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Thirty-seventh session

Item 20 of the preliminary list*

THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA

SECURITY COUNCIL

Thirty-seventh year

Letter dated 24 March 1982 from the Permanent Representative
of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith, for your information, the communiqué dated 10 March 1982 issued by the Ministry of Information of Democratic Kampuchea, relating to the outcome of talks between Prime Minister Khieu Samphan and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk on the national union against the Vietnamese aggressors.

I should be very grateful if you would have this text distributed as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 20 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) THIOUNN PRASITH

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of
Democratic Kampuchea

* A/37/50.

ANNEX

កម្ពុជាប្រជាធិបតេយ្យ



COMMUNIQUE BY THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION
RELATING TO THE OUTCOME OF TALKS

BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER KHIEU SAMPHAN
AND SAMDECH NORODOM SIHANOUK

ON THE NATIONAL UNION AGAINST THE VIETNAMESE AGGRESSORS

The constant stand of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea is to achieve the union of all national forces which want to fight the Vietnamese aggressors in order to increase combat forces in all fields, military, political, diplomatic, and, a fortiori, in order not to do anything that harms the forces now fighting the Vietnamese aggressors.

So, notwithstanding his multiple tasks at the front, Prime Minister KHIEU SAMPHAN made a point of personally heading a delegation of Democratic Kampuchea to Beijing (People's Republic of China) to hold talks with Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK on that national union issue.

The first talk was held on 21 February 1982 in an atmosphere of mutual understanding. On that occasion, Prime Minister KHIEU SAMPHAN made known to Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK the stand of Democratic Kampuchea:

Primo, the Government of Democratic Kampuchea is keen on seeing the union of all national forces formed so as to fight and rapidly expel the Vietnamese aggressors from Kampuchea and to put an end to the immeasurable sufferings of the Kampuchean people. The latter have but enough suffered from mournings and devastations brought about by this war of aggression and genocide.

Secundo, the aim of the union is to increase combat forces against the Vietnamese aggressors in all fields, and to do nothing that might jeopardize the forces now struggling, both in their legal status and their combativeness on the battlefield.

Tertio, in that union, each party keeps its own identity, ideal and political philosophy and its own organization. Nevertheless, after the tripartite coalition government has been formed, it must have some principles and rules binding all parties concerned to ensure a genuine union and a good co-operation. These principles and rules are:

- a/- the principle of tripartism;
- b/- the principle of equality, no party holding full powers or preponderance of powers over the others;
- c/- the principle of consensus, that is the important decisions must be taken in a common accord by the three parties;
- d/- the coalition government should be based on the legality of the State of Democratic Kampuchea.

Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK agrees on the 3 following points:

Primo, if one day a tripartite coalition is formed, it should be based on a minimum political programme.

Secundo, if one day a tripartite coalition government is set up, that government should be formed in the legal framework of Democratic Kampuchea which is a member of the United Nations.

Tertio, the three parties will keep their autonomy, liberty, ideology and ways of thinking. But in the case of the formation of a tripartite government, this government should have some rules binding the parties, and determining the rights and duties that the parties have to respect to ensure a harmonious co-operation between them.

After their talk, Prime Minister KHIEU SAMPHAN and Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK appeared before Chinese and international press correspondents who came to wait for the outcome of the meeting. Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK told them about the 3 points above-mentioned upon which they have agreed.

On 23 February 1982, Prime Minister KHIEU SAMPHAN and Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK had a second talk and appeared before the press correspondents afterwards. Prime Minister KHIEU SAMPHAN pointed out for the press correspondents present the content of the 3 point-agreement with Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK. This agreement was announced by Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK on 21 February. Prime Minister KHIEU SAMPHAN told the reporters that the principles and rules that are to bind the three parties for a good co-operation in the tripartite coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea are as follows:

Primo, the principle of tripartism;

Secundo, the principle of equality, no party holding for itself alone the full powers or preponderance of powers over the others;

Tertio, the principle of consensus, that is the important decisions should be taken in a common accord by the three parties.

As for the fourth principle, that is the principle according to which the tripartite coalition government should be in the legal framework of the State of Democratic Kampuchea to ensure the legality of that government, Prime Minister KHIEU SAMPHAN stressed for newsmen that it is not a question for any party either to integrate itself or to submit to Democratic Kampuchea's institutions. The aim of this principle is to place the tripartite coalition government in the legal framework of the State of Democratic Kampuchea and to ensure that all parties preserve and defend the legality of the State of Democratic Kampuchea which is a member of the United Nations. We must base ourselves on the legality of the State of Democratic Kampuchea in our struggle in international arena against the Vietnamese enemy, for the latter, by invading Democratic Kampuchea, have trampled upon the United Nations Charter.

To sum up, during the talks of 21 and 23 February 1982, besides the agreement on the necessity of having a minimum political programme, the Government of Democratic Kampuchea and the party of Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK have agreed that in the case of the formation of a tripartite coalition government, some principles should be based on. They are:

Primo, the principle of tripartism.

Secundo, the principle of equality, no party having for itself either the full powers or the preponderance of powers over the others.

Tertio, the principle of consensus for important decisions.

Quarto, both parties agree on the necessity of preserving and defending the legality of the State of Democratic Kampuchea which is a member of the United Nations and victim of the Vietnamese aggression.

In leaving the front for Beijing, the delegation of Democratic Kampuchea has also hoped to hold talks with H.E. SON SANN with a view to seeking with all Kampuchean parties

the bases of a union aimed at increasing the struggling forces against the Vietnamese enemy. In this respect, Prime Minister KHIEU SAMPHAN has joined Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK in a telegram inviting H.E. SON SANN to come and join the tripartite summit meeting in Beijing. On 22 February 1982, on behalf of Prime Minister KHIEU SAMPHAN and on his own behalf, Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK sent to H.E. SON SANN a second telegram confirming the terms of that of January 1982. The telegram of 22 February 1982 reads:

" PRESIDENT KHIEU SAMPHAN DELEGATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA AND I HAVE THE HONOUR TO FRATERNALLY INVITE YOUR RESPECTED EXCELLENCY AND A FNLPK DELEGATION TO A NEW SUMMIT MEETING WITH US IN BEIJING CAPITAL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO EXAMINE TOGETHER VARIOUS PROBLEMS THAT ARISE IN THE FRAMEWORK OF OUR COMMON EFFORTS TO PUT IN CONCRETE FORM THE ANTIVIET CAMBODIAN TRIPARTITE COALITION FOR A RAPID LIBERATION OF OUR HOMELAND."
(Original: French)

On 26 February 1982, Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK received in reply a telegram from H.E. SON SANN, which reads:

" AS SOON AS I HAVE FULFILLED MY PREVIOUS OBLIGATIONS, I WILL BE GLAD TO GO TO BEIJING TO MEET CHINESE PERSONALITIES AND TO PERSONALLY GREET YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS STOP IF NECESSARY, I WILL SEE H.E. KHIEU SAMPHAN AT MY RESIDENCE STOP " (Original: French)

After reading the terms of this telegram, Prime Minister KHIEU SAMPHAN held talk with Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK to assess the possibility of a tripartite meeting in Beijing. Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK and Prime Minister KHIEU SAMPHAN have together noticed that in his reply, H.E. SON SANN had neither answered to the invitation to a Kampuchean tripartite meeting nor set the date of his arrival to Beijing. Thus, they have concluded that at the moment there is no chance of such a tripartite meeting in Beijing.

The delegation of Democratic Kampuchea was waiting for the news from H.E. SON SANN up to 1 March 1982. Due to their numerous tasks at the front, Prime Minister KHIEU SAMPHAN and the delegation of Democratic Kampuchea could no longer wait and returned to the country at that date.

In short, talks between Prime Minister KHIEU SAMPHAN and Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK have, this time, achieved good results. From these results the following conclusion can be

drawn: provided that all the Kampuchean parties genuinely work for the union to find the points that unite them in order to fight and drive the Vietnamese enemy out of Kampuchea, putting aside their differences for the time being, this union is possible. After the Vietnamese enemy's withdrawal from Kampuchea, all the parties will leave it to the people's verdict through elections supervised by the United Nations.

The Government of Democratic Kampuchea and the Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union of Kampuchea like in the past, will keep firmly upholding their policy of great national union with a view to fighting the Vietnamese aggressors in the present, and in the future to defending and rebuilding the country. Together with the people and the National Army who have valiantly fought for more than three years on the battlefield and succeeded in more bogging down each day the Vietnamese aggressors, they will persevere and redouble their efforts, whatever the difficulties and obstacles, in this struggle until all the Vietnamese troops are expelled from Kampuchea, our homeland. They take this opportunity to make an appeal to all Kampuchean parties who want to combat the Vietnamese aggressors, to put the national interest above everything and to unite in order to fight together these aggressors. They also make an appeal to all countries committed to peace and justice to continue to grant support to the cause of the just struggle of the people of Kampuchea and the Government of Democratic Kampuchea, to intensify in concert their actions in all fields: political, diplomatic, economic, commercial, etc... with a view to compelling the Hanoi authorities to respect the United Nations resolutions and the Declaration of the International Conference on Kampuchea, by unconditionally withdrawing all their troops from Kampuchea, leaving the Kampuchean people free to decide themselves their own destiny without any foreign interference.

Democratic Kampuchea,
10 March 1982

THUCH RIN
Secretary of State for Information.
