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THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA

QUESTION OF PEACE, STABILITY AND CO-OPERATION IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

Note verbale dated 15 June 1981 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to his note of 1 June 1981, has the honour, upon instruction from his Government, to state the following:

1. The German Democratic Republic is among the States which voted against resolution 35/6. It holds the view that the conference envisaged in this resolution represents an interference in the internal affairs of Kampuchea and is thus in contradiction to the principles of the United Nations Charter. The German Democratic Republic voices its concern about the intended convening of a so-called international conference on Kampuchea, because already due to its composition it cannot contribute to solving the situation around Kampuchea. Moreover, there is the danger that new obstacles for the normalization of the situation in South-East Asia will be set up, all the more as intentions have come to light to misuse such a conference for organizing further steps to interfere in a sovereign country. Therefore, the German Democratic Republic resolutely objects to holding such a conference and will not participate in it.
2. The people of Kampuchea has availed itself of its right of self-determination. With the national upheaval of 7 January 1979, the cruel policy of genocide pursued by the Pol Pot/Ieng Sary/Khieu Samphan clique came to an end, which accounted for 3 million dead in Kampuchea. A so-called question of Kampuchea does not exist.

* A/36/50.

During the period of more than two years which has passed since the foundation of the People's Republic of Kampuchea remarkable successes in normalizing life, in agriculture, industry and crafts, in the reconstruction of the health and education systems as well as in the development of national culture have been achieved. The process of consolidating the political life in the People's Republic of Kampuchea has made considerable progress. With the elections of 1 May 1981, the establishment of democratic organs of state power was completed. The confidence of the population expressed in this context with regard to the policy of the People's Revolutionary Council and the approval of the chosen way of social development illustrates the internal stability of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. The situation in the People's Republic of Kampuchea is irreversible. The People's Revolutionary Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea is the sole legitimate representative of the Kampuchean people. It is the Council which is entitled to take Kampuchea's seat in the United Nations.

3. The German Democratic Republic considers the development of a peaceful, independent and non-aligned Kampuchea a significant contribution to stabilizing the situation in South-East Asia. It opposes all attempts to isolate the People's Republic of Kampuchea internationally and to halt the progressive development of that country. It equally opposes the confrontation-oriented campaign of imperialist and hegemonist forces in South-East Asia. The real dangers for the independence and sovereignty of the countries in that region derive from those forces which have declared hegemonism and expansionism integral parts of their policy. In this light, the declaration of the three countries of Indo-China is of particular importance, which states:

As soon as the dangers arising from the policy of hegemonism and expansionism in South-East Asia will have been removed, Viet Nam will, on the basis of an agreement between the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea, withdraw its troops from Kampuchea.

4. Jointly with the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea has made numerous constructive proposals for solving problems existing in South-East Asia. These proposals aim at the normalization of the relations between the States of the region and particularly at the consolidation of peace, stability and good-neighbourly co-operation with the ASEAN States. They are in full conformity with the principle enshrined in the United Nations Charter according to which issues of a regional character should be solved by the concerned countries themselves. It is understood that such talks need to be held in a spirit of equality, mutual understanding and without interference from outside.

On this basis the German Democratic Republic supports the proposal made by the three countries of Indo-China to hold a regional conference with the ASEAN countries for solving the questions raised by both groups of countries. Such a proposal is suited to advance the political dialogue in the region. Also, regional consultations as initiated by the States of Indo-China are considered by the German Democratic Republic an important contribution to come to concrete agreements which lead to a lessening of tension in South-East Asia.

The Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations kindly requests that this note be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under items 22 and 34 of the preliminary list.
