



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

31 July 1998

Mr. President,

I have the honour to inform you that pursuant to resolution 52/135 of the General Assembly and resolution 1997/49 of the Commission on Human Rights, requesting me to assist the Cambodian Government in bringing to justice Khmer-Rouge leaders, I have decided to establish a Group of Experts with the mandate, as more fully elaborated in my letter to the President of the General Assembly, to evaluate the existing evidence, to assess the feasibility of bringing Khmer Rouge leaders to justice, and to explore options for bringing them to justice before an international or national jurisdiction.

The members of the Group are: Sir Ninian Stephen (Australia), Chairman, Mr. Rajsoomer Lallah (Mauritius) and Professor Stephen Ratner (USA). Upon completion of their work, and not later than 31 December 1998, the Group will submit to me its report for transmittal to the General Assembly.

The appointment of the Group of Experts is mandated by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, and is without prejudice to any other initiative that might be undertaken by the Council in that regard.

I would be grateful, Mr. President, if you could bring the contents of this letter to the attention of members of the Security Council.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Annan', written in a cursive style.

Kofi A. Annan

Mr. Sergey V. Lavrov
President of the Security Council
New York