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

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-seventh year

Letter dated 8 July 1982 from the representatives of the Lao People's
Democratic Republic and Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General

We, the Permanent Representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations and the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations, have the honour to forward herewith a communiqué dated 7 July 1982 of the Sixth Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam held at Ho Chi Minh City on 6 and 7 July 1982.

We should be grateful if Your Excellency could arrange for the communiqué and this note to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 20 and 35 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

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Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of the
Lao People's Democratic Republic
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(Signed) NGUYEN NGOC DUNG
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ANNEX

Communiqué of the Sixth Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam held at Ho Chi Minh City on 6 and 7 July 1982

The Sixth Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam was held in Ho Chi Minh city (Viet Nam) on July 6th and 7th, 1982.

1. The Conference reviewed the relations of friendship and co-operation between the three countries and the preparatory work for the Summit Conference of the three countries. The three countries agreed that the Summit Conference of Laos, Kampuchea and Viet Nam would be held in next December.

2. The Conference observed that the world was going through an extremely complex period. Imperialist forces with the United States as leader and reactionary elements in Beijing's ruling spheres as abettors are endeavouring to propulse mankind towards the holocaust of an exterminating nuclear war. They are inveigling regional reactionary forces into thwarting the national liberation and independence movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America. World peace, independence and people's self-determination are seriously threatened. In such circumstances, the Conference considered that the struggles for peace and national independence can by no means be dissociated from each other and indeed are people's primary concern. As far as they are concerned, the Lao, Kampuchean and Vietnamese peoples will continue faithfully a constant attitude of their own, to contribute up to the utmost of their strength to that common fighting. The peoples of the three countries wholly uphold the important initiatives taken by the Soviet Union, the socialist and non-aligned countries in the chapter of disarmament, especially the recent Declaration of President L. Brezhnev where the Soviet Union pledged not to be the first country to use nuclear weapons. The Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam strongly require that imperialist forces put an end to the arms race for the sake of detente in the world situation. The Lao, Kampuchean and Vietnamese peoples severely condemn the United States and Israel and require that they stop the war of aggression and genocide launched against the peoples of Palestine, Lebanon, and other Arab peoples. The Lao, Kampuchean and Vietnamese peoples are mostly convinced that the just struggle of/Palestinian and the

Arab peoples will triumph. The peoples of the three Indochinese countries once again reiterate their resolute support to the struggle of all the peoples in Asia, Africa and Latin America for peace, national independence and social progress.

3. The Conference proceeded to the analysis of the situation in South East Asia and the struggle of the Lao, Kampuchean and Vietnamese peoples in order to build up and defend their countries and to promote peace and stability in the region as well.

The Conference acknowledged that the situation in South East Asia, although still tense and complicated due to the policy of aggression and interference pursued by reactionary forces in the Beijing ruling circles acting in collusion with U.S. imperialism and other reactionary elements in the region to oppose Laos, Kampuchea, Viet Nam and other countries in South East Asia, has developed in favour of the forces of peace and national independence. The manoeuvres of reactionaries

in the Beijing ruling circles aim at maintaining tension along the borders between the three Indochinese countries and China and Thailand, carrying out multi - faced sabotage within each country and pitting the ASEAN countries against the Indochinese countries in order to weaken Viet Nam, Laos and Kampuchea, sabotage the rebirth of the Kampuchean people, sowing division among the three Indochinese peoples, sowing discord between the latter and the Soviet Union and other countries in the Socialist community, encircling and isolating Laos, Kampuchea and Viet Nam in the international arena. However, their scheme does not bring the expected results. On the contrary, the situation in Viet Nam, Laos and Kampuchea, in spite of difficulties, continues to consolidate and to develop satisfactorily. Realities in South East Asia over the past three years have clearly pointed out to the world opinion, including different strata of the populations and a certain number of personalities in the ruling circles of ASEAN countries, that the main cause of the tension and instability in South East Asia lies in the Beijing ruling circles' expansionist and hegemonist policy. Like other countries in South East Asia, Laos, Kampuchea and Viet Nam have constantly wished to live in peace, friendship and co-operation with all other countries, first of all with neighbouring countries in South East Asia and China. People of common sense all hail and highly appreciate the initiatives of Laos, Kampuchea and Viet Nam in order to restore peace and stability in this part of the world.

4. The peoples of Laos, Kampuchea and Viet Nam have always thought highly of the relations of traditional friendship between the brotherly Chinese people and themselves. The present struggle of the peoples of the three countries against the policy of aggression and intervention of reactionaries in the Beijing ruling circles aims precisely at restoring those relations which constitute an extremely important factor for peace and stability in South East Asia, in the common interest of the Indochinese peoples, of the Chinese and world peoples. The Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam once again call on the People's Republic of China to give a positive response to the proposal

of January 28th, 1981 made by Laos, Kampuchea and Viet Nam on the signing of bilateral or multilateral treaties of peaceful co-existence between Laos, Kampuchea, Viet Nam and China. The Lao People's Democratic Republic and the People's Republic of Kampuchea fully support the goodwill proposals made by the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to resume the Viet Nam - China talks to settle problems in the bilateral relations. In the immediate future, it is necessary to organize contacts between the two countries in preparation for the resumption of these talks.

The peoples of Laos and Kampuchea deeply appreciate the great and valuable contribution made by the Viet Nam People's Army, together with the People's Armies of Laos and Kampuchea, to the defence of peace and independence of the three countries. The People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam once again reaffirm that the presence of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea responds to the request from the Kampuchean people and is in conformity with the terms of the Viet Nam - Kampuchea Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation in order to deal with the threat from the Beijing ruling circles acting in collusion with American imperialists and other reactionary forces. The two countries will agree on a total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea when that threat disappears.

5. The presence of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea in no way threatens Thailand's security. Laos, Kampuchea and Viet Nam have on several occasions proposed to sign with Thailand Treaties of non-aggression and non-intervention in their respective internal affairs. At the same time, they are ready to negotiate with Thailand on all necessary measures to ensure security, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity for each country. The People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam reaffirm their standpoint regarding the partial withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea provided that reactionaries in the Beijing ruling circles are no more allowed to use Thailand's territory to help the Khmer reactionaries oppose the Kampuchean people, and that the Polpotists and other reactionary Khmer forces are disarmed, no longer supplied with weapons and food, nor allowed to use Thai territory to impede the revival of the Kampuchean people. As an act of goodwill, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam agreed to make the first steps. They decided to withdraw a number of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea in July 1982. Depending on the state of security and stability at the Kampuchea-Thailand border and on Thailand's acting in response to their initiative, Kampuchea, and Viet Nam might consider a future withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea in a near future.

It is hoped that this act of goodwill will meet with a positive response from Thailand leading to the reestablishment of peace and stability in the Kampuchea-Thailand border area. Should the reactionaries in the Chinese ruling circles, their henchmen and other reactionary forces take advantage of the withdrawal to step up hostile activities against the Kampuchean people, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam would consult each other, as stipulated in Article 2 of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation signed by the two countries on February 18, 1979, and decide on appropriate measures.

The People's Republic of Kampuchea reasserts its proposal of July 18, 1980 as to the establishment of a demilitarized zone along the border between Kampuchea and Thailand. If Thailand is not yet prepared to adhere to that proposal, the People's Republic of Kampuchea proposes the setting up of a safety zone along the border between Kampuchea and Thailand. Only the armed forces of the People's Republic of Kampuchea will be present on the part of the safety zone situated in Kampuchea. The Vietnamese troops who are assuming internationalist obligations in Kampuchea will not be stationed in that area. Only the armed forces of the Kingdom of Thailand will be present on the part of the safety zone situated in Thai territory. The Pol Pot remnant troops and other reactionary Khmer forces must be expelled from and refugee camps be moved out of the safety zone. The status and the width of the zone will be agreed upon by the parties.

The People's Republic of Kampuchea is prepared to discuss with the Kingdom of Thailand every measure to ensure the full respect of the border between the two countries and to prevent the utilization of one country's territory to nurture hostile activities against the other. To ensure the implementation of the agreements on peace and security at the border between the two countries, the two sides will agree on an international supervision. If the United Nations gives up the recognition of the representation of the Pol Pot or disguised Pol Pot clique, the People's Republic of Kampuchea may consider a United Nations control.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam wholly support that initiative of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and call on Thailand to give a positive response thereto.

Laos, Kampuchea and Viet Nam reiterate their proposal of February 17, 1982 to open contacts with Thailand to discuss and settle all questions of common concern.

6. The Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam reaffirmed that they were prepared to organize meetings with ASEAN countries to discuss and settle regional problems according to the principles of equality, mutual respect and non-enforcement of one party's views upon the other. The three countries are of the view that the two groups of Indochinese and ASEAN countries should reach an agreement on a form of International Conference on matters relating to South East Asia on the basis of the principle that regional problems should be discussed and resolved by the countries in the region without infringing upon the sovereignty or interfering in the internal affairs of each country, while all problems between South-East Asian countries and countries situated outside the region will be settled by those two groups of countries. Accordingly, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam propose the convening of an International Conference on South-East Asia with the participation of the two groups of Indochinese and ASEAN countries, of Burma, of five countries who participated in International Conferences on Indochina in 1954, 1961 - 1962 and in 1973, i.e. the Soviet Union, China, the United States, France, Great Britain and of India, a neighbouring country who for a very long time has kept relations of friendship with the South-East Asian countries and greatly

contributed to the safeguarding of peace in Indochina and in the region for the past twenty years.

The U.N. Secretary-General will be invited to attend the conference in his personal capacity. In case of the expulsion of the Pol Pot clique from the United Nations, the U.N. Secretary-General will take part in the conference in his capacity as U.N. official representative. Laos, Kampuchea and Viet Nam are prepared to meet the ASEAN countries to discuss and reach agreement on all matters relating to this conference (e.g. the meeting date and place, attendance, agenda, procedures etc.).

7. The Lao People's Democratic Republic, the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam held that the rigging up of the so-called "coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea" is a farce aiming at concealing the evil nature of the Pol Pot clique, an attempt to reimpose the genocide regime on the Kampuchean people just saved from death, and a plot hatched by reactionaries in the Chinese ruling circles and the ASEAN to interfere in the Kampuchean internal affairs and to continue creating tension in South-East Asia. The three countries consider that the retaining of the representation of the Pol Pot clique at the U.N. under whatever name, is an illegal act which contravenes the U.N. Charter. For the sake of justice and the U.N. prestige, Laos, Kampuchea and Viet Nam resolutely demand that the Organization expel the Pol Pot and disguised Pol Pot clique and restore the Kampuchean seat to the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the sole genuine and legal representative of the Kampuchean people. The People's Republic of Kampuchea declares that, in the immediate future, it does not require the U.N. to accept its representation in the case the U.N. expels the Pol Pot genocidal criminals, but rather to leave the Kampuchean seat vacant. The Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam totally approve this constructive standpoint of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

8. The Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Laos, Kampuchea and Viet Nam proceeded in a spirit of brotherly friendship and unanimity of views. The People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam highly appreciate the contribution by the Lao People's Democratic Republic as representative of the three countries at various international fora and in promoting dialogue with ASEAN countries.

HO CHI MINH City, July 7th, 1982
