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ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION: STATUS OF THE
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE SUPPRESSION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE
CRIME OF APARTHEID

Letter dated 17 November 1981 from the Permanent Representative
of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United
Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to the letter from the United Nations Secretariat
C.N. 211.1981.TREATIES-5 dated 24 August 1981 concerning the accession of so-called
"Democratic Kampuchea" to the International Convention on the Suppression and
Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith
a note from the Permanent Mission of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic to
the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have the information contained in the note
circulated among the States parties to the above-mentioned Convention and also as
an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 82 (c).

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

Annex

Note verbale dated 17 November 1981 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 the letter from the United Nations Secretariat C.N. 211.1981.TREATIES-5 dated 24 August 1981, concerning the accession of so-called "Democratic Kampuchea" to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, deems it necessary to state the following.

As representatives of the Byelorussian SSR have stated repeatedly, inter alia at the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly, the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea is the sole authorized representative of the Kampuchean people in the international arena. The accession to the above-mentioned Convention of the Pol Pot clique which was overthrown by the Kampuchean people and which is guilty of the mass annihilation of the population is not only in flagrant contradiction to the generally accepted principles and rules of international law but also constitutes an insult to the memory of the millions of Kampuchean who perished under that genocidal régime. In those circumstances, the Byelorussian SSR considers the "accession" of so-called "Democratic Kampuchea" to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid illegal and regards it as having no legal force.
