by the Soviet Union, Viet Nam and the other socialist countries.

China and the United States pretend to be concerned about peace and stability in Southeast Asia. How can they then try to get people to forget the military adventure by 600,000 Chinese troops on Viet Nam's northern border and the war of aggression on its southwestern border waged by Beijing through the Pol Pot - Ieng Sary clique? The cause of instability on the Thai-Kampuchean border is the collusion between Beijing and imperialism in backing Khmer reactionaries of all shades of opinion, smuggling them across the border for sabotage inside Kampuchea. Yet, a great deal of noise has been made about "a danger of aggression on the part of the Indochinese countries" to rouse the ASEAN countries against Viet Nam, Kampuchea and Laos. The three foreign ministers hereby strongly demand that the Beijing expansionists and the imperialists stop using Thai territory against the sovereignty and security of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, and remove all logistic bases and "sanctuaries" they have established on Thai territory along the Kampuchean border.

For thirty years the Indochinese peoples have been victims of the colonial war by the French colonialists, the neo-colonialist war of aggression by the U.S. imperialists, and the policy of great-nation expansionism and hegemonism by the reactionaries in Beijing. The enemy have used the territories and armed forces of some ASEAN countries against the Indochinese peoples. It is still not too late for the ASEAN countries to realize that they themselves are coveted by Chinese expansionism and hegemonism. By allowing themselves to be used by the enemy they are harming their own interests. The draft resolution on Kampuchea sponsored by the ASEAN countries and adopted by the U.N. General Assembly and the discussion of Kampuchea by the recent ASEAN ministerial conference all ran against the Kampuchean people's right to self-determination and served the sinister designs of Beijing's expansionism. They have failed to cause any change in favour of Beijing, imperialism or the ASEAN countries themselves.

For a long time Chinese great-nation expansionism and hegemonism has been a threat to the independence, sovereignty, peace and security of the Indochinese peoples and other Southeast Asian nations. But the tests of strength last year showed that the Chinese expansionists are not strong. Instead, they have been

weakened by the heavy blows dealt by the peoples of the three countries. Their reactionary nature has been exposed. They have met strong opposition from their own people and have been further isolated in the international arena. The Chinese expansionists have intensified their collusion with the imperialists while U.S.-led imperialism is in a weak position and difficult situation. Upholding an unjust cause and running counter to the general trend of our times, the Beijing expansionists cannot escape complete failure. The peoples of Kampuchea, Laos and Viet Nam always treasure their solidarity and friendship with the Chinese people and are always grateful to the Chinese people for their support and assistance to the three peoples' just cause. The reactionaries among the Chinese leadership are sticking to their expansionist schemes in Indochina and Southeast Asia, and are running against the interests and aspirations of the Chinese people themselves. The three ministers firmly believe that the solidarity and friendship between the Kampuchean, Lao and Vietnamese peoples and the Chinese people will be restored.

III

The conference notes with satisfaction and pride that the militant solidarity between the three peoples has been further consolidated and developed through new trials last year. That solidarity has multiplied the strength of each nation, thus creating great common strength and helping the three peoples win victories of strategic significance in their struggle against the Beijing expansionists.

The militant solidarity between the three peoples, based on the principles of respect for each other's independence and sovereignty and of non-interference in each other's internal affairs, has been tried and tempered through the long wars of resistance against the French colonialists and the U.S. imperialists, and through the present struggle against the Beijing reactionaries in collusion with imperialism.

All the victories over the past year as well as the history of the 30 years of struggle against the colonialists, the imperialists and the great-nation hegemonists have confirmed that that militant solidarity constitutes a factor for each country's victory and a law governing its revolutionary development. That noble solidarity is appreciated by the world people, except the Beijing expansionists, the imperialists and other reactionary forces, who are opposed to it.

In the face of their common enemies, all three parties are resolved to strengthen the militant solidarity, great friendship, mutual assistance and co-operation between the three nations, considering this both as a noble task in defence of their own countries and at the same time as an international obligation towards fraternal nations on the Indochinese peninsula, while the Beijing expansionists, in collusion with the U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces, are intensifying their hostile acts against the three countries, the presence of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea and Laos at the request of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea and the Lao People's Democratic Republic Government to defend their revolutionary gains, together with the Kampuchean and Lao peoples and armies, is very necessary. It conforms to the three peoples' aspirations, international laws and the U.N. Charter. It is a matter concerning the relations between the three countries. Nobody has a right to interfere in it. The three foreign ministers

hail the revolutionary armed forces and peoples of the three countries, who fought and won victories together in their past wars of resistance against the French colonialists and the U.S. aggressors, and in their present struggle against Beijing's expansionism and hegemonism.

The conference highly values and expresses heartfelt thanks for the precious sympathy, support and assistance given to the just cause of the Kampuchean, Lao and Vietnamese peoples by fraternal countries and friends the world over.

The conference warmly hails the Soviet Union's brilliant achievements in building the technical and material foundations of communism, and affirms that the Soviet Union is the bulwark of world revolution and peace, and the most reliable mainstay of the three peoples. All the three parties are determined to strengthen their solidarity and close co-operation with the Soviet Union's and other fraternal socialist countries. They express full support for the Soviet Union's great efforts, especially the peace initiative put forward in Berlin on 6 October 1979 by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev to speed up the process of easing world tension, and to contribute to the defence of peace in Europe and the rest of the world, and sternly condemn the imperialists for increasing their armaments and stepping up the arms race, thus aggravating world tension. The three ministers vehemently condemn the U.S. imperialists and the Beijing reactionaries for their collusion in sabotaging the Afghan revolution and for distorting the Soviet Union's active and effective assistance to Afghanistan. The three ministers affirm their militant solidarity and full support to the Afghan people in their struggle to defend their revolutionary gains.

The three parties warmly acclaim the great success of the Sixth Non-Aligned Summit Conference in Havana and affirm their adherence to the non-aligned movement and their determination to contribute to the unity of all nations striving for the noble objectives of the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, apartheid, zionism, racism, expansionism and hegemonism. The three parties fully support the fight to set up a new world economic order. This meeting of the foreign ministers strongly welcomes and supports the struggle for national independence and national liberation of the Asian, African and Latin American peoples, which is developing vigorously and is ever more closely associated with socialism.

The three parties reiterate their wish to establish long-term friendship - and co-operation with other countries in Southeast Asia on the principles of mutual respect of independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and political system, and of non-use of force or threat of force in their relations, non-interference in internal affairs and settlement of conflicts by negotiation.

The People's Republic of Kampuchea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam are ready to discuss and sign, on a bilateral basis, non-aggression treaties with other countries in Southeast Asia.

The Governments of Kampuchea, Laos and Viet Nam are ready to discuss with the governments of Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore and Burma on the establishment of a Southeast Asian region of peace, independence, freedom, neutrality, stability and prosperity.

The three ministers firmly believe that with the strength of each country, with the great strength of the militant solidarity of the three countries, and with the assistance and support of the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries, and the sympathy and support of progressive mankind, the peoples of the three countries will bring the national construction and defence of each country to complete victory, making a positive contribution to peace, stability and prosperity in Southeast Asia and peace in the world.

Closing the conference, the three ministers decided to meet regularly in future to exchange views on matters of common concern.

Phnom Penh, 5 January 1980

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Foreign Affairs of
the People's Republic
of Kampuchea

HUN SEN

Minister of
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the Lao People's Democratic
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NGUYEN DUY TRINH
