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THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA

Report of the Secretary-General

1. The present report on the situation in Kampuchea is submitted to the General Assembly in pursuance of its resolution 38/3 of 27 October 1983.
2. In that resolution, the General Assembly reaffirmed its resolutions 34/22 of 14 November 1979, 35/6 of 22 October 1980, 36/5 of 21 October 1981 and 37/6 of 28 October 1982 and called for their full implementation. It also reiterated its conviction that the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Kampuchea, the restoration and preservation of its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the right of the Kampuchean people to determine their own destiny and the commitment by all States to non-interference and non-intervention in the internal affairs of Kampuchea were the principal components of any just and lasting resolution of the Kampuchean problem.
3. In the same resolution, the General Assembly took note of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the International Conference on Kampuchea (A/CONF.109/7) and authorized it to convene when necessary. It also reaffirmed its decision to reconvene the Conference at an appropriate time and requested the Secretary-General to provide the Conference and the Ad Hoc Committee, on a regular basis, with the necessary facilities to carry out their functions.
4. The General Assembly further requested the Secretary-General to continue to follow the situation closely and to exercise his good offices in order to contribute to a comprehensive political settlement.
5. The General Assembly also appealed for the continuation of emergency relief assistance to those Kampuchean who were still in need, especially along the Thai-Kampuchean border and in the holding centres in Thailand, and requested the Secretary-General to intensify such efforts as were necessary in co-ordinating humanitarian relief assistance and in monitoring its distribution.

6. In compliance with General Assembly resolution 38/3, the Ad Hoc Committee of the International Conference on Kampuchea held several meetings in 1984. The Committee also decided to undertake two missions of consultation. The first mission visited Lagos, Dakar and Belgrade in April 1984. A second mission was dispatched in July to Wellington, Canberra, Bangkok and Jakarta and subsequently met with the President of the International Conference on Kampuchea, at Brussels. The Committee has issued a report on its activities during 1983/84 (A/CONF.109/8).
7. Since the beginning of the year, I have continued, in the framework of my good offices, to seek a peaceful resolution of the problem. To that end, I have maintained close contact with representatives of the States most directly concerned and other interested parties. In April 1984, I had extensive discussions in New York with Dr. Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia. Later that month, I also had the opportunity to exchange views on the situation with General Prem Tinsulanonda and Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila, respectively Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand, during their visit to the United Nations Headquarters.
8. Subsequently, my Special Representative, Mr. Rafeeuddin Ahmed, undertook a mission to South-East Asia and held consultations with the Governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, Viet Nam and Thailand, from 7 to 21 May 1984. Mr. Ahmed returned to the region in July, to attend, on my behalf, the Seventeenth Ministerial Meeting of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), at Jakarta, at the invitation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, in his capacity as Chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee. On that occasion, he met with the foreign ministers and other senior officials of the ASEAN countries.
9. Since then, I have had further discussions in New York with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk of Democratic Kampuchea, Prime Minister Dato Seri Mahathir bin Mohamed of Malaysia, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Phoune Sipaseuth of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mr. Wu Xueqian, Minister for Foreign Affairs of China, Dr. Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, Mr. Arturo Tolentino, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand and Mr. Nguyen Co Thach, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam. I have also exchanged views on the problem with the leaders of delegations of other interested Governments attending the current session of the General Assembly.
10. Throughout this period, I have followed closely the developments in the region, in particular the contacts and diplomatic exchanges which took place in February and March 1984. I had hoped that those exchanges would facilitate mutual understanding and prepare the ground for the initiation of a more constructive dialogue between the countries concerned. However, those hopes remained unfulfilled and the subsequent armed incidents along the Thai-Kampuchean border contributed to a renewed climate of tension in the region. In these circumstances, I asked my Special Representative to undertake a mission to South-East Asia, in order to consult with interested Governments and explore with them the modalities for a resumption of the diplomatic process. During the consultations, the countries concerned expressed their willingness to begin substantive talks and

provided clarifications on the elements which should form the basis for negotiations. The respective positions continued to show that further efforts would be necessary before a mutually acceptable agenda could be worked out. This impression has been confirmed by the discussions that I have recently held in New York.

11. As in previous years, a number of communications relating to the situation in Kampuchea have been addressed to me by interested Governments and circulated as documents of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

12. Under the mandate contained in resolution 38/3 as well as in previous resolutions of the General Assembly, I have continued to implement the programmes of humanitarian assistance to the Kampuchean people. These programmes, funded largely by voluntary contributions from Member States, have consisted of three major components, namely the operations within Kampuchea, at the border and within Thailand. I have brought to the attention of Member States the financial needs of the programmes and kept the donors, both multilateral and bilateral, informed on a regular basis of their detailed implementation.

13. In the five years of operation, the programmes of humanitarian assistance to the Kampuchean people have channelled a substantial amount of aid provided by the international community to the Kampuchean people. In spite of this assistance and the considerable efforts of the Kampuchean people themselves, food production in Kampuchea remains critically dependent on the monsoon. Regrettably, present prospects for the current monsoon are not encouraging. In addition, health and sanitary conditions continue to give rise to serious concern in many parts of the country.

14. The Kampuchean people who have sought refuge along the Thai-Kampuchean border and those in the Khao-I-Dang holding centre operated by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Thailand remain dependent upon relief assistance provided by the international community. The present year has again been one of much difficulty for the United Nations Border Relief Operation (UNBRO), principally as a result of the armed incidents on the border.

15. I wish to reiterate my deep appreciation to the international community for its generous support of these humanitarian assistance programmes and also to pay tribute to all those men and women who have carried them out so successfully, in circumstances which are often difficult and hazardous.

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16. Although the efforts and initiatives undertaken at various levels have not, so far, led to concrete results, there is clearly no alternative to a comprehensive political settlement. Such a settlement must be based on the fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations and can only be reached through a process of genuine negotiations and mutual accommodation. I urge all parties concerned to undertake renewed efforts towards the early initiation of this process in the interest of the Kampuchean people as well as the peoples of the neighbouring countries. For my part, I reiterate my determination to continue to exercise my good offices, with a view to contributing to the achievement of a just and lasting solution.
