

Documentation

Vietnam—Kampuchea Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea, proceeding from the traditions of Vietnam-Kampuchea militant solidarity and fraternal friendship which have overcome many trials and become an unbreakable force ensuring the success of each country's national defence and construction, deeply conscious that the independence, freedom, peace and security of the two countries are closely inter-related and that the two sides are duty-bound to help each other whole-heartedly and with all their might to defend and consolidate the great revolutionary gains they have recorded through almost 30 years' struggle full of hardships and sacrifices, affirming that the militant solidarity and the long-term and all-round cooperation and friendship between Vietnam and Kampuchea meet the vital interests of the two peoples and at the same time are a factor assuring a durable peace and stability in Southeast Asia and in keeping with the basic interests of the people in this region and contribute to the maintenance of world peace, confident that the Kampuchean people's complete victory under the glorious banner of the National United Front for Salvation of Kampuchea, the correct line of independence, sovereignty and international solidarity of each country, and the respect for each other's legitimate interests constitute a firm basis for the constant development of friendship and cooperation between the two countries, desirous to strengthen the militant solidarity, the long-term cooperation and friendship and mutual assistance in all fields to consolidate independence, build a prosperous country and a happy life for each people, thus contributing to the maintenance of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world, in keeping with the objectives of the non-aligned countries' movement and the United Nations Charter, have decided to sign this treaty and have agreed upon the following articles:

Article 1

The two sides undertake to do all they can to defend and constantly develop the traditional militant solidarity, friendship and fraternal cooperation between Vietnam and Kampuchea, and mutual trust and assistance in all fields on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and legitimate interests, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefits.

The two sides shall do all they can to educate their cadres, fighters and people of their respective countries to preserve the traditional Vietnam-Kampuchea militant solidarity and loyal friendship and make them pure and clear forever.

Article 2

On the principle that the national defence and construction are the cause of each people, the two sides undertake to whole-heartedly support and assist each other in all domains and in all necessary forms in order to strengthen the capacity to defend the independence, sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity and peaceful labour of the people in each country against all schemes and acts of sabotage by the imperialists and international reactionary forces. The two sides will take effective measures to implement this commitment whenever one of them require.

Article 3

In order to help each other build a prosperous and powerful country and a happy life free from cold and hunger, the two sides shall strengthen mutually beneficial fraternal exchanges and cooperation and assist each other in the fields of economy, culture, education, public health, science and technology, and in training cadres and in exchanging specialists and experience in all fields of national construction.

To attain this objective, the two sides will sign necessary agreements and, at the same time, increase contacts and cooperation between the state offices concerned and between mass organisations of both countries.

Article 4

The two sides undertake to solve through peaceful negotiation all the differences which may arise in the relations between the two countries. They will negotiate to sign an agreement on the delineation of the national frontier between the two countries on the basis of the present borderline with the determination to turn the present border into the border of lasting peace and friendship between the two countries.

Article 5

The two sides fully respect each other's independent and sovereign line. They persistently pursue a foreign policy of independence, peace, friendship, cooperation and non-alignment on the principle of non-interference in whatever forms in other countries' internal affairs, non-acceptance of any interference in their respective countries' internal affairs, and not allowing any country to use their respective countries' territory to interfere in other countries.

The two sides attach great importance to the longstanding tradition of militant solidarity and fraternal friendship between the Kampuchean, Lao and Vietnamese peoples, and pledge to do their best to strengthen this traditional relationship on the basis of respect for each country's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. They will strengthen their relations in all fields with the socialist countries. Being countries in Southeast Asia, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea persistently pursue a policy of friendship and good neighbourliness with Thailand and the other countries in Southeast Asia, and actively contribute to peace, stability and prosperity of the Southeast Asian region. The two sides will develop the relations and cooperation with the independent, nationalist countries, the national liberation movement and democratic movements, and resolutely support the struggle of nations for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress. They will also make positive contributions to the

solidarity and growth of the non-aligned movement against imperialism and the other international reactionary forces, to regain and defend national independence and to advance towards the establishment of the new world economic order.

Article 6

The two sides will frequently exchange views on the questions concerning the relations between their two countries and other international matters of mutual interest. All problems in the relations between the two countries will be solved through negotiation in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect and with fairness and reason.

Article 7

This treaty is not aimed at opposing any third country and is not related to the rights and obligations of each party to abide by the bilateral and multilateral agreements it engages in.

Article 8

This treaty shall take effect right from the day of the exchange of the ratification letters. The ratification shall be done according to the procedures of each party.

Article 9

This treaty is valid for 25 years and will be tacitly prolonged every 10 years if neither of the two signatory parties informs the other by writing one year before the expiration of the treaty about its intention to cancel the treaty.

This treaty is done in Phnom Penh, capital of the People's Republic of Kampuchea on the 18th of February, 1979, in the Vietnamese and Khmer languages, which are equally valid.

for the Government of the Socialist
Republic of Vietnam
Pham Van Dong
Premier of the Government

for the People's Revolutionary Council
of the People's Republic of Kampuchea
Heng Samrin
President of the People's Revolutionary Council

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