- Since 1983, Vietnam, while continuing to put forward conciliatory proposals, has launched large-scale military operations every dry season, in an attempt to destroy the Kampuchean rebels.
- For their part, ASEAN and particularly China have tried to force the Vietnamese troops to withdraw from Kampuchea by creating the CGDK in June 1982 and helping it conduct successful military operations.
- On a diplomatic level ASEAN and CGDK have put forward numerous proposals for a settlement in the hopes of retaining the initiative and above all in an effort to keep their fragile coalition from coming apart at the seams.
- Vietnam remains intransigent and continues to fall back on the decisions of the Conference of the three Indochinese states (Laos, Vietnam, Kampuchea), and is convinced that ASEAN is not a group capable of playing a part in any eventual settlement and it believes it can promote dissension within the Coalition as well as in the CGDK.
- Vietnam has been in favour of mediation by countries such as Indonesia, Australia and Japan in the hopes of obtaining the objective noted above, as well as having its presence in Kampuchea accepted as a fait accompli.
- The two principal actors who could exert an influence on these antagonists have voluntarily kept out of the diplomatic manoeuvering, since each one prefers to pursue its own interests. As far as the Soviet Union is concerned its aim is to continue supporting Vietnam and to profit from the political and military advantages of having the latter dependent upon it. For China, on the other hand, the principle objective is to make Vietnam pay dearly for the humiliation Beijing suffered by supporting the Khmer Rouge, and to isolate Vietnam economically.