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agenda**
FOOD PROBLEMS

Letter dated 19 June 1985 from the Permanent Representative of
Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith for your information the text of the statement dated 14 June 1985 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea denouncing and condemning the Vietnamese aggressors for the shortage of food they have created in Kampuchea this year, 1985.

I should be most grateful if the text of the statement could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 22 of the preliminary list, and of the Economic and Social Council, under item 10 of the provisional agenda for its second regular session of 1985.

(Signed) THIOUNN Prasith
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Democratic Kampuchea

* A/40/50/Rev.1.

** E/1985/100.

ANNEX

Statement dated 14 June 1985 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea denouncing
and condemning the Vietnamese aggressors for the shortage of
food they have created in Kampuchea this year, 1985

This year, 1985, the people of Kampuchea will meet with a more acute shortage of rice than last year. The Vietnamese aggressors, through their puppet in Phnom Penh, put the figure of the shortage at 400,000 tons. In regard to this acute shortage of rice faced by the Kampuchean people, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea would like to draw the attention of the international community to the following:

1. The above-mentioned figure negates the deceitful propaganda of the Vietnamese aggressors who time and again have claimed that "the situation in Kampuchea is back to normal" or that "the conditions of living of the people of Kampuchea have become normal". This figure indicates that during the past more than six years since its invasion of Kampuchea, Viet Nam has been sowing death and destruction in the most barbarous ways against the nation and people of Kampuchea, plundering the country and the population and starving to death the Kampuchean people. They continue to do so now.
2. This figure of 400,000 tons is higher than that of last year, 1984. The world public opinion might ask for what reason the Kampuchean people faced a more severe rice shortage this year than in the previous one. Since October 1984, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea has drawn world attention to the fact that the Vietnamese aggressors have rounded up the Kampuchean population and sent them to clear forests along their supply lines in western Kampuchea.

This question was already raised in our statement dated 25 January 1985 (A/40/109-S/16914). Now, the whole world public opinion has become aware of or has witnessed this fact. Moreover, it has also become aware or has witnessed that those Kampuchean people sent to forced labour by the Vietnamese aggressors have been killed or wounded in large number by mines and even by bullets. Besides, a great number of them have become victims of malaria. In the hospitals in Phnom Penh alone, there are 10,000 of them. This has been testified by United Nations officials in charge of humanitarian relief operations.

Now, we would like to inform the international community that even during the present rainy season, when the people of Kampuchea have to start their agricultural work, a great many of them are still compelled to forced labour by the Vietnamese aggressors at the western Kampuchean border such as along the foot of the Dang Rek mountain. Those people cannot grow rice this year. Thus, the food shortage will be more severe next year.

Furthermore, the United Nations officials in charge of humanitarian aid have been lately concerned of a new deadly form of malaria which has spread over and has

plagued the whole of Kampuchea. That is another grave consequence of the rounding up of the Kampuchean population to clear forests along the western Kampuchean border. This malaria has decimated a great number of the people of Kampuchea. Those whose life has been spared have their already poor health, due to the successive food shortages since 1979, more seriously affected. Therefore, the forces of production of the Kampuchean people have been jeopardized. These facts prove that as long as Viet Nam keeps its forces of aggression in Kampuchea, the people of Kampuchea will ceaselessly die of famine, malaria or other infectious diseases, not to mention the Kampuchean people killed by the Vietnamese aggressors through conventional and chemical weapons.

3. For what purpose have the Vietnamese aggressors published the figure of the food shortage in Kampuchea? Obviously, they aim at getting more humanitarian aid from the world community to feed their armed forces in Kampuchea so as to pursue their genocidal war of aggression in Kampuchea. The pillage of the generous humanitarian aid by Viet Nam to supply their forces of aggression in Kampuchea has become obvious. The international humanitarian organizations cannot monitor the distributions of aid every time and everywhere. Besides, the Vietnamese aggressors have various means to plunder the food of the Kampuchean people, ranging from robbing the inhabitants and ransacking their houses to rounding up the population in order to prevent them from harvesting rice in the fields so as to plunder the crop. They force the population to provide them with 10 kilograms of rice per household per month on an average.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea denounces most vehemently the aforementioned policy of famine implemented by the Vietnamese aggressors to starve to death and exterminate the Kampuchean population. It calls upon the world community to condemn more strongly the war of aggression of the Hanoi authorities in Kampuchea. Only after the complete withdrawal of the Vietnamese forces from Kampuchea can the people of Kampuchea be saved from famine and lead a normal life.
