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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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Items 42, 73, 131 and 140 of the
provisional agenda*
QUESTION OF PEACE, STABILITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES
BETWEEN STATES
DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF
GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-second year

Letter dated 21 August 1987 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed
to the Secretary-General

With reference to my previous letter dated 31 July 1987 (A/42/432-S/19010 and Corr.2), I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the press conference held at Hanoi on 20 August 1987 by the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of Viet Nam, Trinh Xuan Lang, on the question of South-East Asia and Kampuchea.

It would be greatly appreciated if you would have this letter and its enclosure circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 42, 73, 131 and 140 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) BUI XUAN NHAT
Ambassador
Acting Permanent Representative

* A/42/150.

ANNEX

VIETNAM FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN HOLDS
PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE SOUTHEAST ASIA-KAMPUCHEA QUESTIONS

At a press conference here this afternoon, Trinh Xuan Lang, Head of the Information and Press Department and spokesman for the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry, gave the following answer to questions regarding the situation after the visit to Vietnam by Indonesian Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusuma-Atmadja :

During the official friendship visit to Vietnam from 27 to 29 July 1987 by the Indonesian Foreign Minister, Professor Dr. Mochtar Kusuma-Atmadja, Vietnam and Indonesia reached a number of agreements. Among other things, they agreed on organising a "cocktail party", understanding that it would be an informal meeting between the two sides of Kampuchea. At a later stage of this "cocktail party", Indonesia would invite the countries concerned to participate, Vietnam included. Clearly, this is a meeting between the two sides of Kampuchea, among the Kampuchean exclusively, to discuss the internal affairs of Kampuchea. Vietnam and other countries concerned would only participate in the meeting at a later stage to discuss the international aspect of the Kampuchean problem. This is one and whole process aimed at resolving the Kampuchean problem in both of its internal and external aspects. This reasonable and logical agreement has won sympathy and support from broad sections of public opinion.

Thereafter, on August 12 and 13, 1987 a consultative conference of Deputy Foreign Ministers of Kampuchea, Laos and Vietnam took place in Phnom Penh. At this conference, the three Deputy Foreign Ministers exchanged views on recent developments and came to a complete identity of views on the agreements reached between Vietnam, representing the Indochinese countries and Indonesia, representing the ASEAN. Their common view was communicated to Indonesia by Vietnam on August 15, 1987, before the meeting of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers.

Contrary to the Indochinese countries' serious and good-willed attitude, it is regrettable that at the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' informal meeting in Bangkok last August 16, they sought to modify the original agreement on the "cocktail party". They tried to turn the dialogue between the two sides of Kampuchea into one between the Vietnamese and Kampuchean. Their real purpose was to return to their oft-repeated but categorically refuted allegations that Vietnam has "invaded" Kampuchea, therefore the Vietnamese must talk with the Kampuchean. They also sought to take the eight-point proposal of the so-called "coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea" as basis for discussion in the proposed meeting, which is in fact an attempt to erase the People's Republic of Kampuchea, bring back to power the genocidal Pol Pot clique. This obviously is a step backward by the ASEAN

as compared with the Vietnam - Indonesia agreements reached during the last visit to Vietnam by Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusuma-Atmadja.

In this connection, I would like to expound Vietnam's position as follows :

- The July 29, 1987 agreement between Vietnam and Indonesia was one reached on behalf of ASEAN on one side and the Indochinese countries on the other. It was one between representatives of the two groups of countries. It paved the way for a solution of Southeast Asian problems and the Kampuchean problem.

- The August 16, 1987 joint press release by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers is tantamount to a demand that there be talks between Vietnam and the Khmer forces opposing the People's Republic of Kampuchea on the basis of the eight-point proposal, which had been refuted by the Indochinese countries from the beginning and which had for a long time been an obstacle to opening negotiations aimed at solving the Southeast Asian problems and the Kampuchean problem.

- Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea will continue to consider the July 29, 1987 agreement as one between the two groups of countries. The press release at the outcome of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' meeting has gone counter to that agreement.

- The three Indochinese countries are of the view that the ASEAN must respect the agreement and that both sides are duty-bound to implement it.

- The July 29, 1987 agreement between the two groups of countries has just been achieved. No country should be allowed to break it. If it is broken, it will be impossible to give creditability to any future agreement.
