



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/43/382

S/19913

31 May 1988

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Forty-third session  
Item 23 of the preliminary list\*  
THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Forty-third year

Letter dated 31 May 1988 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:

A copy of a message dated 18 May 1988, addressed by His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea, to Heads of State or Government of the donor countries to the Kampuchean Humanitarian Assistance Programme (annex I), and

A statement dated 20 May 1988 by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, calling upon all friendly countries the world over not to provide any kind of aid to Viet Nam so long as it refuses to withdraw its forces from Kampuchea (annex II).

I should be most grateful if you would have the present letter and its annexes circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 23 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) THIOUNN Prasith  
Permanent Representative

\* A/43/50.

ANNEX I

Message dated 18 May 1988 from the President of Democratic Kampuchea  
addressed to Heads of State or Government of the donor countries to  
the Kampuchean Humanitarian Assistance Programme

The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam has made a pressing appeal to the international community asking for emergency aid to overcome serious famine now raging in the country.

I request Your Excellency, your Government and your people to grant any humanitarian assistance and other aid to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam only if Viet Nam accepts to withdraw all its forces of aggression, occupation and colonization from our very unfortunate country, Kampuchea, which it has destroyed and reduced to utter misery. Our people are also facing famine and lacking everything - clothes, medicine, education, etc. Our people have been torn apart and our families separated.

Viet Nam is now facing famine because its Government and army, instead of serving their people and developing their country, have been ruining them by seeking at all costs to colonize and subjugate Cambodia. It is the colonialist war waged by the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in Cambodia that has ruined the Vietnamese people.

Consequently, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam will be able to solve its problems at home only if its Government and army put an end to their inhuman venture of subjugating the Khmer nation and people.

I have to come to the conclusion that the one and only best means to save the Vietnamese people from famine and other tragedies is to compel the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to put an end to its cruel and unjust war in Cambodia. If aid, even though it is humanitarian, is granted to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, the latter will not use them to save its people but rather it will use them to expand its war of aggression and colonialization in Cambodia.

I request Your Excellency, your Government and your people not to grant aid, even humanitarian aid, to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam as long as the latter refuses to implement genuinely the just United Nations resolutions on Kampuchea.

(Signed) NORODOM SIHANOUK  
President of Democratic Kampuchea

ANNEX II

Statement issued on 20 May 1988 by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea calling upon all friendly countries the world over not to provide any kind of aid to Viet Nam so long as it refuses to withdraw its forces from Kampuchea

The war of aggression against Kampuchea by the Hanoi authorities has dragged on for already almost 10 years. This disastrous war has not only brought tremendous suffering, misery and ruin to the Kampuchean people, but it has resulted in extreme hardship and distress for the Vietnamese people as well.

As a result of a yearly increasing waste of human and national resources committed by the Hanoi authorities so as to sustain their war of aggression against Kampuchea, the conditions of living of the Vietnamese people have drastically declined year after year and the country has been reduced to poverty. The Vietnamese people, both in the south and the north, have been facing increasing shortage of foods. However, the Hanoi authorities have closed their eyes to the reality and paid no attention to the declining of the conditions of living of the Vietnamese people. Now suddenly, the Hanoi authorities cry famine in Viet Nam and ask for emergency assistance from the United Nations and other international relief organizations as well as from the world community so as to rescue the Vietnamese people from starvation.

Do the Hanoi authorities appeal for emergency assistance from the United Nations and international relief organizations in order to really give them to the Vietnamese people?

The actual situation prevailing on the battlefield in Kampuchea unmasks the Hanoi authorities' true objective. As a result of the active and increasing attacks carried out by the national resistance forces in co-operation with the Kampuchean people against their installed village- and commune-administrative networks throughout Kampuchea, the Vietnamese food supply sources in Kampuchea have been dried up. The Vietnamese aggressors on the battlefield in Kampuchea, both along the Kampuchea's western border and in the interior of the country, are currently facing acute shortage of food. In some places, the Vietnamese soldiers are fed only with very clear rice soup and vegetables. This fact has resulted in a further decline of the morale of the Vietnamese forces. They have lost confidence and have no hope in gaining a victory over the Kampuchean people. As a result, the Vietnamese troops on the western battlefield and in the interior have been increasingly deserting their ranks.

It is this alarming situation which has compelled the Hanoi authorities to cry out for help. The emergency food assistances requested by the Hanoi authorities are not for the starving Vietnamese people but would be diverted to feed their occupying army in Kampuchea which is in dire need of food.

Therefore, the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea and the Kampuchean people who have been enduring immense suffering and hardship caused by the

Vietnamese barbarous war of aggression and occupation, earnestly appeal to the world community, the United Nations and all international relief organizations not to provide any kind of aid to the Hanoi authorities so long as they refuse to withdraw all their forces from Kampuchea in conformity with the relevant United Nations resolutions and the insistent demand of the international community.

As a matter of fact, if food relief, even on humanitarian grounds, is given to the Hanoi leadership at the present time, this will be tantamount to encouraging Viet Nam to perpetuate its occupation of Kampuchea. The Hanoi authorities will doubtlessly use this humanitarian assistance provided by the international community to feed their occupying troops in Kampuchea and to carry on in the most barbarous way their war of occupation against the Kampuchean nation and people. Consequently, the war in Kampuchea will drag on, which constitutes a serious threat not only to the nation and people of Kampuchea, but also to the well-being of the Vietnamese people who will continue to face hardship and suffering. And peace and stability of the regions of South-East Asia and Asia-Pacific will be constantly threatened.

The Kampuchean people and the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea remain convinced that all friendly countries and the whole international community will continue to put pressure on Viet Nam so as to compel it to accept to resolve the Kampuchean problem by political means through the total withdrawal of its forces from Kampuchea. Only when Viet Nam totally pulls out its forces from Kampuchea, can the war in Kampuchea be brought to an end, miseries and starvation in both Kampuchea and Viet Nam be overcome and peace and stability in South-East Asia and Asia-Pacific be restored.

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