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Items 31, 41, 72 and 143 of the provisional agenda*

THE 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

PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES BETWEEN STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL Forty-fourth year

Letter dated 26 July 1989 from the Permanent Representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the statement issued on 24 July 1989 by the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic in support of the Cambodian National Assembly's proclamation on permanent neutrality.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 31, 41, 72 and 143 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(<u>Signed</u>) Saly KHAMSY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Statement issued on 24 July 1989 by the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

On 20 July 1989 the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia solemnly declared that the State of Cambodia is a permanently neutral country. The statement affirmed that Cambodia observes the principles of peaceful coexistence, friendship and co-operation with all countries regardless of their political and social systems, first of all with the neighbouring countries, on the basis of equality, respect for each other's national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, non-aggression and peaceful settlement of all disputes on the basis of mutual benefits. The State of Cambodia shall not enter into any military alliance to the detriment of Cambodia's neutrality and shall not allow any military bloc to set up its bases on Cambodian territory or use Cambodian territory as a springboard for intervention in other countries' internal affairs.

The Cambodian National Assembly's statement reflects the aspiration and legitimate interests of the Cambodian people to be free for ever from the danger of the genocidal régime and to live in peace and national concord in order to heal the wounds of war and build a prosperous and happy life.

The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic highly values and fully supports the proclamation of the Cambodian National Assembly. The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Lao people of all ethnicities call upon all political parties, Governments and peace- and justice-loving people the world over strongly to support the State of Cambodia's policy of permanent neutrality, and call on all countries to commit themselves to respect the independence, sovereignty and permanent neutrality of that country.

The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic holds that a peaceful, independent, free aud permanently neutral State of Cambodia is a very important factor for peace, freedom, neutrality, friendship and co-operation in South-East Asia. At the same time, the building of South-East Asia into a zone of peace, freedom, neutrality, friendship and co-operation will contribute to guaranteeing the permanent neutrality of the State of Cambodia and durable peace in South-East Asia.

In the spirit and on the basis of the Bandung principles (1955), the ZOPFAN principles of building a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality (1971), the Bali principles (1976), the seven-point proposal of the Lao People's Democratic Republic put forward at the Joint Informal Meeting held in July 1988, and in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations, the Lao People's Democratic Republic has solemnly proposed the building of a South-East Asia of peace, freedom, neutrality, friendship and co-operation on the following principles:

(a) Respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations;

- (b) Respect for the territorial waters of each country, and the exclusive economic zones and sea-beds of the countries on the East Sea;
- (c) Non-interference in each other's internal affairs, non-use of force or the threat of force in their relations;
- (d) Non-participation in and non-establishment of political or military alliances with other countries inside or outside the region to oppose each other or to oppose countries outside the region;
- (e) Non-use of one's territory or of any other country's territory against third countries;
 - (f) Peaceful settlement of all differences and disputes;
- (g) Effective co-operation with other countries in economic, scientific, technical and cultural areas on the basis of equality and mutual benefits.

The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic hopes that the meeting between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Paris in July will achieve progress, thus contributing actively to the settlement of the Cambodian question. Through peaceful negotiations based on mutual understanding and respect, the countries of South-East Asia will together strive to make South-East Asia a zone of peace, freedom, neutrality, friendship and for lasting peace and development of all countries in the region.