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INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Letter dated 28 November 1980 from the Permanent Representative of
the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you a note from the Permanent Mission of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United Nations in connexion with United Nations Secretariat communications Nos. C.N.296.1980.TREATIES-13 and C.N.297.1980.TREATIES-9 dated 27 October 1980 concerning the signature on 17 October 1980, on behalf of the so-called "Government of Democratic Kampuchea", of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

I request you to circulate the attached note as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 76.

(Signed) A. N. SHELDON
Permanent Representative of the
Byelorussian SSR to the
United Nations

ANNEX

Note verbale dated 28 November 1980 from the Permanent Mission
of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United
Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to United Nations Secretariat communications Nos. C.N.296.1980.TREATIES-13 and C.N.297.1980.TREATIES-9 dated 27 October 1980 concerning the signature on 17 October 1980, on behalf of the so-called "Government of Democratic Kampuchea", of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, it considers it necessary to state the following: signature of the above-mentioned international agreements on behalf of the so-called "Government of Democratic Kampuchea" - which is none other than the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary band of cutthroats that has been overthrown by the Kampuchean people - is completely unlawful and has no legal force.

There is only one State of Kampuchea in the world; this is the People's Republic of Kampuchea, which has been recognized by a large number of countries. All power in the People's Republic of Kampuchea is fully in the hands of the People's Revolutionary Council, which is the sole legitimate Government of Kampuchea. The People's Revolutionary Council of the PRK has the exclusive right to act on behalf of Kampuchea in the international arena, including the right to sign international agreements elaborated within the framework of the United Nations. Accordingly, only representatives authorized by the People's Revolutionary Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea may act on behalf of Kampuchea.

The Permanent Mission of the Byelorussian SSR to the United Nations considers that the farce of the signature of the above-mentioned international agreements in the United Nations Secretariat, by a person who represents no one, is a mockery of the rules of law and morality, and a cynical affront to the memory of the millions of Kampuchean who - as the entire international community is well aware - have been tortured by the bloodthirsty Pol Pot-Ieng Sary puppet régime.
