

Burma-Thailand Joint Statement

On the occasion of the State Visit to Thailand of His Excellency U Ne Win, President and Chairman of the Council of State of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, on 4–6 March 1979, talks were held between His Excellency the President and His Excellency General Kriangsak Chomanan, Prime Minister of Thailand, on international, regional as well as bilateral matters of mutual interest and concern.

The two sides held a wide-ranging exchange of views on the general international situation with particular emphasis on developments within the region.

Both sides expressed concern at the continuing armed conflicts in the region and the danger that these conflicts could escalate. They expressed support for attempts by international organizations and interested parties to seek peaceful solution to the conflicts.

In this connection, the Thai side stressed that the Thai Government would maintain a policy of strict neutrality and non-involvement in the conflicts. The Burmese side welcomed this policy.

On bilateral matters, the two sides reviewed cooperative efforts between their two countries since the visit of the Thai Prime Minister to Burma in May 1978.

The two sides agreed that cooperation should be further intensified and expanded. To this end, the two governments would explore the possibilities of greater cooperation in the following areas:

- expansion of trade and commerce between the two countries;
- further cooperation along the common border to prevent and suppress the production of narcotic drugs;
- exploration of measures for cooperation on customs and immigration;
- exploration of ways to suppress smuggling between the two countries;
- follow-up discussions on the subject of fisheries;
- cooperation on science and technology;
- close cooperation in dealing with border issues in the spirit of good-neighbourliness and traditional friendship between the two countries.

The two sides were highly satisfied with the atmosphere of trust and understanding that has been created between their two countries and agreed to continue to consult closely on all matters that would help to consolidate the friendly relations between Burma and Thailand.