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ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND  
OTHER INTERESTS WHICH ARE IMPEDING  
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF  
INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES  
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DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA  
PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES BETWEEN  
STATES

Letter dated 25 July 1989 from the Permanent Representative  
of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the  
Secretary-General

On behalf of the Permanent Missions to the United Nations of the States  
members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), I have the honour  
to transmit to you herewith the text containing excerpts from the Joint Communiqué  
of the twenty-second ASEAN Ministerial Meeting held at Bandar Seri Begawan on 3 and  
4 July 1989 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its  
annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 28, 31, 32, 37,  
39, 41, 44, 48, 63, 72, 83, 85, 111, 112, 118 and 143 of the provisional agenda,  
and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nana SUTRESNA  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

**ANNEX**

**EXCERPTS FROM  
THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE  
OF  
THE TWENTY - SECOND ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING  
BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN  
3 - 4 JULY 1989**

**INTRODUCTION**

The Twenty - Second ASEAN Ministerial Meeting was held in Bandar Seri Begawan from 3 - 4 July 1989. The Meeting was formally opened by His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

The Meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam; His Excellency Mr. Ali Alatas, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia; His Excellency Dato' Haji Abu Hassan bin Haji Omar, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia; His Excellency Mr. Raul S. Manglapus, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines; His Excellency Mr. Wong Kan Seng, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Community Development of the Republic of Singapore; His Excellency Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, and their respective delegations.

His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam chaired the Meeting. His Excellency Mr. Ali Alatas, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, was elected Vice-Chairman.

**SINO-SOVIET SUMMIT**

The Foreign Ministers welcomed the recent Sino-Soviet Summit held in Beijing in May 1989. Although it was limited in scope, it is expected to accelerate the improvement in relations among the major powers. They were of the view that the normalization of Sino-Soviet relations would further reduce international tension and create favourable atmosphere for settlement of regional problems.

**SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA**

The Foreign Ministers reviewed current political developments and expressed their hope that the prevailing political atmosphere would contribute to a comprehensive and durable political settlement of the Kampuchean problem which had been caused by Vietnam's military occupation of Kampuchea in violation of the United Nations Charter and international law, of the right of the Kampuchean people to self-determination, and of the principle of non-interference in internal affairs of a sovereign state.

In this respect, the Foreign Ministers noted the announcement by Vietnam that it would withdraw its troops from Kampuchea by 30 September 1989 as a positive development. However, the Foreign Ministers stressed that the Vietnamese withdrawal must be conducted in a comprehensive political settlement with external and internal aspects of the Kampuchean problem integrally linked. The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their belief in the need for the establishment of an effective international control mechanism to supervise and verify the withdrawal

and an effective international peace-keeping force under the UN auspices to maintain peace and order pending the holding of free elections.

Meanwhile the Foreign Ministers called on Vietnam and the Kampuchean parties to continue to exercise flexibility and to be more accommodating in order to reach a comprehensive political settlement of the Kampuchean problem. In this regard, they stressed the importance of the talks among the Kampuchean parties to pave the way for national reconciliation in Kampuchea. The Foreign Ministers once again reaffirmed their support for the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK) under the Presidency of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk. The Foreign Ministers emphasized the preponderant role of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk in the settlement of the Kampuchean problem and welcomed his resumption of the Presidency of the CGDK.

The Foreign Ministers noted with appreciation the French initiative to convene an International Conference on Kampuchea. An international conference should be complementary to efforts taken by ASEAN over the last ten years to find a comprehensive settlement to the Kampuchean problem through the UN, the JIM process and other modalities. It should build upon the issues and principles already discussed through the JIM process and enshrined in the relevant UN resolutions. The Foreign Ministers stressed that the objective of an international conference should be to reach a comprehensive political settlement.

The Foreign Ministers further expressed their appreciation to the international community for its continued support of the CGDK in the UN and other international fora. The Foreign Ministers also acknowledged the contribution made by all concerned countries in the sustained efforts in seeking a comprehensive political solution of the Kampuchean problem. They recorded their gratitude to His Excellency Javier Perez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General for his efforts in finding a comprehensive, just and durable settlement of the Kampuchean problem. They also expressed their thanks to His Excellency, Mr. Rafeuddin Ahmed, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs in Southeast Asia, and welcomed his presence at the 22nd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting.

#### JAKARTA INFORMAL MEETING (JIM)

The Foreign Ministers reviewed ASEAN's diplomatic efforts in bringing about a comprehensive and durable political settlement of the Kampuchean problem which has brought suffering to the Kampuchean people and has been a major cause of instability in the Southeast Asian region. They reiterated the need to solve this problem through political means thereby contributing to the establishment of regional peace and stability. They reaffirmed their commitment to continue the efforts in seeking a comprehensive political settlement in accordance with the relevant UNGA resolutions on the situation in Kampuchea.

As an important regional initiative, the JIM process succeeded in identifying key areas of agreements and laying basic framework for the political settlement. The JIM meetings, in particular, were positive developments contributing towards the process of a peaceful settlement of the Kampuchean problem. The Foreign Ministers called on the conflicting parties and Vietnam to continue to exercise flexibility and to be compromising in the endeavour to find a durable and comprehensive political settlement of the problem. The Foreign

Ministers noted the results of the meeting between His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Mr. Hun Sen as well as between Mr. Son Sann and Mr. Hun Sen in Jakarta, 2 - 3 May 1989.

The Foreign Ministers expressed their appreciation to Indonesia as ASEAN's interlocutor with Vietnam, for initiating the JIM process that has brought together for the first time all parties directly involved in the Kampuchean problem and other concerned countries in the region. The Foreign Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to His Excellency Mr. Ali Alatas for his tenacity and untiring efforts in successfully organizing the JIM meetings.

### INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

The Foreign Ministers recalled their Joint Statements issued in Bangkok on 4 July 1988 and in Bandar Seri Begawan on 21 January 1989, respectively, which called for the convening of an International Conference on Indochinese Refugees (ICIR) and the formulation of a new comprehensive plan of action to address the Indochinese refugee problem.

The Foreign Ministers welcomed the successful conclusion of the International Conference on Indochinese Refugees, which was convened by the United Nations Secretary General in Geneva between 13-14 June 1989 under the Presidency of the Foreign Minister of Malaysia.

The Foreign Ministers expressed their sincere appreciation to the United Nations Secretary General for his understanding of the Indochinese refugee crisis and for his assistance in convening the International Conference, and also to the UN Under-Secretary General Rafeuddin Ahmed, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and all countries concerned for their cooperation and contribution toward the success of the International Conference.

The Foreign Ministers noted that the International Conference had adopted by consensus the draft Declaration and Comprehensive Plan of Action (CPA), which had been previously endorsed by the Preparatory Meeting for the International Conference on Indochinese Refugees at Senior Officials' level in Kuala Lumpur from 7 to 9 March 1989.

The Foreign Ministers were of the view that measures stipulated in the CPA are interrelated and mutually reinforcing and should be implemented by all parties concerned, having regard for their national positions, in their totality. They also reaffirmed the willingness of the ASEAN countries to work closely with all parties concerned to ensure the successful implementation of the CPA.

The Foreign Ministers reiterated that speedy resettlement of all Vietnamese in camps in the ASEAN countries before the Cut-off Dates in March 1989 within three-year time-frame and of all those determined to be refugees without residual problem to ASEAN countries, the marked reduction of the influx of asylum-seekers, and viable solutions to deal with all those new arrivals who are determined as non-refugees and hence are not eligible for third-country resettlement, are the crucial components for the durability of the solution to the Indochinese refugees problem.

The Foreign Ministers called upon all countries and international organizations concerned to render full cooperation to these endeavours, having

regard for their national positions, including the setting up of an UNHCR-administered Reintegration Fund. The Foreign Ministers welcomed the proposal of the Philippine Government to host a Regional Resettlement Processing Centre for Indochinese Refugees in first asylum countries, subject to the four conditions stated at the ICIR.

The Foreign Ministers also noted with satisfaction that some resettlement countries had announced their definite intakes of present camp populations before the announced Cut-off Dates in Southeast Asian region for resettlement within three years, and, in this connection, also urged other potential resettlement countries to help resettle these present camp populations in the spirit of international burden sharing.

The Foreign Ministers also urged Vietnam to assume the responsibility towards its own citizens and, in so doing, to accept back all those Vietnamese who are determined as non-refugees and hence not eligible for third-country resettlement.

The Foreign Ministers stressed that, in addition to the Kampuchean issue, Vietnam's sincerity and effective measures toward the durable solution to the problem of Vietnamese boat people are also vital for the enhancement of the overall cooperation, understanding and good neighbourliness between ASEAN countries and Vietnam as well as regional peace and harmony.

#### **ZOPFAN AND SEANWFZ**

The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed ASEAN's determination to work towards the realization of the Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN) in Southeast Asia. They reiterated the decision of the 3rd ASEAN Summit to draw up an appropriate strategy with clear targets and objectives to demonstrate progress towards the early realization of ZOPFAN. They also directed the Senior Officials to continue considering the concept of Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone (SEANWFZ) as a component of a ZOPFAN, with a view to complete the drafting as soon as possible a treaty on the SEANWFZ, taking into account all its implications. They agreed that ASEAN could undertake consultations, at an appropriate time, with other states on primary elements of SEANWFZ for the purpose of obtaining their support for the zone.

#### **DRUGS**

The Foreign Ministers noted with satisfaction the continued cooperation and collaboration among the drug agencies in ASEAN in their joint efforts to control and prevent the scourge of the drug menace in the region. They hoped that such assistance would continue to be given in the future. The Foreign Ministers also called for closer and continued cooperation among Non-Governmental Organizations in the field of preventive education as well as in the treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts.

The Foreign Ministers commended the concerted and determined efforts of the international community to combat the drug problem and expressed their satisfaction over the adoption and signing of the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances in Vienna in December 1988.

The Foreign Ministers reviewed the current situation of the drug problem and reiterated their serious concern over the changing trend of drug abuse and its adverse consequences. They also expressed concern over the emergence of the new phenomenon of drug abuse in association with the incidence of the Acquired Immunity Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) which constituted a grave threat to the well-being of the World Community. The Foreign Ministers, therefore, called for special attention and combined efforts to overcome the problem.

Recalling the ASEAN Declaration of Principles to Combat the Abuse of Narcotic Drugs of 1976, the Foreign Ministers reiterated their firm determination to embark upon closer cooperative efforts to control drug abuse and illicit trafficking in the region.

### **INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES**

In reviewing the international economic situation, the Foreign Ministers noted with concern the continued asymmetrical interdependence between the developing and developed economies, as well as the adverse effects of macro economic policies of some developed countries on developing countries. There are indications that the progress made in the reductions of external imbalances is slowing down on the basis of current policies and exchange rates. The large fiscal and trade deficits in the US continued to threaten the stability of the international economy. The Foreign Ministers further noted that volatility in exchange rates of major currencies has serious adverse impact on international trade and the balance of payments and aggravates the debt problem of some ASEAN countries. It is therefore essential for industrial countries to coordinate action in the area of exchange rates in order to eliminate the disruptive effects of foreign exchange fluctuations. The underlying consideration should be for the promotion of strong and sound growth in their economies.

The Foreign Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the agreement reached at the GATT Trade Negotiations Committee's Meeting in Geneva from 5 to 8 April 1989 which has resolved the deadlock at the Mid-Term Review in Montreal last December, thus enabling the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations to carry on. The Foreign Ministers also expressed satisfaction at the renewed and unqualified support given by the GATT contracting parties to the Principle of Special and Differential (S & D) treatment for developing countries as called for in the Punta del Este Declaration. On agriculture, they expressed the hope that the short-term elements for reform particularly those which would implement a standstill on current agricultural support and protection levels would eventually lead to substantive rollbacks and a possible dismantling of such trade distorting measures. The Foreign Ministers noted with satisfaction the crucial role played by the Cairns Group towards the resolution of the differences between the US and the EC which helped contribute to the compromise agreement on the issue of agriculture. They called upon all parties concerned to maintain momentum of the progress achieved so far so that a global agricultural trade regime based on a fair and market-oriented trading system operating under the GATT discipline could be achieved. The Foreign Ministers were mindful that much hard bargaining still lay ahead, thus there was the need to maintain ASEAN unity and common purpose during the coming months. They reiterated ASEAN's intention to participate constructively in the negotiations on the new issues, that is, Trade-Related Aspects on Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), Trade-Related Investment Measures and

**Services (TRIMS), taking fully into consideration the implications that might affect ASEAN's international trade and development.**

**In the area of tropical products, the Foreign Ministers expressed the hope that continued concessions on market access would be made, focusing on a wider coverage of products, deeper tariff cuts and immediate attention to reducing tariff escalation on semi-processed and processed tropical products. The Foreign Ministers reiterated the need to continue playing an active role to maintain the momentum of the negotiations for the remainder of the current Round and constructively review the offer package on tropical products as well as to urge the other countries, which had not made their offers, to do so. They also expressed the hope of continued progress of negotiations in the areas of safeguards, dispute settlement, tariff and non-tariff measures and functioning of the GATT System.**

**The Foreign Ministers remained committed to ensuring progress in the Uruguay Round. On agriculture, the Foreign Ministers reassured the Contracting Parties that ASEAN would continue to play an active role in the Cairns Group. They hoped that the current negotiations would succeed in establishing an agricultural trading regime that was more responsive to international market signals under the strengthened and more operationally effective GATT rules and disciplines. Towards this objective, ASEAN agreed to the Cairns Group proposal to urge the EC and the US to implement progressive substantial reductions of all trade distortive agricultural support and protection measures.**

**The Foreign Ministers expressed concern on the emergence of trading blocs and other regional economic arrangements as well as the increased tendency to resort to bilateral measures in settling trade problems. They expressed the view that an open multilateral trading system operating under the GATT framework must be preserved as it ensured the survival of a fair, equitable and healthy international trading environment. They called upon all countries to support the GATT system and make greater efforts in the Uruguay Round.**

**The Foreign Ministers viewed the external debt problem of the developing countries as a critical issue of international concern. They reiterated that new financing flows from creditors was needed to sustain the improvement in growth. In particular, sustained implementation of growth-oriented policy reform and improvements in the investment climate were important. They noted with concern the resource constraint on development in many developing countries, inadequate export earnings, arising from the slow growth of markets, from barriers to access to those markets and from low commodity prices, had been compounded by the decline of commercial credits and the low level of official development assistance. As a result, they observed that several developing countries had become net exporters of financial resources, a situation which was clearly not sustainable. Therefore, they welcomed the coordinated efforts of industrialized countries and multilateral institutions to expand substantially the flow of concessional resources for development of the region. The Multilateral Assistance Initiative for the Philippines had provided a frame work for mutually beneficial endeavours between donors and developing countries.**

**On the global debt problem, the Foreign Ministers welcomed recent initiatives taken by industrialized countries in addressing this issue such as those taken by the Toronto Summit in 1988. They expressed the hope that official creditors could consider debt relief for heavily indebted countries presently precluded from Toronto terms, inspite of their per capita income being slightly**



above that of those currently eligible , as well as to those countries which had consistently honoured their obligations. They also expressed appreciation for actions taken by the IMF and the World Bank in providing additional sources for the reduction of debt stock and service through market - oriented approaches. Incremental support from other resources like the ADB and bilateral creditors would be welcomed. The Foreign Ministers reiterated their belief that cooperation of governments, multilateral financial institutions and commercial creditors would be essential for the effective resolution of global debt burden.

On the international commodity issues, the Foreign Ministers reiterated their concern on the proliferation of protectionism in the industrialized countries, the worsening of the anti-tropical vegetable oils and anti-tropical timber smear campaign propagated by the Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) in certain Western nations, as well as the escalation of the farm subsidy war between the major economic powers. The Foreign Ministers called upon the countries concerned to coordinate their action to bring about further liberalization of world trade in commodities and take steps to end the smear campaign and the farm subsidy war which had the effect of reducing the exports of ASEAN commodities.

The Foreign Ministers welcomed the entry into force of the Common Fund for Commodities on 19 June 1989. The Foreign Ministers reaffirmed the ASEAN endorsement of the Indonesian candidature of H.E. Ambassador Budi Hartantyo for the post of the Managing Director of the Common Fund. The Foreign Ministers also noted the progress made towards the ITSG and the successful conclusion of INRA II which augured well for cooperation among the producing-consuming countries.

#### Asia Pacific Co-operation

The Foreign Ministers noted the recent trends and developments in the Asia Pacific region and in particular the proposals made by some of the Dialogue Countries for enhanced economic cooperation.

#### DISARMAMENT

The Foreign Ministers expressed their grave concern over the continuing world-wide escalation of the arms race which affects the peace and security of all nations. They were of the view that the effectiveness of all efforts to achieve genuine disarmament requires sincere cooperation among all states, especially the two superpowers, and believed that the progress in this field could enhance the goal of disarmament in favour of development.

They welcomed the results of the Paris Conference of States Parties to the 1925 Geneva Protocol and Other Interested Parties in January 1989 and expressed the hope that the ongoing negotiations for a Comprehensive Convention banning chemical weapons in Geneva would be concluded soon. They also noted with satisfaction the signing of the agreement on the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and the convening of the talks on Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) between NATO and the Warsaw Treaty Organisation in Vienna. In this respect they considered the recent proposals and counter proposals between the Presidents of Soviet Union and United States to reduce their respective conventional forces as positive steps that should be encouraged.

In noting that the ratification of the INF Treaty had lessened tension between the two superpowers, the Foreign Ministers called on both sides to pursue their commitment to reduce the strategic Nuclear Weapons at the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START). The Foreign Ministers also called on the superpowers to begin negotiations to eliminate their Short Range Nuclear Forces (SNF) immediately. The Foreign Ministers also urged the superpowers to continue efforts towards establishing a Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

The Foreign Ministers expressed their deep regret that the concluded Third Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to Disarmament (SSOD III) failed to adopt a final document of the Conference.

### **WEST ASIA**

The Foreign Ministers viewed with concern the unresolved Arab-Israeli conflict. They reiterated their full support for the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable rights, including the right to self-determination, and the restoration of Arab sovereignty over their occupied territories. The Foreign Ministers welcomed the Declaration of Independence and the Political Programme adopted by the Palestinian National Council at its 19th Extraordinary session held in Algiers last year. The Foreign Ministers called for renewed efforts to achieve a just, comprehensive and lasting settlement by negotiations. Towards this end, they expressed support for the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the UN with the full participation of the PLO. The Foreign Ministers took note of the continuing uprising in the occupied territories and were of the view that it underlined the need for an early settlement.

The Foreign Ministers welcomed the decision made by Iraq and Iran in accepting the United Nations Security Council Resolution 598 of 1987. The Foreign Ministers called on both parties concerned to abide by the terms of the ceasefire agreement and to increase efforts in their negotiations to reach a peaceful settlement of the conflict, in accordance with the provisions of Resolution 598.

### **AFGANISTAN**

The Foreign Ministers welcomed the total withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan as a result of the signing of the Geneva Accords.

The Foreign Ministers, however, expressed their concern on the continued fighting after the Soviet withdrawal and hoped that the parties concerned would reach a comprehensive political settlement and create favourable conditions conducive to a safe return of all Afghan refugees to their homeland. In this connection, the Foreign Ministers expressed the hope for renewed efforts to achieve a just, comprehensive and lasting settlement.

### **SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA**

The Foreign Ministers expressed their grave concern at the continuing state of conflict in Southern Africa. They reaffirmed their condemnation of apartheid which they considered inhuman and a root cause to the conflict in the region. The perpetration of genocide at home and the practice of state terrorism abroad were inherent in the system of apartheid. The Foreign Ministers therefore