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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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Items 23, 42, 72 and 137 of the
preliminary list*
SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA
QUESTION OF PEACE, STABILITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF
GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN
STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-third year

Letter dated 31 May 1988 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
addressed to the Secretary-General

At the request of the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, I have the honour to enclose herewith a copy of a statement dated 27 May 1988 issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea on the annual withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer forces from Kampuchea in 1988.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 23, 42, 72 and 137 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alounkeo KITTIKHOUN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/43/50.

Statement dated 27 May 1988 issued by the Ministry of Foreign
Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea

Following the six partial annual withdrawals of vietnamese volunteers from Kampuchea begun in 1982 the Governments of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam have agreed to effect the seventh withdrawal involving 50.000 men from June to December 1988. They have also agreed to withdraw Vietnamese volunteers 30Km from the Kampuchean-Thai frontier.

This important withdrawal has been decided in view of the firm and steady development of the People's Republic of Kampuchea in all fields, notably of the increasing capacity of its armed forces to assure the defence of the fatherland. Strong with the devoted assistance of Vietnamese volunteers and the support of the people, the armed forces of the People's Republic of Kampuchea have developed and are now capable of effective fulfilling their duty. The Kampuchean Government and People are grateful to the Vietnamese Government and People for their solidarity and assistance and for the sacrifices they have made.

At the request of the Kampuchean People, the Vietnamese volunteers have come to do their internationalist duty while strictly respecting the independence and sovereignty of Kampuchea. After the withdrawal of this major part of the Vietnamese volunteers the remainder will be placed by common agreement under the direction of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and will be totally repatriated by 1990 and even earlier should a political settlement of the Kampuchean problem be achieved.

The People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam are always ready for a peaceful settlement of the Kampuchean issue. To this end, they have proposed the creation of a security zone along the Kampuchean-Thai frontier, the settlement of the question of Kampuchean refugees in Thailand and their eventual repatriation.

All those proposals still are valid. The decision of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to withdraw Vietnamese army volunteers 30Km from the Kampuchean-Thai border represents a new proof of their goodwill to live in good neighbourliness with the Kingdom of Thailand. The People's Republic of Kampuchea hopes that should Thailand be motivated by the same goodwill she would not miss this propitious opportunity to re-establish the common frontier of peace and friendship between the two countries and begin talks on the question of organized

repatriation of Kampuchean refugees in Thailand.

Encouraged by public opinion, the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Lao People's Democratic Republic have made big efforts to find a political solution to the Kampuchean issue. The Ho Chi Minh City Agreement of July 29, 1987 between Vietnam and Indonesia, the policy of national reconciliation issued by the People's Republic of Kampuchea on August 27, 1987, its Declaration of October 8, 1987 on a political solution to the Kampuchean issue as well as the Joint Communiqué of December 4, 1987 of the HUN SEN-Sihanouk meeting in France have been welcomed by world opinion as very encouraging steps to get out of the nine-year-old impasse.

However, there still exists a very dangerous obstacle due to the attempts to bring back to power the Pol Pot criminals of genocide and to impose again their bloody regime upon Kampuchea. These criminals continue to enjoy, for this purpose, support and assistance from certain international reactionary circles whose interest is to maintain regional tension. It is absolutely necessary to eliminate this obstacle now that more than half of the Vietnamese volunteer forces have withdrawn from Kampuchea. Moreover, it is necessary to bring the Pol Pot criminals before an international tribunal. At the same time, it is necessary to deny them the use of sanctuaries in foreign lands to continue their criminal activities and prolong the undeclared war against the People's Republic of Kampuchea. This legitimate demand conforms not only to the aspiration of the Kampuchean People who are nurturing deep hatred for the Polpotists and their associates but also to the aspiration of an increasing number of international personalities and organizations. That is a simple justice which could not be denied to the Kampuchean People. The Kampuchean Government and people reiterate their deep gratitude for this international sympathy as well as their firm confidence that international community will continue its joint efforts to prevent the return of the criminals of genocide and to ensure peace, independence and non-alignment of Kampuchea.

The Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea reaffirms its policy of national reconciliation and its stance already expounded in its declaration of October 8, 1987 regarding a political solution to Kampuchea in order to solve the issue by peaceful means, thus actively contributing to transforming Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation as well as to world peace.

