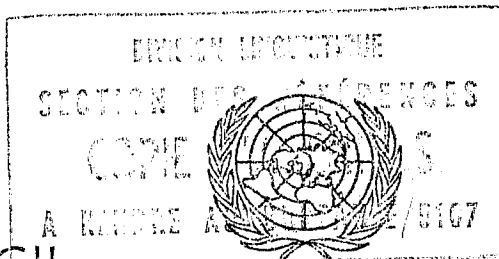


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Agenda item 9

THE RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND ITS
APPLICATION TO PEOPLES UNDER COLONIAL OR ALIEN
DOMINATION OR FOREIGN OCCUPATION

Letter dated 7 February 1985 from the Head of the
Delegation of Democratic Kampuchea to the
Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights

With reference to the letter dated 22 January 1985, contained in document E/CN.4/1985/37, on behalf of the Delegation of Democratic Kampuchea to the forty-first session of the Commission on Human Rights, I would like to make the following statement:

1. Democratic Kampuchea is a full Member of the United Nations. It is in this capacity that it has participated in the work of this Commission. The above-mentioned letter shows the manoeuvres of the Vietnamese authorities to force the international community to accept the fait accompli of their invasion and occupation of Kampuchea. In so doing, they seek to avoid implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations which demand the total and unconditional withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea and the exercise by the people of Kampuchea of their rights to self-determination.

2. With respect to the so-called "People's Republic of Kampuchea", as everyone knows, it is purely and simply nothing but a creation of the Hanoi authorities attempt to legalize their aggression against Democratic Kampuchea. All the strings of that puppet regime are pulled by Hanoi.

3. For six years, in the face of the valiant struggle of the entire people of Kampuchea, under the leadership of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, the Vietnamese occupation army has found itself hopelessly held at bay. At the international level, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam is more than ever condemned and isolated because of its expansionist policy in the region and its flagrant violations of human rights in Kampuchea, Laos and in Viet Nam itself.

4. By its aggression against Democratic Kampuchea, in flagrant violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and non-alignment, Viet Nam is committing a crime against humanity in South East Asia and undermining all efforts of the international community to improve the quality of life of those peoples.

For the information of the Commission on the present development of the struggle of the Kampuchean people, I have the honour to join herewith the communiqué of the Council of Ministers of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea at the end of its fifth meeting held on 3 February 1985 under the high chairmanship of H.R.H. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea, with the participation of H.E. Mr. Son Sann, Prime Minister, and H.E. Mr. Khieu Samphan, Vice-President of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of Foreign Affairs.

I would like to request you, Sir, to arrange that this letter, together with the attached communiqué, be circulated as an official document of the forty-first session of the Commission on Human Rights under agenda item 9.

(Signed)

NGO PIN

Head of the Delegation of
Democratic Kampuchea to the
forty-first session of the
Commission on Human Rights

Annex

COMMUNIQUE OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE COALITION
GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

The 5th meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea was held on 3 February 1985 under the high chairmanship of His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea, with the participation of His Excellency Mr. Son Sann, Prime Minister of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, and His Excellency Mr. Khieu Samphan, Vice-President of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of Foreign Affairs.

The Council of Ministers expresses its satisfaction over the favourable developments of the situation in Kampuchea in every field: military, political and diplomatic. In particular, the military situation in the current seventh dry season is better than in the last sixth dry season. The Vietnamese enemy's military situation has been regularly declining over the past six years. The morale of their troops keeps falling and Viet Nam can no more be the support base of the Vietnamese war of aggression in Kampuchea. As for the resistance forces, they strike at the enemy everywhere inside Kampuchea.

In the Tonle Sap area, our forces hit more strongly the Vietnamese enemy along the bank as well as deeper inside Kampuchea, seriously threatening them. If they try only to check our resistance forces inside Kampuchea, they are sure to lose their war of aggression in Kampuchea. That is why they are striving to concentrate their troops and attack us on the western border of Kampuchea for the purpose of checking us as well as for propaganda purposes. But their efforts will be of no avail as their concentration of troops on the border leaves inside Kampuchea rather empty, which offers a golden opportunity for our resistance forces to strike deeper and deeper to the east. Moreover, by coming to the border front, the Vietnamese enemy have entered our lines of defence enabling us to inflict heavy casualties upon them.

The Council of Ministers is of the view that the Vietnamese last-ditch military efforts against the three parties of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea during the current dry season proves that the Coalition Government is gaining strength militarily as well as wider political influence in Cambodia and abroad. The Council also took note that the current murderous attacks by the enemy against the armed forces of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea and against the civilian population, far from loosening the bonds which unite the three factions of the coalition, contributed to further reinforcing these bonds, not only between the three parties but more and more between them and other Khmer patriots everywhere.

The Council of Ministers is therefore determined further to enhance its unity in the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as President of Democratic Kampuchea, in order to carry on the struggle against the Vietnamese enemy until their total withdrawal from Kampuchea in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions.

The Council of Ministers then proceeded to examine a wide range of issues and problems confronting the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea. The Council of Ministers agreed to adopt a number of measures which would lead towards increasing the effectiveness and efficiency in all aspects of its struggle against the enemy.

The Council of Ministers strongly condemns once again:

The Vietnamese manoeuvres to split the tripartite coalition;

The most inhuman crimes of genocide perpetrated by the Vietnamese enemy against the people of Kampuchea through their policy of starvation and brutal levy of the population to clear the jungles along their supply lines throughout the country;

Their cowardly attacks against the civilian camps of refugees along the border with Thailand;

Their base policy of "Vietnamisation" of Kampuchea through the massive influx of Vietnamese settlers with a view to swallowing Kampuchea.

The Council of Ministers once again declares that only with the total withdrawal of the Vietnamese forces of aggression from Kampuchea in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions voted by an overwhelming majority for six consecutive years already, can the problem of Kampuchea be solved.

The Council of Ministers also acknowledges with satisfaction the growing support which the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea enjoys from the international community, a vibrant and undeniable testimony of the rightness of its cause.

The Council of Ministers welcomed the declarations made by various Governments condemning the latest crimes perpetrated by the armed forces of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam against population centres under the administration and care of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea. By deciding to attack civilian centres, the Vietnamese aggressors confirmed their nurtured hope of eventually imposing a military solution on the Khmer people, despite the desire of the international community for a political settlement of the problem of Kampuchea as witnessed by United Nations resolutions on Kampuchea adopted every year by an ever increasing number of countries.

Viet Nam's action also brought to light its insincerity as to its often-repeated proposition to negotiate a peaceful settlement of the Cambodian problem. It also showed Viet Nam's difficulties in the pursuit of its annexationist ambitions: it is diplomatically isolated, is having serious economic difficulties at home, is plagued with internal political problems, etc.

The Council of Ministers calls upon the international community to continue to keep up all sorts of pressure on Viet Nam in order to force it earnestly to seek a political solution to the Cambodian problem.

The Council of Ministers expressed its most sincere appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, His Excellency Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, for his part in the common effort to find a peaceful solution to the Khmer problem on the basis of the United Nations resolutions despite the obstinate refusal of the Vietnamese aggressors to accept them.

The Council of Ministers avails itself of this opportunity to renew its deepest thanks to all independence- and peace-loving countries the world over for granting their support and assistance to the just struggle of the people of Kampuchea against the Vietnamese aggressors under the leadership of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as President of Democratic Kampuchea.