Fifteenth special session
Agenda item 3

CREDENTIAIS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FIFTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Letter dated 16 June 1988 from the Permanent Representative of
Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to documents A/S-15/39 and A/S-15/44
dated 13 June 1988 and 14 June 1988 respectively, circulating letters addressed to
you by the Vientiane régime's representative and the representative of the German
Democratic Republic. The reservations on the credentials of Democratic Kampuchea,
the sole and legitimate representative of the Kampuchean people, contained in those
communications represent yet more baseless propaganda aimed at defaming the just
and patriotic struggle of the Kampuchean people, their national resistance forces
and the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea led by His Royal Highness
Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea. They also constitute
an unfortunate and shameless misuse of the United Nations forum. These countries,
which have professed the idea of using the United Nations and the Security Council
to maintain peace and legal order, as called for by the Soviet Foreign Minister in
his statement on 8 June 1988 in the plenary session, are now making use of those
international institutions to endorse the Vietnamese war of aggression and
occupation in Kampuchea and to encourage the denial of the right of the Kampuchean
people to self-determination.

It is regrettable that the Soviet Union and its allies have continued to back
the Hanoi authorities in their ambition to swallow up Kampuchea in order to realize
their sinister "Indochina Federation" strategy by obfuscating the reality of the
untold sufferings imposed on the Kampuchean people by the continuing Vietnamese
military occupation of Kampuchea.

In making such a move, the Hanoi régime harbours the illusion that it can
entice the world community into believing that the problem of Kampuchea is a civil
war - a conflict between Kampucheans - and that Viet Nam is but an "outsider", and,
at the same time, that it can make people believe that the puppet régime in Phnom Penh is gaining strength in an attempt to denigrate the struggle of the Kampuchean national resistance forces and the CGDK who have driven its military forces into a total impasse and towards a final defeat on the battlefield in Kampuchea.

As it has failed through military operations to eliminate the Kampuchean national resistance forces, Viet Nam resorts to diplomatic means and fallacious manoeuvres. The international community, which has unambiguously and repeatedly pronounced its views on the situation in Kampuchea, cannot be deceived by pious declarations of intent while the massacre by the Vietnamese occupying forces and the painful exodus of the Kampuchean people continue and the right of the Kampuchean people to self-determination is denied.

The reservations and deceitful claims by the Hanoi régime and its supporters are clear evidence of Viet Nam's unwillingness to end its military occupation and to respect the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and neutrality of Kampuchea. As a matter of fact, on 26 May last, when it announced the so-called "withdrawal of 50,000 Vietnamese troops" from Kampuchea, Hanoi went so far as, and with great impudence, to declare that "the remaining Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea" would be placed under the "direction" of the puppet régime in Phnom Penh. How can the puppets in Phnom Penh, which have been installed and propped up by hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese troops and which have been disintegrating day by day, give command to the Vietnamese forces, their master? However, this clearly illustrates Hanoi's true objective, that is, to legitimize its puppets by trying to make the world community believe that the régime in Phnom Penh is fully in control of the country. Hence, whoever wishes to solve the problem must deal with that régime.

It is abundantly clear that Viet Nam is not prepared to discard its puppets, but it is committed to making them look better; nor is it ready to allow the Kampuchean people to exercise their right to self-determination; nor has it any willingness to engage seriously in the search for a comprehensive and just solution to the problem of Kampuchea. It is also clear that the Soviet Union, Hanoi's main financial and military aider and abetter, is not sincere, for it has not turned its rhetoric into deeds, especially in that part of the world.

As they have met military setbacks and been driven to a defeat on the battlefield in Kampuchea, as Vietnamese youth have no longer accepted sacrifice for a war without a valid purpose and as they are in desperate need of food aid for their occupying troops in Kampuchea and their people at home, the Hanoi authorities try to present themselves as politically conciliatory and flexible. But, Viet Nam has long established a reputation for rapidly changing tactics while never wavering from its set goal.

It is high time for the Hanoi régime, which tries in vain to usurp the Kampuchean people's right for the benefit of its puppets, to realize the futility of its ambition and the devastating consequences of its regional expansionist policy. It should give deep thought to the concept that the security of any State would be greater if it abandoned the attempt to diminish the security of the other.
I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as an official document of the fifteenth special session of the General Assembly under agenda item 3.

(Signed) THIOUUNN Prasith
Permanent Representative