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GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Forty-third session  
Items 42, 72, 130 and 137 of the  
preliminary list\*  
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-third year

Letter dated 30 March 1988 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the  
Permanent Mission of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to  
the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my previous letters, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the note sent by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on 26 March 1988 to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 42, 72, 130 and 137 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) NGUYEN BINH THANH  
Acting Permanent Representative

\* A/43/50.

ANNEX

Note dated 26 March 1988 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
of Viet Nam to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China

The Chinese side's rejection of talks to solve the territorial disputes between the two countries is contrary to what it said in the Chinese Foreign Ministry's note to the effect that it advocates the peaceful solution of differences between nations, contrary to the aspiration of the two peoples, the trend for dialogue, and the Charter of the United Nations of which China is a permanent member of the Security Council. That attitude of China is arousing concerns among public opinion in the world and South-East Asia, more particularly among China's neighbours, about China's policy in this region.

In its reply dated 23 March, the Chinese side rejected the talks with Viet Nam but did not reject the 17 March 1988 proposal of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam for mutual commitment not to use force to solve disputes. The Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam considers that the only correct way consonant with the fundamental interests of the two peoples is to solve the dispute between the two countries through peaceful negotiations. Therefore, the Vietnamese side will persist in its proposal put forth in its notes of 17 and 23 March to the Chinese side.

While waiting for China to sit down at the negotiating table, Viet Nam proposes that the two sides refrain from the use of force to solve the dispute and avoid all clashes in order not to worsen the situation.

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