

SINGAPORE AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

THE objective of this section of the Review is to reproduce materials and information which illustrate Singapore's attitude to, and approaches on, questions of international law and international organisations. As far as possible, primary materials are reproduced but where unavailable, and the topics are important, secondary materials including relevant extracts from newspaper reports are reproduced. The materials are presented under the following headings:

- I. Policy Statements
- II. Legislation *
- III. Judicial Decisions *
- IV. Treaties (other than Asean Instruments) *
- V. Asean Treaties, Declarations and other Instruments
- VI. Singapore in the United Nations and other International Organisations and Conferences *

The materials are selective. As the materials are compiled from the Law Library and other sources, it should be stressed that any text contained herein is not to be regarded as officially supplied to the Review. *Singapore & International Law Section Editor.*

I. POLICY STATEMENTS

- (a) *VIOLATION OF THAI TERRITORY BY VIETNAMESE FORCES: Ministry of Foreign Affairs Statement (Singapore Government Press Release No. 43/Mar, 09-0/84/03/31, 31 March 1984).*

Singapore strongly deplores the intrusion of Vietnamese forces into Thai territory on 25 March 1984. About 10,000 Khmer civilians have crossed the border to seek safety in Thailand as a result of other Vietnamese attacks against Cambodian civilian camps along the border opposite Khun Han District, Si Saket Province. The intrusion by Vietnamese forces violates Thailand's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Vietnamese intrusion into Thai territory has occurred after Foreign Minister Mr. Nguyen Co Thach's visits to Indonesia and Australia, and two days after his departure from Bangkok. Last year, Vietnam waited until the departure of a Western foreign minister from Hanoi to launch military attacks. The timing of these attacks have

* There is no material under these headings in this issue.

undermined the credibility of Vietnam's assurances and declaration of flexibility on the Cambodian problem.

- (b) *ADMISSION OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM INTO ASEAN: Address by Mr. S. Dhanabalan, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Singapore, at the Ceremony for the Official Admission of Brunei Darussalam into ASEAN, 7 January 1984 (Singapore Government Press Release No. 09/Jan, 09-1/84/01/07).*

On behalf of the people and Government of the Republic of Singapore, it is my great pleasure to extend our warmest congratulations to the people and the Government of Brunei Darussalam on their resumption of complete responsibility for all their national affairs on 1 January 1984 and to welcome them into the ASEAN family. I also have particular pleasure in welcoming His Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah as the Foreign Minister of Brunei. His Highness has been attending the ASEAN meetings for the last three years and we are welcoming one who is already well known to us.

The Foreign Minister of Brunei Darussalam and the ASEAN Foreign Ministers have just signed the Declaration of the Admission of Brunei Darussalam into ASEAN. It is indeed a historic moment for Brunei and for ASEAN, as this is the first time that ASEAN has welcomed a new member into its family. This augurs well for ASEAN and for the region as a whole. ASEAN can feel a justifiable sense of achievement for the confidence shown by Brunei in ASEAN.

Brunei's membership of ASEAN is an important step forward for regional cooperation. The commitment of the member countries to ASEAN is a major reason for the peaceful and friendly relations among them. The spirit of ASEAN, based on sound calculations of national interest, is to promote a friendly and stable regional environment so that member countries may concentrate their attention on national development as well as find ways to cooperate with each other. We have all decided many years ago that it is better to cooperate with each other than to try to undermine each other. The political will to cooperate has been translated into regional stability and economic growth. By enlarging ASEAN's membership, Brunei will further the trend towards deeper understanding and trust among the member countries of ASEAN.

As a fully independent country, Brunei will meet many of the same problems that we all face. Brunei can be assured of the fullest support and cooperation from its other ASEAN fellow members. Brunei can join in the various ASEAN programmes, activities and projects as and when it feels ready and comfortable to do so. This will be done in the spirit of *mushawam* or consensus which has made many ASEAN achievements and successes possible and has become an established tradition.

Today, ASEAN is a reality that no one can afford to ignore. It is capable of meeting major challenges in the region. Its potential is vast. The enlarged ASEAN will be even more successful in promoting development and stability in Southeast Asia.

V. ASEAN TREATIES, DECLARATIONS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

DECLARATION OF THE ADMISSION OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM INTO THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS, done at Jakarta on 7th January 1984. (Copy provided courtesy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore).

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand

Having considered the communication of Brunei Darussalam expressing her desire and interest to become a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN);

Having regard to the ASEAN Declaration of 1967 establishing ASEAN wherein it was declared that the Association is open for participation to all States in the South-East Asian Region subscribing to the aims, principles and purposes of ASEAN;

Having regard to the Declaration of ASEAN Concord of 1976; and

Having regard to the unanimous expression by the member states of ASEAN of their agreement to admit Brunei Darussalam to membership;

and

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam representing Brunei Darussalam

Having solemnly accepted the conditions of membership; and

Having agreed to subscribe or accede as the case may be, to all the Declarations and Treaties of ASEAN;

Now therefore, the ASEAN Foreign Ministers and the Foreign Minister of Brunei Darussalam hereby agree and declare as follows:

1. Brunei Darussalam becomes the sixth member state of ASEAN,
2. Brunei Darussalam solemnly agrees to subscribe or accede as the case may be, to all the Declarations and Treaties of ASEAN.

This Declaration of Admission of Brunei Darussalam, done at Jakarta on the Seventh Day of January in the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Four, shall be deposited with the ASEAN Secretariat.

For Brunei Darussalam

H.H. Prince Mohamed Bolkiah
The Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Negara Brunei Darussalam

For Indonesia

Prof. Dr. Mochtar Kusumaatmadja
The Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Indonesia

For Malaysia

Tan Sri M. Ghazali Shafie
The Minister of Foreign Affairs
of Malaysia

For the Philippines

Arturo M. Tolentino
The Minister of State for Foreign
Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines

For Singapore

S. Dhanabalan
The Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Singapore

For Thailand

A.C.M. Siddhi Savetsila
The Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Kingdom of Thailand