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DOCUMENTATION

Statement by the Chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee on the Vietnam-Kampuchea Conflict

Indonesian Foreign Minister Prof. Dr. Mochtar Kusumaatmadja [Tuesday, 9 Jan.] stated that, as Chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee, he had been authorized by the Foreign Ministers of the ASEAN countries to issue a statement in connection with the escalating conflict between Vietnam and Kampuchea. The statement is as follows:

The ASEAN member countries strongly regret the escalation and expansion of the armed conflict now taking place between the two Indochinese states. The ASEAN countries have expressed their great concern over the implications of this development and its impact on peace, security, and stability in Southeast Asia.

The ASEAN member countries have again reaffirmed that peace and stability are very essential for the national development of each country in the Southeast Asian region.

In accordance with the principles of the U.N. Charter and the Bandung Declaration, and bearing fully in mind the pledges made by states in Southeast Asia, they appeal to all countries in the region to firmly respect the freedom, sovereignty, national integrity, and political system of the respective countries, to restrain themselves from the use of force or threats of the use of force in the implementation of bilateral relations, to refrain from interference in the internal affairs of the respective countries, and dissociate themselves from engagement in subversive activities either directly or indirectly against one another, and to resolve all existing differences between these countries through peaceful means by way of negotiations in a spirit of equality, mutual understanding, and mutual respect.

The ASEAN member countries are convinced that in the interest of peace, stability, and development in Southeast Asia, the countries concerned should fully honour those principles and pledges.

The ASEAN countries welcome and support the holding of a U.N. Security Council meeting to discuss the Vietnam-Kampuchea conflict, and urgently call for steps being taken by the Security Council towards restoration of peace, security, and stability in Indochina. In this context, these countries are of the view that a visit by the U.N. Secretary-General or his special deputy to the region would be of great benefit.

Source: Antara (Indonesian News Agency) in English, 0717 gmt, 10 Jan. 79; SWB FE/6014/A3/12, 12 Jan. 79.

Documentation

ASEAN Foreign Ministers' "Joint Statement" on Vietnam's Action in Kampuchea

Determined to display ASEAN's unity and solidarity in the face of threats to the peace and stability of Southeast Asia and recalling the pledge given by Vietnam to the ASEAN member countries to strictly respect the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of each country and to cooperate with those countries in maintaining and strengthening regional peace and stability, the ASEAN Foreign Ministers held a meeting in Bangkok on 12 and 13 January 1979 and reached the following agreements:

(1) All ASEAN Foreign Ministers support the statement issued on 9 January 1979 in Jakarta by the Indonesian Foreign Minister in his capacity as Chairman of ASEAN Standing Committee on the expansion of the armed conflict between Vietnam and Kampuchea.

(2) All ASEAN Foreign Ministers deplore the armed intervention threatening the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Kampuchea.

(3) All ASEAN Foreign Ministers confirm the right of the Kampuchean people to decide their own future without external interference or influence so that they may exercise their right to self-determination.

(4) In order to achieve the above-mentioned goal, all ASEAN Foreign Ministers demand the immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops from Kampuchean territory.

(5) All ASEAN Foreign Ministers support the decision made by the U.N. Security Council to give immediate attention to the situation in Indochina and vigorously encourage the Security Council to take necessary and suitable measures to restore peace, stability, and safety to the area.

Source: Bangkok Home Service, 1300 gmt, 13 Jan. 1979; SWB FE/6016/A3/1, 15 Jan. 1979.

ASEAN Chairman's Statement on Conflict in Indochina

The following is the statement of the Chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee:

The ASEAN countries are gravely concerned over the rapid deterioration of the situation in this region since the ASEAN Foreign Ministers meeting in Bangkok on 12 and 13 January 1979. The conflicts and tension in and around this region have gradually escalated into the use of arms and the expansion of trouble-plagued areas. The ASEAN countries reiterate their firm commitment to the principles of peaceful coexistence, the U.N. Charter and international law. The ASEAN countries urgently appeal to the conflicting countries to stop all hostile activities against each other, and call for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the areas of conflict in Indochina to avoid the deterioration of peace and stability in Southeast Asia. The ASEAN countries also appeal to the countries outside this region to exert utmost restraint and to refrain from any action which might lead to the escalation of violence and the spreading of conflict.

Source: Bangkok Home Service, 1300 gmt, 21 Feb. 1979; SWB FE/6050/A3/1, 23 Feb. 1979.