



DIVISION FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

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1. Security Council considers the situation in Lebanon

On 1 August, the Security Council demanded an immediate cease-fire and a cessation of all military activities within Lebanon and across the Lebanese-Israeli border. The Council also authorized the Secretary-General to deploy immediately, on the request of the Government of Lebanon, United Nations observers to monitor the situation in and around Beirut. The Security Council acted by adopting resolution 516 (1982) unanimously.

The Security Council met on 3 August 1982. Following consultations with the members of the Security Council, the President was authorized to make the following statement on their behalf in connection with the grave situation in Lebanon: (S/15342)

"1. The members of the Security Council are seriously concerned at the prevailing high state of tension and at reports of military movements and continued outbreaks of firing and shelling in and around Beirut, contrary to the demand in resolution 516 (1982), which was adopted at 1325 hours New York time on 1 August 1982, for an immediate cease-fire and cessation of all military activities within Lebanon and across the Lebanese-Israeli border. They consider it vital that these provisions be fully implemented.

"2. The members of the Security Council have taken note of the Secretary-General's reports submitted pursuant to resolution 516 (1982) (S/15334 and Add.1). They express full support for his efforts and for the steps he has taken following the request of the Government of Lebanon, to secure the immediate deployment of United Nations observers to monitor the situation in and around Beirut. They note with satisfaction from the Secretary-General's report that some of the parties have already assured General Erskine of their full co-operation for the deployment of United Nations observers and they call urgently on all of the parties to co-operate fully in the effort to secure effective deployment of the observers and to ensure their safety.

"3. They insist that all parties must observe strictly the terms of resolution 516 (1982). They call further for the immediate lifting of all obstacles to the dispatch of supplies and the distribution of aid to meet the urgent needs of the civilian population in accordance with previous resolutions of the Council. The members of the Security Council will keep the situation under close review. "

On 4 August, the Council adopted resolution 517 (1982). By this resolution the Council censured Israel for its failure to comply with resolutions 508, 509, 512, 513, 515 and 516. It called for the "prompt return of Israeli troops which have moved forward subsequent to 1325 hours EDT on 1 August 1982". The Council also authorized the Secretary-General, "as an immediate step, to increase the number of United Nations observers in and around Beirut". Resolution 517 was adopted by a vote of 14 in favour to none against, with one abstention (United States).

The Security Council met on 6 August 1982, at the request of the Soviet Union, to continue consideration of the situation in Lebanon. The Council had before it a Soviet-sponsored draft resolution by which it was decided that, in order to carry out the decisions of the Council taken in its resolutions 516 and 517, all States Members should, "as a first step, refrain from supplying Israel with any weapons and from providing it with any military aid". The draft resolution, was not adopted due to the negative vote of a permanent member, the United States. The vote on the draft was 11 in favour to one against, with 3 abstentions (Togo, United Kingdom and Zaire).

The Security Council, once again, on 12 August expressed its most serious concern about continued military activities in Lebanon and demanded that "Israel and the parties to the conflict observe strictly the terms of Security Council resolutions relevant to the immediate cessation of all military activities within Lebanon and, particularly, in and around Beirut. It took that action unanimously by adopting resolution 518, submitted by Guyana, Jordan, Panama, Togo, Uganda and Zaire.

On 17 August 1982 the Security Council decided to extend the present mandate of UNIFIL for a further interim period of two months, until 19 October 1982. The Security Council took that decision by adopting resolution 519 (1982). The vote on the text, was 13 in favour to none against, with 2 abstentions (Poland, Soviet Union).

Full text of the Security Council resolutions mentioned in the above are as follows:

RESOLUTION 516 (1982)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 2386th meeting
on 1 August 1982

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its resolutions 508 (1982), 509 (1982), 511 (1982), 512 (1982) and 513 (1982),

Recalling its resolution 515 (1982) of 29 July 1982,

Alarmed by the continuation and intensification of military activities in and around Beirut,

Taking note of the latest massive violations of the cease-fire in and around Beirut,

1. Confirms its previous resolutions and demands an immediate cease-fire, and a cessation of all military activities within Lebanon and across the Lebanese-Israeli border;
2. Authorizes the Secretary-General to deploy immediately on the request of the Government of Lebanon, United Nations observers to monitor the situation in and around Beirut;
3. Requests the Secretary-General to report back to the Council on compliance with this resolution as soon as possible and not later than four hours from now.

RESOLUTION 517 (1982)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 2389th meeting
on 4 August 1982

The Security Council,

Deeply shocked and alarmed by the deplorable consequences of the Israeli invasion of Beirut on 3 August 1982,

1. Reconfirms its resolutions 508 (1982), 509 (1982), 512 (1982), 513 (1982), 515 (1982) and 516 (1982);
2. Confirms once again its demand for an immediate cease-fire and withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon;
3. Censures Israel for its failure to comply with the above resolutions;
4. Calls for the prompt return of Israeli troops which have moved forward subsequent to 1325 hours EDT on 1 August 1982;
5. Takes note of the decision of the Palestine Liberation Organization to move the Palestinian armed forces from Beirut;
6. Expresses its appreciation for the efforts and steps taken by the Secretary-General to implement the provisions of Security Council resolution 516 (1982), and authorizes him, as an immediate step, to increase the number of United Nations observers in and around Beirut;
7. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council on the implementation of the present resolution as soon as possible and not later than 1000 hours EDT on 5 August 1982;
8. Decides to meet at that time if necessary in order to consider the report of the Secretary-General and, in case of failure to comply by any of the parties to the conflict, to consider adopting effective ways and means in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations.

RESOLUTION 518 -(1982)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 2392nd meeting
on 12 August 1982

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 508 (1982), 509 (1982), 511 (1982), 512 (1982), 513 (1982), 515 (1982), 516 (1982), and 517 (1982),

Expressing its most serious concern about continued military activities in Lebanon and, particularly, in and around Beirut,

1. Demands that Israel and all parties to the conflict observe strictly the terms of Security Council resolutions relevant to the immediate cessation of all military activities within Lebanon and, particularly, in and around Beirut;
2. Demands the immediate lifting of all restrictions on the city of Beirut in order to permit the free entry of supplies to meet the urgent needs of the civilian population in Beirut;
3. Requests the United Nations observers in and in the vicinity of Beirut to report on the situation;
4. Demands that Israel co-operate fully in the effort to secure the effective deployment of the United Nations observers, as requested by the Government of Lebanon, and in such a manner as to ensure their safety;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to report soonest to the Security Council on the implementation of the present resolution;
6. Decides to meet if necessary in order to consider the situation upon receipt of the report of the Secretary-General.

RESOLUTION 519 (1982)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 2393rd meeting
on 17 August 1982

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 425 (1978), 426 (1978), 427 (1978), 434 (1978), 444 (1979), 450 (1979), 459 (1979), 467 (1980), 483 (1980), 488 (1981), 490 (1981), 498 (1981), 501 (1982) and 511 (1982),

Reaffirming its resolutions 508 (1982) and 509 (1982), as well as subsequent resolutions on the situation in Lebanon,

Having studied with grave concern the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (S/15357) and noting its conclusions and recommendations and the wishes of the Lebanese Government as set out therein,

Bearing in mind the need, pending an examination by the Council of the situation in all its aspects, to preserve in place the capacity of the United Nations to assist in the restoration of the peace and of the authority of the Lebanese Government throughout Lebanon,

1. Decides to prolong the present mandate of UNIPIL for a further interim period of two months, that is, until 19 October 1982;
2. Authorizes the Force during that period to continue to carry out, in addition, the interim tasks in the humanitarian and administrative fields assigned to it in operative paragraph 2 of resolution 511 (1982);
3. Calls on all concerned, taking into account paragraphs 5, 8 and 9 of the Secretary-General's report (S/15357), to extend full co-operation to the Force in the discharge of its tasks;
4. Supports the efforts of the Secretary-General, with a view to optimum use of UNTSO observers as envisaged by relevant resolutions of the Security Council;
5. Decides to consider the situation fully and in all its aspects before 19 October 1982.

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: revised draft resolution

(Not adopted)

The Security Council,

Deeply indignant at the refusal of Israel to comply with the decisions of the Security Council aimed at terminating the bloodshed in Beirut,

1. Strongly condemns Israel for not implementing resolutions 516 (1982) and 517 (1982);
2. Demands that Israel immediately implement these resolutions fully;
3. Decides that, in order to carry out the above-mentioned decisions of the Security Council, all the States Members of the United Nations should refrain from supplying Israel with any weapons and from providing it with any military aid until the full withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Lebanese territory.

2. Resumed Seventh Emergency Special Session of the General Assembly on the question of Palestine

On 16 August 1982, the General Assembly resumed - for the third time this year - its Seventh Emergency Special Session on the question of Palestine. The meeting was requested by Cuba on behalf of the Movement of the Non-Aligned Countries. The debate began with the statement of the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

Three resolutions were adopted by the General Assembly on 19 August, at the end of its four day resumed session.

The Assembly decided to adjourn the Seventh Emergency Special Session temporarily and authorized the President of the latest regular session of the General Assembly to resume its meetings upon request from Member States.

Resolution ES-7/6 on the question of Palestine was adopted by 120 votes in favour to 2 against (Israel, United States), with 20 abstentions. Resolution ES-7/7 on the International Conference on the Question of Palestine was adopted by 123 votes in favour to 2 against (Israel, United States), with 18 abstentions.

Resolution ES-7/8 on the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression was adopted by a vote of 102 in favour to 2 against (Israel, United States), with 34 abstentions.

Full text of the resolutions adopted at the resumed Emergency Session of the Assembly are as follows:

ES-7/6. Question of Palestine

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Palestine at its resumed seventh emergency special session,

Having heard the statement of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the United Nations, in particular the respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

Aware of the functions of the Security Council during its meetings relevant to the situation in the Middle East, in particular since 4 June 1982,

Expressing its deep regret that the Security Council has, so far, failed to take effective and practical measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations to ensure implementation of its resolutions 508 (1982) of 5 June 1982 and 509 (1982) of 6 June 1982,

Alarmed that the situation in the Middle East has further worsened as a result of Israel's acts of aggression against the sovereignty of Lebanon and the Palestinian people in Lebanon,

Guided further by the purposes and principles of the United Nations, in particular to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace and for the suppression of acts of aggression,

Mindful of the humanitarian principles and provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and Additional Protocol I thereto and the obligations arising from the regulations annexed to the Hague Conventions of 1907,

Reaffirming its conviction that the question of Palestine is the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict and that no comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region will be achieved without the full exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights in Palestine,

Reaffirming once again that a just and comprehensive settlement of the situation in the Middle East cannot be achieved without the participation on an equal footing of all the parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization as the representative of the Palestinian people,

Expressing its indignation at the continuation and intensification of military activities by Israel within Lebanon, particularly in and around Beirut,

Recalling all its resolutions relevant to the question of Palestine,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 508 (1982) of 5 June 1982, 509 (1982) of 6 June 1982, 511 (1982) of 18 June 1982, 512 (1982) of 19 June 1982, 513 (1982) of 4 July 1982, 515 (1982) of 29 July 1982, 516 (1982) of 1 August 1982, 517 (1982) of 4 August 1982 and 518 (1982) of 12 August 1982,

1. Reiterates its affirmation of the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force;
2. Calls for the free exercise in Palestine of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination without external interference and to national independence;
3. Reaffirms its rejection of all policies and plans aiming at the resettlement of the Palestinians outside their homeland;
4. Demands that Israel respect and carry out the provisions of the previous resolutions of the General Assembly relating to the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories, including Jerusalem, as well as the provisions of Security Council resolution 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, in which the Council, inter alia:

(a) Determined that all measures taken by Israel to change the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure or status of the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, or any part thereof had no legal validity and that Israel's policy and practices of settling parts of its population and new immigrants in those territories constituted a flagrant violation of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and also constituted a serious obstruction to achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East;

(b) Strongly deplored the continuation and persistence of Israel in pursuing those policies and practices and called upon the Government and people of Israel to rescind those measures, to dismantle the existing settlements and in particular to cease, on an urgent basis, the establishment, construction and planning of settlements in the Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem;

5. Demands also that Israel carry out the provisions of Security Council resolutions 509 (1982), 511 (1982), 512 (1982), 513 (1982), 515 (1982), 516 (1982), 517 (1982) and 518 (1982);

6. Urges the Secretary-General, with the concurrence of the Security Council and the Government of Lebanon and pending the withdrawal of Israel from Lebanon, to undertake effective measures to guarantee the safety and security of the Palestinian and Lebanese civilian population in South Lebanon;

7. Condemns Israel for its non-compliance with resolutions of the Security Council, in defiance of Article 25 of the Charter of the United Nations;

8. Urges once again the Security Council, in the event of continued failure by Israel to comply with the demands contained in its resolutions 465 (1980), 508 (1982), 509 (1982), 515 (1982) and 518 (1982), to meet in order to consider practical ways and means in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter;

9. Requests once again the Secretary-General to delegate a high-level commission to investigate and make an up-to-date assessment of the extent of loss of human life and material damage and to report, as soon as possible, on the result of this investigation to the General Assembly and the Security Council;

10. Requests the Secretary-General and organizations of the United Nations system, in co-operation with the International Committee of the Red Cross and other non-governmental organizations, to investigate the strict application by Israel of the provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and other instruments in the case of those detained;

11. Calls once again upon the Secretary-General to initiate contacts with all the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict in the Middle East, including the

Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, with a view to convening an international conference, under the auspices of the United Nations, to find concrete ways and means of achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting solution, conducive to peace in conformity with the principles of the Charter and relevant resolutions;

12. Decides to adjourn the seventh emergency special session temporarily and to authorize the President of the latest regular session of the General Assembly to resume its meetings upon request from Member States.

ES-7/7. International Conference on the Question of Palestine

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 36/120 C of 10 December 1981, by which it decided to convene an International Conference on the Question of Palestine, not later than 1984, for a comprehensive effort to seek effective ways and means to enable the Palestinian people to attain and exercise its rights,

Deeply alarmed at the explosive situation in the Middle East resulting from the Israeli aggression against the sovereign State of Lebanon and the Palestinian people, which poses a threat to international peace and security,

Deeply aware of the responsibility of the United Nations under its Charter for the maintenance of international peace,

Gravely concerned that no just solution to the problem of Palestine has been achieved and that this problem therefore continues to aggravate the Middle East conflict, of which it is the core, and to endanger international peace and security,

Taking note of the final communiqué of the Extraordinary Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Countries on the Question of Palestine, held at Nicosia from 15 to 17 July 1982,

Recognizing the need to intensify all efforts by the international community to enable the Palestinian people to attain and exercise its inalienable rights as defined and reaffirmed in United Nations resolutions,

Stressing the importance of the work of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on the Question of Palestine and the need for securing the broadest possible involvement of Member States in the preparatory processes leading up to the Conference, and in the Conference itself,

1. Decides to convene the International Conference on the Question of Palestine at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in Paris, from 16 to 27 August 1983;
2. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that adequate resources from the regular budget of the United Nations are provided urgently in order to enable the successful holding of the Conference and to carry out the necessary preparations for and follow-up activities to the Conference;
3. Calls upon all States to co-operate with the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on the Question of Palestine in the implementation of the present resolution and invites them to establish national focal points for effective co-ordination of preparations at the national level.

ES-7/8. International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Palestine at its resumed seventh emergency special session,

Appalled by the great number of innocent Palestinian and Lebanese children victims of Israel's acts of aggression,

Decides to commemorate 4 June of each year as the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression.

Full text of the statement made by the Chairman of the Committee at the resumed emergency Session is reproduced below:

Mr. SARRE (Senegal, Chairman, Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People) (interpretation from French): For the third time, in the course of this year, we have convened an emergency special session of the General Assembly to consider the question of Palestine. To these meetings can be added those held by the Security Council on the same question. The reasons for this exercise are well-known. They are as follows:

Firstly, the situation in the Middle East is deteriorating from day to day and has, in fact, reached a point of no return, which seriously endangers international peace and security.

Secondly, faithful to the virtues of dialogue and negotiation the United Nations, despite obstacles and drawbacks, is making every effort it can to avert this evil.

Thirdly, the Palestinian phenomenon, which is the key to the whole question of the Middle East, should be seen in its real and objective context in any process designed to find a just, comprehensive and lasting solution to the Middle East crisis.

Fourthly, one party directly concerned in this particular case, Israel, which owes its very existence to the United Nations, refuses to heed the resolutions and decisions of this world body and, even more seriously, refuses to implement the principles and objectives of our Charter, to which it freely subscribed in exercise of its sovereignty.

Fifthly, a State Member of our Organization has had its sovereignty and independence jeopardized.

These are some of the reasons, among many, which have prompted us to resume the seventh emergency special session.

For more than two months now the international community, as a whole, has focused its attention on Lebanon, where one of the most lethal wars of aggression the Middle East has ever known throughout its history is going on.

The capital of a member nation of the United Nations has been besieged by the armed forces of a neighbour State.

This premeditated operation, which has already resulted in thousands of Lebanese and Palestinian civilian victims, was planned well in advance, designed to bring about a final solution to the Palestinian problem. At the same time, acts of intimidation and terrorism towards the Palestinians on the West Bank of the Jordan and in the Gaza Strip are increasing, leaving the victims convinced that the only way to survive is to submit to domination.

Thus the military operations conducted by Israel in Lebanon replicate the political war against the PLO, to which Michael Oren, the spokesman for the Israeli occupation in the occupied territories, referred in The New York Times of 11 July. Israel, according to its logic, believes that the military destruction of the PLO will make it possible for the authorities in Tel Aviv to impose on the inhabitants of the occupied territories a status of "autonomy" which would not conflict with their partially realized designs of annexation.

According to this logic, which implies that the legitimate rights of the peoples of this region must be sacrificed to the security requirements of their country, the Israeli leaders continue to flout the fundamental principles contained in the Charter and to violate numerous resolutions of the United Nations which, however, presided over the creation of the State of Israel. The most recent and most flagrant example of this attitude was Israel's rejection of resolutions 508 (1982), 509 (1982), 512 (1982), 513 (1982) and 516 (1982) of the Security Council, and resolution ES-7/5 of the General Assembly, which all required Israel to put an end to the hostilities and to withdraw its forces behind the internationally recognized frontiers of Lebanon.

The diplomatic efforts which have been undertaken here and there have always been met by the same Israeli reaction. That is, an escalation of violence.

In its obsession to wear down Palestinian resistance, Israel has not even ruled out the option of economically throttling west Beirut, thus threatening approximately 500,000 people and condemning them to perish from hunger and sickness.

The tragedy of Lebanon speaks for itself. Today, more than ever before, the credibility of the United Nations is at stake. To fail to put an end to this tragedy would be tantamount to undermining once and for all the moral authority of this Organization, in which our collective hopes are vested for a world of peace and justice.

This is particularly true since the Organization itself for some time now has been considering the real context in which this tragedy can and must end, that is, the withdrawal of Israel from all the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories and the restoration of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including the creation of an independent State in its own homeland. In so doing, our Organization has simply drawn the lesson from history: nothing can be imposed on a people which refuses to submit to pressure.

Speaking in this context, I might cite the recommendations of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, which were adopted by the General Assembly in 1976 and reconfirmed frequently since then.

The haste with which Israel has been carrying out its plans has not succeeded, nor will it ever succeed, in changing reality: the Palestinian nation exists; it has been built on suffering and frustration and it has been hardened by years of struggle for freedom and dignity.

It is thus for this General Assembly today to be true to itself and to assume all the responsibilities conferred upon it by the Charter in order to induce Israel to heed the consensus of the international community.

Senegal, for its part, while hailing the courage and determination with which the valiant Palestinian patriots continue to resist the repeated assaults of the Israeli aggressor, wishes to reaffirm its unfailing and constant support for the Palestinian cause and its unreserved support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the fraternal country of Lebanon. With respect to the events in that area, the Head of the Senegalese State, Mr. Abdou Diouf, stated the following on 31 July last:

"With respect to the Palestinian problem, I started by recalling our steadfast position, which is that no lasting peace can be established in the Middle East without recognition of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, of which the PLO is the sole legitimate representative. Our support for the struggle of the valiant

Palestinian people is based both on the justice of the Palestinian cause and on our duty to stand behind them. I would appeal to the entire international community to continue to exert all necessary pressure on Israel to induce it to comply with the decisions and recommendations of the United Nations and, as a first step, to put an end to the aggression continually perpetrated against the Lebanese and Palestinian populations and to leave Beirut as well as all Lebanese territory."

At this particularly critical time in the struggle which is being waged by the Palestinian and Lebanese people for their independence and freedom, we continue to hope that the international community will prove equal to taking the courageous measures required to ensure that the Palestinian and Lebanese people will enjoy a future of peace and justice - even better, a future marked by co-operation, fraternity and dignity among all the States in the region. In so doing, we shall be acting in compliance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and thus we shall have made a contribution - which is our responsibility - to the advent of an era of peace and justice in the Middle East.

3. Action taken by the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People acting as the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on the Question of Palestine

On 18 August 1982, the Committee discussed the objectives, provisional agenda, structure and the documentation of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine. It endorsed the recommendation of its Working Group that the two main objectives of the Conference should be:

(a) To attain international awareness of the facts relating to the question of Palestine;

(b) To attain governmental and non-governmental support for effective ways and means to enable the Palestinian people to exercise its inalienable rights in Palestine on the basis of United Nations resolutions.

On the structure of the Conference, the Committee agreed in principle to follow the usual pattern of United Nations conferences. As to the provisional agenda and documentation the Committee decided to give further consideration to those matters in its future meetings. In her statement to the Committee, the Secretary-General of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine reported that in accordance with the decision of the Committee to advance the dates of the Conference to 1983, the necessary consultations had begun and the dates which appeared to be feasible for holding the Conference were from 16-27 August in Paris.

4. Seventh United Nations Seminar on the Question of Palestine Held in Dakar, Senegal from 9 to 13 August 1982

1. The Seventh United Nations Seminar on the Question of Palestine with the title "The Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People" as its central theme was held at the Centre International d'Echanges, Dakar, Republic of Senegal, from 9-13 August 1982. Seven meetings were held and 14 panelists presented papers on various aspects of the question of Palestine.

2. The United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People was represented by a delegation consisting of H.E. Mr. Massamba Sarré (Senegal), Chairman of the Committee; Mr. John Aje (Nigeria); Mr. Cheick Cissé (Mali); Mr. André Tahindro (Madagascar); and Mr. Alexandros Vikis (Cyprus) who served as Rapporteur of the Seminar.

3. The Seminar was opened on 9 August 1982 by H. E. Mr. Habib Thiam, Prime Minister of the Republic of Senegal on behalf of H.E. Mr. Abdou Diouf, the Head of State of the Republic of Senegal. H.E. the Prime Minister expressed the great concern felt by the Government and people of Senegal regarding developments on the question of Palestine. For this reason, he declared, the President of the Republic of Senegal had welcomed the opportunity to provide the venue for the seminar. He reaffirmed Senegal's consistent support for the Palestinian people in its efforts to attain and exercise its rights. The failure to find a just, comprehensive and lasting solution for the problem of Palestine endangered international peace and security. In this context, Senegal once again called for Israel's withdrawal from all the territories it has illegally occupied, including the Holy City of Al Quds. He strongly condemned Israel's aggression in Lebanon. In the opinion of Senegal, the aspirations of a people or nation could not be destroyed by aggression. Senegal's participation in UNIFIL reflected its active interest and concern in the Middle East problem, in general, and in the question of Palestine, in particular.

4. At that session Mr. Massamba Sarré, Chairman of the Committee, gave an account of the Committee's work and referred to the tragic events in Lebanon in the months of June and July this year. He referred also to the repressive measures taken in the West Bank and Gaza by Israel which seemed to be the forerunner of annexation. He stressed that the slaughter in Lebanon could have been avoided if the Palestinians had been able to exercise their rights in their own land.

5. At the same session a statement was made by Mrs. Lucille Mair, Secretary-General of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, who stressed the need for the active participation of all countries in the Conference and in the preparatory activities connected with it.

6. Mr. Moncef el May, Political Counsellor of the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States conveyed to the Seminar a message from His Excellency Mr. Chedli Klibi, its Secretary-General, who extended his greetings to the

Seminar and drew attention to the severe loss of life in Lebanon of unarmed Lebanese and Palestinians - caused by Israel's aggression. To remain silent in the face of such aggression would be tantamount to complicity in these acts. He appealed to all nations to unite in opposition to this aggression.

7. A message from H.E. Mr. Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization was conveyed by Dr. Adnan Abdel Rahim, his Special Representative to the Seminar. In this message, Chairman Arafat expressed his appreciation of the work of the Seminar which represented solidarity with the people of Palestine. He stated that Israel continues its destruction of Palestinian institutions established by both the Palestine Liberation Organization and the United Nations, and is responsible for over 30,000 deaths. He hoped that the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People would help to reveal Israel's real aims. Peace could only be achieved when Palestinians could exercise their right to self-determination. He wished to assure the Seminar that the struggle continues and that the Palestinian people would never surrender.

8. H.E. Abdel Haq Tazzi, Representative of His Majesty King Hassan of Morocco, Chairman of the Al Quds Committee, addressed the Seminar on behalf of His Majesty and appealed to the world body to do everything necessary to compel Israel to withdraw from the Holy City and to preserve its Status in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions.

9. The meetings of the Seminar were presided over by H.E. Mr. Moustapha Niasse, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, H.E. Mr. Falilou Kane, Minister of State for Commerce and former Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and by H.E. Mr. Massamba Sarré, the present Chairman of the Committee. The closing session of the Seminar was addressed by H.E. Mr. Moustapha Niasse, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs who reaffirmed the position of Senegal on the situation in the Middle East and the question of Palestine.

10. During this Seminar, four panels of experts were established to consider different aspects of the central theme, the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. These panels and their panelists were as follows:

i. THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

Ms. Gay McDougall (U.S.A.); Dr. Alfred Moleah (South African); Mrs. Saturnin Soglo (Benin) and Dr. Seydou Madani Sy (Senegal)

ii. ISRAELI POLICIES IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES

Ms. Rita Giacaman (Palestinian); Mr. Ilan Halevi (Palestinian); and Mr. Maki N'Diaye (Mali)

iii. AFRICA AND PALESTINE: Measures to Promote Solidarity and Mutual Support in the Search for Peace

Mr. Luis de Almeida (Angola); Mr. Aaron Shihepo (Namibian); Prof. Harold McDougall (U.S.A.); Dr. Alice Palmer (U.S.A.) and Mr. Babacar Sine (Senegal)

iv. THE ROLE OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION IN THE SOCIAL, CULTURAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

Mr. Mohammed Akbar Kherad (Afghanistan); and Dr. Adnan Abdel Rahim (Palestinian).

11. In accordance with established practice the opening statements and the papers presented by the panelists will be published in full by the United Nations together with the report and recommendations of the Seminar as a contribution to its objective appraisal of the Question of Palestine and a wider understanding of the issues relating to it.

12. The discussions which followed the presentation of papers at each meeting covered many aspects of the question of Palestine and elaborated on some of the points made by the panelists. The main points made in the papers and in the discussions demonstrated broad agreement amongst the participants over a wide range of issues relating to the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people which were systematically and continually violated by Israel. There was unanimity on the universal condemnation of these violations and of the moral, political and human issues arising therefrom.