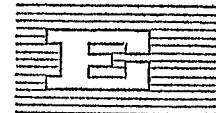
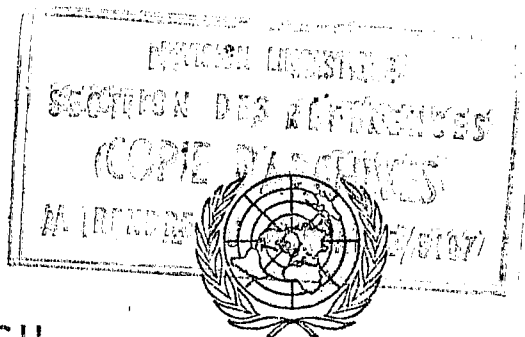


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Forty-first session  
Agenda item 9

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

Letter dated 13 February 1985 from the Permanent Representative  
of Malaysia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to  
the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights

On behalf of the ASEAN Geneva Committee I have the honour to submit to you the text of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Joint Statement on Kampuchea issued in Bangkok on 11 February 1985.

I further have the honour to request you kindly to circulate the Joint Statement as an official document of the forty-first session of the Commission on Human Rights.

(Signed) Ahmad Faiz ABDUL HAMID  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

GE.85-10795

AnnexASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS' JOINT STATEMENT  
ON KAMPUCHEA, ISSUED IN BANGKOK,  
11 February 1985

1. The ASEAN Foreign Ministers deplore the continuing military offensive launched by Viet Nam along the Thai-Kampuchean border which has resulted in renewed hardship and suffering for tens of thousands of displaced Kampuchéans as well as affected Thai villagers. They note with concern the particular severity and scope of this offensive. The Foreign Ministers condemn the numerous incursions that have been made by the Vietnamese military forces into Thailand along the Thai-Kampuchean border in blatant violation of Thailand's sovereignty and territorial integrity. They call for the immediate cessation of such illegal and hostile actions which have exacerbated tensions in the region. They reaffirm the solidarity of the ASEAN countries with Thailand in the face of such external provocations and in the exercise of its legitimate right of self-defence. The Foreign Ministers call upon the international community to respond urgently to the pressing humanitarian needs along the Thai-Kampuchean border.

2. The ASEAN Foreign Ministers note with deep regret the latest demonstration of Viet Nam's continued pursuit of a military solution in Kampuchea. Such actions contradict the professions of Viet Nam for a negotiated solution. Viet Nam continues to try to legitimize its military occupation of Kampuchea. This is the main reason for the lack of progress in the attempts by some countries and parties who are trying to find a political settlement. ASEAN efforts to date have not borne fruit for the same reason.

3. The Foreign Ministers reiterate their call to Viet Nam to seek a political settlement on the basis of the total withdrawal of Vietnamese forces, national reconciliation among all Kampuchéans, and the exercise of self-determination by the Kampuchean people. National unity can be achieved only through the participation of all Kampuchéans in the act of self-determination to be held under international supervision. They further reiterate their call for a direct dialogue between Viet Nam and the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea to arrive at a political settlement.

4. The Foreign Ministers take note of the many appeals for restraint made to Viet Nam and the condemnations of its military actions in Kampuchea issued by a number of countries, including an appeal by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. They express their regret that Viet Nam continues to ignore these appeals and the established rules of orderly and peaceful conduct of relations between States. They appeal to the international community to continue to urge restraint upon Viet Nam and to persuade Viet Nam that its security cannot be achieved through military means but through negotiations and the peaceful settlement of disputes.

5. The Foreign Ministers note the current trends in Sino-Soviet relations, Soviet-United States relations and Sino-United States relations. Viet Nam's actions seen in this light work against current efforts to reduce international tensions and underscore Viet Nam's international isolation. They also undermine the ASEAN initiative to engage in meaningful dialogue through its interlocutor,

Indonesia. With these movements in big Power relations and the sincere desire of ASEAN for peace and stability in South-East Asia, the Foreign Ministers express their conviction that the best means for smaller countries to maintain their sovereignty is to remain independent and strong through national socio-economic development and greater regional peace and stability. The Foreign Ministers urge Viet Nam to work in this direction by providing a suitable atmosphere so that a meaningful dialogue for a peaceful settlement of the Kampuchean problem can be started.

6. The Foreign Ministers express their deep appreciation for the interest and efforts of the Secretary-General of the United Nations as shown during his recent visit to South-East Asia to find a just and lasting solution to the Kampuchean problem. They express the hope that the Secretary-General of the United Nations will continue to use his good offices to bring about a political settlement in Kampuchea.

7. The Foreign Ministers note that, despite having to withstand yet another massive military onslaught, the Khmer resistance forces remain intact and display high morale. The Foreign Ministers commend the resilience and determination of the Khmer freedom fighters, and reaffirm the strong support of the ASEAN countries for the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea. The Foreign Ministers call upon the international community to increase support and assistance to the Kampuchean people in their political and military struggle to liberate their homeland from foreign occupation.

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