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Agenda items 22 and 42

THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS

SECURITY COUNCIL

Thirty-sixth year

Letter dated 24 November 1981 from the Permanent Representative
of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith, for your information, the text of the statement made on 20 November 1981 by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Democratic Kampuchea in support of the convening of an international conference with a view to preventing the Hanoi authorities from pursuing their chemical warfare in Kampuchea.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this statement to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 22 and 42, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) THIOUNN Prasith
Ambassador

Permanent Representative
of Democratic Kampuchea



ANNEX

STATEMENT
BY THE SPOKESMAN OF THE MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA
SUPPORTING THE CONVENING OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
WITH A VIEW TO PREVENTING THE HANOI AUTHORITIES
FROM PURSUING THEIR CHEMICAL WARFARE IN KAMPUCHEA

While resorting to conventional weapons of all kinds and to the weapon of famine to exterminate the population of Kampuchea, the aggression forces of the Hanoi authorities are stepping up for the same purpose their chemical warfare in Kampuchea by firing shells which released poison gas, spreading poison gas from canisters and toxic chemical powder by planes and helicopters over remote areas and those bordering the population centres, poisoning the sources of water supply of the population (wells, ponds, pools) and food-stuffs sold in the markets. Such are the methods which they employ to that end. The list of victims, killed or seriously poisoned among the population, is extending every day.

The reason for this desperate activity of the Hanoi authorities is that their 250,000 men of aggression troops are being bogged down on the battlefields of Kampuchea. Chemical weapons constitute at the present time their ultimate recourse to attempt at breaking down the resistance of the people of Kampuchea and the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea. The international community is more clearly aware of that criminal act committed by the Hanoi authorities. The evidences of the use of chemical weapons are becoming more and more numerous. They show that those chemical weapons are provided by the Soviet Union. The evidences collected in Kampuchea confirm those from Laos. With regard to Afghanistan, it is the Soviet Union itself which is using those chemical weapons. The international community has demanded that the Hanoi authorities and the Soviet Union put an

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end to the use of those outlawed weapons. But the latter take no notice at all. Quite the contrary, they are stepping up with increasing cruelty their chemical warfare so as to achieve their expansionist strategy.

Faced with such heinous crimes, a high-ranking official of the State Department of the United States has expressed the intention of his country to take, among others, the initiative in calling for the convening of an international conference with a view to preventing the Hanoi authorities and the Soviet Union from pursuing their chemical warfare.

The Government of Democratic Kampuchea fully supports that position. Being the victim of the merciless use of chemical weapons by the Hanoi authorities in their war of genocide in Kampuchea, Democratic Kampuchea appeals to all peace- and justice-loving countries to bring their active contribution so that that international conference could be convened in the nearest future for every day, among the innocent population of Kampuchea, those of Laos and Afghanistan, tens or hundreds of people die as a result of the crimes committed by the Hanoi authorities and the Soviet Union.

Democratic Kampuchea,
20 November 1981
