

**New Special Representative of the Secretary-General for human rights
in Cambodia Appointed
14 March 1996**

Please find attached a copy of the announcement of the nomination by the United Nations Secretary-General in New York of his new Special Representative for Human Rights in Cambodia, Mr. Thomas Hammarberg, which will be effective on 1st May 1996, after the presentation by Mr. Michael Kirby of his Report to the Commission on Human Rights.

Following his appointment to the High Court of Australia, the Honourable Justice Michael Kirby AC CMG, has informed the Secretary-General of his decision to resign from his post as Special Representative for Human Rights in Cambodia. His resignation will be effective on 1 May 1996 following his report to the 52nd session of the Commission on Human Rights. Justice Kirby has been the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Human Rights in Cambodia since November 1993.

The Secretary-General has decided to appoint Ambassador Thomas Hammarberg of Sweden as Justice Kirby's successor. Mr. Hammarberg has in-depth experience in the fields of human rights and development as well as first-hand experience of human rights issues in Southeast Asia. He is currently Ambassador and Special Adviser to the Swedish Government on Humanitarian Issues and the Swedish Representative on the Refugee Working Group within the multilateral Middle East Peace Process and the Chairman of the Technical Advisory Committee for the United Nations Study on the Impact on Children of Armed Conflict.

Mr. Hammarberg had previously served as Special Adviser to the Swedish International Development Agency and as Secretary-General of Amnesty International. He was Chairman of Amnesty International's Executive Committee when that organization was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1977.

The office of the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Human Rights in Cambodia is an appointment made pursuant to Part III of the Paris Agreement on a Comprehensive Political Settlement of the Cambodian Conflict requiring the Commission on Human Rights to "continue to monitor closely the human rights situation in Cambodia." Consequent to this, the Commission, under resolution 1993/6, requested the Secretary-General to appoint a Special Representative to maintain contact with the Royal Government and people of Cambodia; to guide and

co-ordinate the United Nations human rights presence in Cambodia; to assist the Royal Government in the promotion and protection of human rights; and to report to the General Assembly and the Commission under the agenda item entitled "Advisory Services in the field of human rights."