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**Chanthan Phok** 

# Minutes of the 8 March 1976 meeting on propaganda

<u>Participants:</u> Super Comrade Secretary, Super Comrade Deputy Secretary, Super Comrade Vann, Super Comrade Hem, Super Comrade Doeun, Super Comrade Phoas,

Comrade Touch

# Agenda:

- Radio broadcast of 20 March 1976 elections;
- Duty to monitor the news.
- I- Angkar's recommendations regarding the radio broadcast of 20 March 1976 elections
  - 1- The principles of radio broadcasting

As we are now organising elections, we must organise radio broadcasts in order to prevent the enemy from attacking us. In fact, the enemy is still fighting. This is the case for Agence France-Presse. We have already promulgated our constitution. They are waiting to see how we will react. They are frustrated. As for Vietnam, it has published information on its committee, population and laws, which also resemble capitalist elections.

As far as we are concerned, if we didn't make the information public, we would be seen as a dictatorship, as undemocratic. So Vietnam would become more arrogant and even prouder. We do not follow Vietnam but we must prepare counterattack measures in advance.

So we must make the broadcasts. We will not broadcast the laws governing our elections; our purpose will be to disseminate the constitution to celebrate our elections. We will make a few comments on the constitution for the purposes of fostering education.

#### Our wishes:

To have our men, people and army understand the constitution. Our entire population must know its own constitution; not just the representatives. The population must know it in order to follow up and rectify its implementation in accordance with the will of the people and national interests.

If we act thus, we will derive many benefits:

- Firstly, this will be beneficial to radio programming;
- Secondly, this will offer an opportunity for political education;
- Thirdly, if we act thus, we will be completely different from others in the world. Not even China and Vietnam have made their constitutions public.

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## 2. Broadcasting approach:

- We will broadcast the content of the constitution and related comments, yet not too much:
- We shall discuss the rules governing the appointment of our representatives and the characteristics of these representatives, who are better at representing workers and farmers. They work for the actual benefit of the workers, farmers and national interests.
- Voters: anyone older than 18 years is entitled to vote, except for criminals. The entire population is entitled to vote, old and new people alike. This demonstrates a great sense of solidarity.
- We do not wish to brag about not having any problems. However, our constitution is in fact the result of our struggles. On the basis of this constitution, we are doing our utmost to build our nation. Our constitution is a symbol and a victory in our struggles. It is a foundation and a heritage for our children.

## 3. Broadcasting times:

These will be divided into two periods:

- From now until the 17<sup>th</sup>, we will broadcast gradually, on a daily basis.
- From the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup>, the three days before the elections, broadcasts should be continuous.

### 4. Broadcasted images:

- Running script accompanying different images;
- During the three following days, we will have to go at it with hammer and tongs;
- Footage of interviews conducted during rallies.

#### Three settings must be chosen:

- The workers' rally: Super Comrades Phoas, An and Rith;
- The farmers' rally: Comrade Yuth Choeun in the Southwest;
- The armed forces rally: Super Comrade Mean.

#### II- Angkar's recommendations regarding news monitoring

Angkar recommends that the Ministry of Propaganda to monitor and keep abreast of the news every day and every hour, and to issue bulletins if measures need to be taken. News monitoring shall take place at two levels:

- First, under normal circumstances: *Angkar* is informed every day, as always, but a summary of the most important news items concerning us should be provided.

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A few news analyses to interest the Standing Committee and to take measures should be provided.

At 8:15 a.m., a messenger sent directly from *Angkar* will come to collect the news at the Ministry of Propaganda.

- Second, under special circumstances: if something unusual happens *Angkar* has to immediately be informed so that timely measures may be taken.

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