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THE RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND ITS
APPLICATION TO PEOPLES UNDER COLONIAL OR ALIEN
DOMINATION OR FOREIGN OCCUPATION

Letter dated 6 February 1982 from the Permanent Representative
of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam addressed to the Chairman
of the Commission on Human Rights

"I have the honour to transmit herewith the message of His Excellency Mr. Hun Sen, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea to the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-eighth session. This message was published on the same day by the Kampuchean News Agency SPK.

I should be grateful if you would have this text circulated as an official document of the thirty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights under item 9 of the agenda."

(Signed) Vo Anh Tuan
Permanent Representative

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY MR. HUN SEN, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AT ITS THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION, CONCERNING THE QUESTION OF THE REPRESENTATION OF KAMPUCHEA

Hanoi - VNA 28 January 1982 - According to SPK, on 27 January last, His Excellency Mr. Hun Sen, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea sent a message to the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-eighth session concerning the illegal presence of Pol Pot representatives at the session. The message stated the following:

The People's Republic of Kampuchea has just celebrated the third anniversary of the victory of 7 January which liberated the people from the bloodthirsty régime of unprecedented genocide. So-called "Democratic Kampuchea", well-known for its crimes of genocide, was overthrown by the Kampuchean people on 7 January 1979. Today there remains only a band of criminals operating and terrorizing the population along the Kampuchea-Thailand frontier, activities made possible by the existence of sanctuaries in Thailand, and by supplies of arms and munitions of all kinds from the leadership in Peking. It is an insult to international opinion and a disgrace to the United Nations and the Commission on Human Rights to admit to the present session the criminal representatives of genocide who have systematically and brutally violated the most elementary human rights and who have been condemned by the People's Tribunal in Phnom Penh.

The People's Republic of Kampuchea categorically opposes the illegal and immoral presence of these criminals at the thirty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights because so-called "Democratic Kampuchea" has neither territory nor population and represents only a band of criminals, manipulated by expansionists and imperialists and their allies in an attempt to reimpose the régime of genocide on the Kampuchean people, so that they may once more be massacred.

During the three years since the liberation, the famine bequeathed by the clique of perpetrators of genocide has been overcome and the life of the people has become more settled and is improving daily as a result of immense efforts on the part of the people and Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. Hospitals and schools have reopened throughout the country to provide for the health and education of the people. Agricultural and industrial production have been promoted and increased each year in order to meet the daily needs of our people. Democratic general elections by universal suffrage and secret ballot were held in 1981 to elect a National Assembly, which adopted a Constitution and appointed the Council of State and Council of Ministers. At present, our Government enjoys the support of the Kampuchean people, effectively controls the territory of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and administers all the domestic and foreign affairs of the country. Therefore, the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea alone is entitled to represent the country of Kampuchea in all international bodies and is capable of fulfilling all the obligations deriving therefrom.