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Note verbale dated 30 December 1978 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Democratic Kampuchea addressed to the Secretariat

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Democratic Kampuchea presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit to it herewith the statement dated 19 December 1978 of the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Democratic Kampuchea, the text of which the Secretariat is requested to circulate as a General Assembly document under the agenda item entitled "Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees".

ANNEX

Statement dated 19 December 1978 of the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Democratic Kampuchea

Recently, the Le Duan-Pham Van Dong clique sent a delegation to Geneva in order to mislead the world public opinion about the so-called refugees in Viet Nam.

The Vietnamese try to tell such lies, for they want:

- (1) To divert the charge and shift their crimes to somebody else;
- (2) To cover up their criminal activities in organizing and sending their nationals abroad as refugees in order to carry out acts of undermining and subversion in various countries in South-East Asia;
- (3) To get alms from some countries or international organizations to be used as capital to increase their force and carry on their acts of aggression against Democratic Kampuchea, annexation and swallowing of territories.

In fact, the truth about the lies of the Le Duan-Pham Van Dong clique and the so-called refugees in Viet Nam is as follows:

- (1) Those so-called refugees are the Vietnamese nationals who, in the past, lived in Kampuchea. In 1973, after the Paris agreement between the United States and Viet Nam, the Le Duan-Pham Van Dong clique requested the Revolutionary Organization of Kampuchea to repatriate all those Vietnamese nationals to South Viet Nam, for at that time this clique had no popular support in South Viet Nam. Besides, those Vietnamese nationals were afraid of the United States bombings in Kampuchea and they did not want to continue to live in Kampuchea. The Le Duan-Pham Van Dong clique strove to gather all those Vietnamese nationals and took them to settle in various small pieces of territories under its control in South Viet Nam in order to let them vote for it in case it had to run in elections against the puppet régime of Nguyen Van Thieu. Therefore, those Vietnamese nationals who in the past lived in Kampuchea and were taken by the Le Duan-Pham Van Dong clique to Viet Nam are not refugees.
- (2) Those so-called refugees are the Khmer nationals who live in Kampuchea Krom. Those Khmer nationals are the masters of the Kampuchea Krom territory including the territory from the region of the Donai river to the west and the delta of the Mekong river. The Khmer nationals in Kampuchea Krom have lived in this territory since the beginning. The Le Duan-Pham Van Dong clique expelled those Khmer nationals of Kampuchea Krom from their villages in order to take possession of their lands and forced them to live in their concentration camps. Those Khmer nationals of Kampuchea Krom are the ones whom the Vietnamese tried to lie about and present as refugees from Kampuchea.

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The Vietnamese manoeuvres are very obvious. They cannot mislead the world public opinion. And they have been denounced and unmasked in the most ignominious way.

The Government of Democratic Kampuchea is firmly convinced that various countries and international organizations are further aware of this truth and especially will not do anything which could lead Viet Nam to have the strength to attack Kampuchea and achieve its ambition of expansion in South-East Asia with the great Soviet expansionist Power.