



Security Council

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ORIGINAL: FRENCHLETTER DATED 2 AUGUST 1989 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to inform you that I recently attended the Conference on Peace in Cambodia convened in Paris at the initiative of the French Government. In a statement I made at the opening of the Conference on 30 July 1989, I expressed the view that a real and durable peace in Cambodia could only be achieved in the framework of a comprehensive political settlement. In this context, I stated, inter alia, the following:

"The Conference will also be called upon to discuss the establishment of an International Control Mechanism (ICM). During the past few months, the Secretariat has given thought to the functions an ICM might have and the problems its establishment would entail, without prejudging under which auspices it would be established. It should be stressed at the outset that no ICM can function without the full and complete co-operation of the parties concerned, nor can one be imposed on them under any circumstances.

"The creation of a credible ICM is directly contingent upon the identification of a clear and realistic mandate, the adoption of an effective decision-making process and the provision of the necessary human, logistical and financial resources. A precise evaluation of such resources can be made only by a fact-finding mission, which should visit the area as soon as possible, subject to conditions to be decided by the Conference. If it was organized in time and received the necessary co-operation, such a mission would enable the ICM to establish a minimal presence towards the end of September 1989, assuming that an agreement on its terms of reference is reached beforehand.

"Given the amount of time required for the mounting of an operation of this type, the ICM could only be deployed - even if we make the most favourable assumption and regardless of which body is given authority over it - in stages, on the understanding that all its functions should be agreed by the parties beforehand. Naturally, I shall stand ready, in keeping with established procedures, to offer any assistance the Conference may deem useful."

On 1 August 1989, the Conference concluded its first ministerial session with the adoption of a number of organizational measures. It decided, inter alia, to establish four working committees. One of these committees, which will be known as the First Committee, has been entrusted with the following mandate:

"[To] define the modalities of a cease-fire and the mandate as well as the principles which shall guide the creation and operation of an effective international control mechanism in order to supervise and control the comprehensive implementation of the settlement."

In this connection, the Conference further adopted the following decision:

"The Conference decides to accept the proposal made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to send as soon as possible a preliminary short-term fact-finding mission to gather technical information on the spot, including in all areas of the country.

"The purpose of the mission will be solely to gather any information of a purely technical nature relevant to the work of the First Committee. It is understood that the dispatch of this mission does not prejudice in any way the positions of the parties and States participating in the Conference.

"Moreover, the Conference calls upon the four Cambodian parties and the States concerned to extend to the mission all co-operation and assistance necessary to enable it to carry out its tasks effectively in conditions of full security."

I wish to inform you that it is my intention to proceed with the necessary arrangements for the dispatch of this mission as soon as possible.

(Signed) Javier PEREZ de CUELLAR

