



REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
KAGAWARAN NG UGNAYANG PANLABAS

CYP-073

P 4/4

100  
KALAYAAN

21 April 1998

copy  
#98-07939

Excellency,

I wish to inform Your Excellency that the ASEAN Troika on Cambodia met on 18 April 1998 in Bangkok and had a consultative meeting with the Friends of Cambodia on 19 April 1998. During these two meetings which I chaired as Chairman of the ASEAN Troika, there was a unanimous expression of support for the initiatives and the vital role that the United Nations, under your esteemed leadership, has assumed in the Cambodian elections scheduled on 26 July 1998.

As Your Excellency may be aware, some ASEAN members are considering favorably the sending of observers during the elections. The approximate number of observers expected from ASEAN is seventy (70) to seventy-five (75). We recognize the need for a large number of observers to assist the United Nations in the task of ensuring free and credible elections in Cambodia. At the Bangkok meeting of the ASEAN Troika, we discussed the possibility of the United Nations tapping the goodwill and expertise of a great number of non-governmental organizations around the world involved in the monitoring of elections and agreed to request Your Excellency to consider making an appeal to these organizations to contribute their efforts to the cause of free elections in Cambodia. We are confident that an appeal from Your Excellency will generate the interest among NGOs which could then be pursued by us in the Government, for the desired results.

We hope that Your Excellency will look favorably at the proposal of the ASEAN Troika. In closing and on behalf of the ASEAN Troika, I wish to reiterate our appreciation for the valuable cooperation that the United Nations has extended to ASEAN in the pursuit of our common objective of helping restore political stability in Cambodia.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

DOMINGO L. SIAZON, JR.  
Secretary of Foreign Affairs

His Excellency  
Kofi Annan  
Secretary-General of the United Nations  
New York