Thirty-ninth session
Items 37, 68 and 124 of the preliminary list

QUESTION OF PEACE, STABILITY AND CO-OPERATION IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN STATES

Letter dated 23 April 1984 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Statement dated 20 April 1984 by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on the ASEAN's statement.

I should be very grateful if Your Excellency could have this document circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 37, 68 and 124 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) HOANG RICH SON
Permanent Representative

* A/39/50.
ANNEX

Statement by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on the ASEAN's statement, issued at Hanoi on 20 April 1984

On 19 April 1984, an ASEAN statement alleged that Vietnamese army volunteers in Kampuchea had attacked civilians in refugee camps along the Thai-Kampuchean border.

This is a mere repetition of the Bangkok and Beijing authorities' hackneyed slanders. The fact is that those who have most vociferously accused Viet Nam of attacking civilians are those who have been giving the strong support and backing to the Pol Pot gang and their accomplices in their acts of banditry, in killing civilians, destroying crops and sabotaging the Kampuchean people's revival. Early this year, when the Pol Pot gang committed crimes against the Kampuchean people, the Thai and Chinese authorities gloated over and blared out their imaginary "victories" with the aim of heightening their prestige. But recently, when the Kampuchean people's armed forces and Vietnamese army volunteers duly punished the genocidal Pol Pot gang and their accomplices in Kampuchean territory, the Thai and Chinese authorities raised a hue and cry, falsely accusing Viet Nam of violating Thai territory and attacking civilians. It is public knowledge that, while punishing the Pol Pot remnants, the Kampuchean people's armed forces and Vietnamese volunteers have fully respected Thailand's territory and sovereignty. Recent statements by General Arthit Kamlang-ek concerning a Thai air force A-37 jet bombing a Polpotist ammunition dump and by the Secretary-General of the Thai National Security Council denying a report on the occupation of hill 483 inside Thailand by Vietnamese troops have proved that the Kampuchean people's armed forces and Vietnamese army volunteers did not attack civilian targets or violate Thai territory. On the contrary, the Thai authorities have directly involved Thai artillery, and air and infantry forces in military operations along the Thai-Kampuchean border in support of the Pol Pot remnants.

Refugee camps along the Thai-Kampuchean border are but a screen hiding the Thai authorities' collusion with China and the United States in letting the Pol Pot gang and their accomplices use Thai territory as their commanding and training base from which they launch criminal activities against the Kampuchean people. For the People's Republic of Kampuchea to punish and retaliate against the Pol Pot gang and their accomplices for their sabotage activities is a legitimate right of any sovereign State.

If the Thai authorities really want peace and stability along the Kampuchean-Thai border, why did they turn down the proposals of the countries of Indo-China for seeking measures to ensure equal security for both sides, under international control?

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam flatly rejects the Thai and Chinese authorities' slanders. The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam Government demands that the Thai Government immediately end all its acts of war in support of the genocidal Pol Pot clique against the Kampuchean people's revival. Otherwise they will have to bear full responsibility for their actions.