



DIVISION FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

December 1982

Volume V, Bulletin No. 12

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1. Action taken by the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian people

On 29 November 1982, the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People was observed in New York, Geneva, Vienna and in several capitals. In commemoration of the Day, the Committee held two special meetings at the United Nations Headquarters, among those who addressed the meetings were the Chairman of the Committee, the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, the President of the Security Council, the Representative of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the Acting President of the Council for Namibia, the Chairman of the Special Committee of 24, the Vice-Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid, the Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, the Chairman of the Group of Arab States, the Chairman of the Group of Asian States, the Chairman of the Group of Eastern European States and the Chairman of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population in the Occupied Territories. A number of messages from Heads of State or Government and Ministers for Foreign Affairs were read on the occasion by their representatives. The programme for the International Day included a photo exhibit and the screening, in the Dag Hammarskjold auditorium, of the films "Palestinians Do Have Rights" and "Jerusalem Prophets and Paratroopers."

2. Consideration of the Question of Palestine in the Thirty-Seventh session of the General Assembly

The Question of Palestine was considered in the Thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly from 30 November to 2 December 1982.

The general debate began with statements by the Chairman and Rapporteur of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and of the Preparatory Committee from the International Conference on the Question of Palestine.

Full text of the statement made by the Chairman of the Committee is as follows:

Mr. SARRE (Senegal), Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on the Question of Palestine (interpretation from French): Yesterday, in a spirit of contemplation and hope the international community marked the Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people. That event afforded the international community an opportunity to reaffirm in unequivocal terms the urgent need to find a just, comprehensive solution to the Palestinian problem, which has continued to be so tragically prominent in international affairs, particularly during the painful events in Lebanon. It is within this framework that we should place the emergency special sessions of the General Assembly held from 20 to 28 April 1982, from 25 to 26 June 1982 and from 16 to 19 August 1982, all devoted basically to the question of Palestine. To that should be added the Security Council meetings on the situation in Lebanon.

I wish at this stage to express the hope that today even more than in the past our Assembly will be guided by that need when it is considering the record of the past year with reference to the Palestinian question. That is the chief recommendation of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, whose report (A/37/35 and Corr.1) I have the honour to introduce. That report faithfully reflects the action undertaken by the Committee throughout this past year, on the one hand to promote the implementation of the General Assembly recommendations on the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and on the other hand to give maximum coverage to those recommendations based on the following fundamental elements: first, the question of Palestine is at the core of the Middle East problem and, consequently, no solution to the Middle East problem can be envisaged unless account is taken of the rights of the Palestinian people secondly, the exercise of the inalienable

right of the Palestinian people to return to their homes and to achieve self-determination, independence and national sovereignty would contribute to a positive solution of the Middle East crisis; thirdly, the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole representative of the Palestinian people, on an equal footing with all other parties, on the basis of General Assembly resolutions 3236 (XXIX) and 3375 (XXX) is indispensable whenever efforts are undertaken and conferences and deliberations are organized on the question of the Middle East; fourthly, the acquisition of territories by force is inadmissible, therefore Israel must withdraw completely and unconditionally from the occupied Arab territories; fifthly, broader understanding of the just cause of the Palestinian people is a factor of peace and stability in the affected region; and sixthly, the right of the States of the region to live in peace and security must be recognized.

As can be seen, those recommendations, which are based on the purposes and principles of the Charter of our Organization, envisage dialogue and negotiations to bring about a just, lasting, comprehensive solution to the Palestinian question. Any spirit of confrontation is ruled out.

After the General Assembly's adoption of resolution 36/120, the Committee sought as faithfully as possible to fulfil the mandate entrusted to it. It proceeded in accordance with the same principles and methods as last year, namely: first, a blanket invitation to all States Members of and Observers to the United Nations, including Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, to make their contributions in the form that they choose to the work of the Committee; secondly, the production of realistic, balanced work likely to expedite the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

Thus the dozen countries and organizations that have continued to participate this year in the work of the Committee as observers have been joined by others, such as Ecuador, Niger and Czechoslovakia.

However, the Committee was once more compelled to express regret over the Israeli authorities' refusal to co-operate, although Israel is one of the parties most concerned in any solution to the Middle East crisis. That attitude is all the more regrettable since, in our view, disregard of an organ or decision of the United Nations because one has not voted in favour of the resolution which brought it about could ultimately block the functioning of the United Nations itself.

As in the past, this year again the Committee has taken a certain number of initiatives within the United Nations and outside it, in particular in the Security Council, whose active support is indispensable for the implementation of the majority of these recommendations. Thus, in a series of letters addressed to the President of the Security Council relating to new events which have occurred in the occupied territories - such as Israel's plans to clear a whole area of the Negev desert of all Palestinian Bedouins who live there, the closure of the Bir Zeit University, the dissolution of the municipal councils of Dura and Nablus and the building of new settlements on the West Bank. Similarly, when it has participated in various meetings of the Council the Committee has emphasized that that body should re-examine its recommendations and take action that might lead to the adoption of positive, just measures to bring about a solution of the Palestinian question.

Unfortunately, the Council has not yet taken a stand on this question, despite the support of the majority of its members for the General Assembly decisions.

Representatives will recall the concern of certain Council members and their desire not to harm the peace efforts under way. However, this should in no way be used as a pretext for keeping the Security Council perpetually paralysed. On the contrary, the progress made recently concerning recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people should encourage and promote positive action by the Council, particularly since the recommendations submitted by the Committee merely request the implementation of decisions and resolutions already adopted by the United Nations and accepted by all parties directly or indirectly concerned in the Middle East crisis.

For their part, the members of the Committee expect the Council to resume, as soon as circumstances permit, its debate on the Assembly's recommendations, in order to assist in their implementation, for their adoption by the Council remains one of the primary objectives of the Committee.

In tandem with those initiatives, the Committee engaged in various activities in other competent United Nations bodies. Those organizations were called upon to be ready to implement the recommendations of the Committee and to undertake the transitional measures necessary to avoid any delay in the implementation of these recommendations. Furthermore, in accordance with its mandate, the Committee has widely disseminated information on its work and on various aspects of the problem relating to the implementation of the Assembly's recommendations. Indeed, it seemed necessary to the Committee to continue to show wide sectors of international public opinion that its aim was to deal equitably and objectively with the problem of the rights of the Palestinian people, which until recently had seemed to leave a broad sector of international public opinion indifferent.

Accordingly, the Committee organized three seminars, one of which was held, for the first time, in North America, in New York, from 15 to 19 March 1982; another was held in Europe, in Valletta, from 12 to 16 April 1982; and a third in Africa in Dakar, from 9 to 13 August 1982. The collective contribution by the academics, parliamentarians and others that influence international public opinion and participated in those events made a considerable contribution to educating public opinion in various regions about the complex problems and the multiple aspects of the Palestinian question. I would stress here in particular the appeal for a Western European initiative in the Near East, published after the Valletta seminar and signed by parliamentarians of Belgium, France, Greece, Italy, Malta and the United Kingdom.

The Committee intends to strengthen its action in the field of information through new television programmes explaining its purposes and goals and some aspects relating to the dimension and place of the Palestinian fact in the context of the Middle East crisis.

Accordingly our Committee was represented in various international conferences, in particular meetings of the Non-Aligned Movement held in Kuwait, Havana and Nicosia and the Ministerial Meeting of the Islamic Conference held in Niamey. On those various occasions representatives of the Committee described the developments in its work and noted with satisfaction the willingness shown at those meetings to implement our recommendation.

We have actively embarked on the preparatory work for the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, to be held from 16 to 27 August 1983

at headquarters in Paris. In the Committee's opinion, that Conference, universal participation in which must be guaranteed, should give the international community an exceptional opportunity to guide the development of the situation in the region and to promote the means of bringing about the effective exercise of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. In this regard, it would be a good idea for the General Assembly once again to call upon all States Members of the United Nations to take an active part in the preparatory and actual work of that International Conference.

As I stressed at the beginning of my statement, the recent events in Lebanon following the invasion of that country by Israel and the massacres in the refugee camps of Sabra and Shatila have given a new dimension to the Palestinian question. Beyond the considerations connected with those events one thing is clear: that the equitable solution of the question of Palestine is the only way to restore peace and stability to that region. In order to do that one condition must be met: Israel must be prevailed upon to show less intransigence. That intransigence has so far caused all the efforts undertaken by the international community and all the peace proposals made to find a comprehensive solution to that problem to fail.

Israel indeed has shown by its actions and statements that it really does not want any settlement that does not meet its own demands. In the pursuit of that plan that country flouts world public opinion and acts in violation of international law and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations.

Nevertheless, it is comforting to see that the international community is beginning to understand Israel's real intentions. Another encouraging sign is the growing awareness of the Israeli people of their leaders' policy of defiance.

In order to restore peace and stability to the region, the international community must see to it that the Palestinian people can exercise its inalienable rights in its own independent State. It owes it to that people as well as to the innocent victims whose blood has been spilt in vain. It must also establish appropriate machinery to guarantee the security of the States of the region.

It is fitting here to pay a tribute to the Secretary-General of our Organization, Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, for his initiatives and efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive solution to this problem. Since taking office he has drawn the attention of the international community to the gravity of this matter and the need to find a just and lasting solution to it. Furthermore, he constantly undertakes initiatives in this respect, and it is our duty and responsibility to assist him in his efforts.

Senegal has the honour to preside over this Committee and is resolved to support any effort that is likely to bring about a just solution to this problem. The Head of State of Senegal, Mr. Abdou Diouf, reiterated that a few days ago during the official visit made to our country by the Vice-President of the United States, Mr. George Bush.

It is also appropriate at this time for the members of the Committee to pay a tribute to Mr. William Buffum, the Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations of whose Office the Division for Palestinian Rights, directed so devotedly and competently by Mr. Yogasundram and his able staff, is part. We have always met with understanding and co-operation from everyone there, in the service of peace.

In conclusion, I should like to express again the conviction of the members of the Committee that the present situation in the Middle East allows no room for further prevarication and that the international community must face its responsibilities and open the doors of peace to the Palestinian people, represented by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). The course of past and present negotiations prove that that is the only choice.

The United Nations has never taken up the question of the Middle East in circumstances as favourable as those which now pertain. Indeed, during this year proposals, initiatives and approaches have emerged from various quarters which, leaving aside their provenance, do have the merit of trying to unfreeze the situation. Taken as a whole, these proposals, initiatives or approaches contain elements already contained in the Committee's recommendations. The content is more important than the origin; the main objective is to achieve a just and lasting solution to the question of Palestine.

Furthermore, the state of mind of the various belligerent parties, like the present development of the international situation, indicates that, above and beyond the apparently insurmountable obstacles, there exists a process of evolution which seems to allow for relatively confident optimism. Therefore, the Assembly must take this opportunity to appeal once again to the Security Council to adopt, without further delay, in the light of all these factors, the recommendations transmitted to it by the Committee, and to consider them as the basis for a solution to the question of Palestine. In so doing, the Security Council would greatly increase the chances of a peaceful settlement in the Middle East and would thus underline the truth of the historic message addressed to the world three decades ago by the founding fathers of our Organization, who gave themselves the noble mission of "saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war".

Full text of the statement made by the Rapporteur of the Committee is as follows:

Mr. GAUCI (Malta), Rapporteur of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on the Question of Palestine: I have the honour officially to introduce the eighth successive report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian people, contained in document A/37/35 and Corr.1. On this occasion, there is one additional report, contained in document A/37/49 and Corr.1, relating to the proposed International Conference on the Question of Palestine in 1983.

I shall not tax the patience of the Assembly by going into too much detailed explanation of the reports, to complement what has already been said so ably by our Chairman. The pattern, the purport, the gravity and the urgency of the first report should by now be familiar to all. By the nature of events on the spot, by reason primarily of the failure to record tangible progress in the Security Council, the Committee on Palestine perforce has had to mark time, to keep watch, to enlighten public opinion and to strive ceaselessly for positive action, mainly via the Security Council, so as to promote a peaceful and enduring solution.

The only real progress that the Committee can identify over the past year, important as it undoubtedly is, unfortunately has not been sufficient on this occasion to prevent massive conflict, the crescendo of which was reached only a few months ago but which most certainly will not fade into oblivion. This contrasts with the previous six-year record, when the sustained hope of progress at least prevented widespread hostilities.

So I should like first to outline the plus factors for this Assembly's consideration. In the course of the year under review, the Committee and the Special Unit on Palestine co-ordinated to produce three new studies, bringing the total so far to 16. These studies are particularly relevant in the light of current events. They are entitled: first, "Social, Economic and Political Institutions in the West Bank and Gaza"; secondly, "The legal status of the West Bank and Gaza"; and thirdly, "Israeli settlements in Gaza and the West Bank". We respectfully bring these objective studies to the attention of all Member States. The demand for these studies, and for those previously published, increases every year. Steps therefore have been taken not only to reproduce them but also to publish them in several other languages.

The Committee also helped to organize three seminars, one in the United States, another in Malta and a third in Senegal. Each one was well attended, and scholarly contributions of the highest quality were submitted by the panelists on various aspects of the Palestine question. These aspects included: the nature and structure of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO); the historical, political, legal, economic and human rights aspects of the Palestine question, including separate studies on the status of Jerusalem; Israeli policy in the illegally occupied territories; and, finally, the role of the United Nations in promoting a solution.

The Committee unfortunately encountered practical difficulties in organizing the first seminar in North America outside United Nations Headquarters and consequently it was held at Headquarters, where I must frankly admit it received much less attention than it really deserved. The fact that the United Nations Committee on Palestine was trying to encourage a free and open dialogue with individuals or organizations interested in the question, whatever the views they might hold, elicited little response. The fact that a United Nations

Committee was ceaselessly toiling to encourage debate and to throw light on a question of such fundamental importance for regional and world peace raised not the slightest ripple of interest in the local mass media.

By contrast, the Committee enjoyed generous press coverage during the European and African seminars held in Valletta and Dakar respectively. In both these seminars a programme of action was devised, and in the case of the seminar in Malta members of Parliament present, representing most political shades of opinion in Western Europe, spontaneously issued an urgent appeal to their respective Governments soliciting a European initiative in the Near East. The precise words of the Valletta appeal are:

"From Malta, we address an appeal to the parliamentarians, political parties, trade unions, organizations for solidarity and intellectuals of the European Community to give their support to an initiative which will express the desire of the European peoples to see the Palestinian people at last living in their own homeland in peace, freedom and dignity."

Once again I am pleased to report that such declarations not only greatly encourage the members of the Committee but also confirm our conviction that, after thorough exposure to the real nature of the Palestine issue, time and time again participants and audience alike emerge fully supportive of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and anxious to bring about a peaceful solution.

In accordance with the established practice, the proceedings of the seminars have been compiled and published, and the reports on each seminar have been annexed to the Committee's own report.

Another significant area of progress has been the internal functioning both of the Committee and of the Unit. The workload greatly expanded not only because of negative events in the occupied territories but also because of increased awareness and sympathy generated by the Committee in behalf of the Palestinian people and their legitimate rights. The Committee consequently organized itself in the manner best calculated to meet the demands made on it and the Unit itself was strengthened and upgraded to the level of a Division. The harmony that exists among the members of the Committee and the Secretariat members of the Division and between the members and the Secretariat is a source of inspiration to all of us, under the dedicated chairmanship of Ambassador Sarré of Senegal.

Perhaps most significant and encouraging of all has been the steadily increasing support that the substantive resolutions on the Palestine issue have been attracting in the General Assembly since the day the Committee was first established. Let me quote some figures.

With minor annual fluctuations, dependent on the actual texts of the draft resolutions, the affirmative vote has gone up from 93 in 1975 to 127 in 1982, an increase of 37 per cent. This represents a significant strengthening of an already solid first base. The negative vote has dwindled from 18 in 1975 to two in 1982 -- a 900 per cent decrease. The abstentions have decreased from 27 in 1975 to none in the latest two votes, held in emergency session during 1982; that represents an infinity decrease. And the combined negative and abstention vote has been reduced from 45 in 1975 to 2 in September this year -- a decrease of 2,250 per cent. This in turn represents a tremendous erosion of antagonism towards Palestinian aspirations to justice, so far denied them.

This increased international recognition and support for the just cause of the Palestinian people at the United Nations was matched by the consistent quantitative and qualitative progress achieved by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in gaining bilateral recognition in world capitals to an extent now much greater than that enjoyed by Israel itself. In addition, once again we record with great appreciation the support extended to the recommendations of the Committee by several associations of States, in particular the Non-Aligned Movement and the Islamic Conference.

From this evolving pattern which I have briefly described, in particular the voting record in the Assembly, one would have thought that the trend of international opinion on this question was now not too difficult to determine. The desire to relieve the agony of the Palestinian people in the illegally occupied territories, to restore a momentum for peace and to recognize deficiencies in the approaches so far applied -- all this stood out with remarkable clarity and insistence from our debate since last year, even though a number of influential countries were still sitting on the fence, uncertain as to the timing and scope of envisaged collective or individual initiatives.

In introducing the report last year I stated, as members may recall -- and I apologize for repeating myself:

"The Committee's frustration now compels us to ask for how long a United Nations Committee can continue making recommendations, which are overwhelmingly endorsed time and time again by the General Assembly only to see them blatantly ignored and never put into practice.

"The desire of the United Nations as far as the people of Palestine are concerned has been expressed repeatedly; annually it gathers increasing strength; yet our collective voice continues to fall on deaf ears when it comes to implementation. The institutions of this Organization are being ignored and consequently suffer a concomitant loss of credibility, a loss which will do little to ease our way forward in the future.

"We all know that events in the Middle East have not in the past, and will not in the future, [indefinitely] await constructive and decisive action

by the Security Council. The intransigence of one Member State, and the hesitation of one permanent member of the Security Council, in facing up to the emerging realities of the situation [can] only contribute incendiary sparks to the already volatile and dangerous climate in the Middle East. The international community is planning peacefully ahead, but in the corridors of power a different view prevails." (A/36/PV.80, p. 27)

I also said:

"We therefore cannot but express concern that this body has been unable so far to reach a constructive decision on the [Palestine] question. This brick wall of inaction has potentially serious consequences not only for the people of the Middle East and for world peace but also for the very institutions of this Organization." (ibid.)

Perhaps precisely for those reasons, because Israel sensed its growing isolation and because of the hesitation of the Security Council, once more Israel took matters illegally and militarily into its own hands so as to upset the evolving scenario. The record on the spot therefore by contrast unfortunately makes dismal reading. Israel effectively saw to that, and here comes the negative aspect: it is an account of steady regression, even of mass murder.

The details are all outlined in the report, and I shall not repeat them except perhaps to stress the many violations pointed out by the Human Rights Commission and enumerated in pages 16 to 17 of the report; these are supplemented by the abundant evidence provided in the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population in the Occupied Territories.

In consequence the Committee has had to write innumerable letters of protest against Israeli practices in the past year - too many letters for our liking, but not one more than was absolutely necessary. Several series of meetings of the Council and several sessions of the Assembly have had to be called because in the occupied territories repression and violence have run riot. Universities have been closed, hospitals and schools bombed, elected mayors maimed or expelled, illegal settlements established, and so on, in a sorry chronicle which leaves the area seething with resentment. When can we put an end to so much human suffering?

Israel's policies in the illegally occupied territories represent "de facto" annexation; old maps are no longer recognizable. This is Meron Benvenisti's argument:

"Begin simply does not need to apply Israeli law to the West Bank. The system is so ingenious that it is just not required. We already have de facto annexation and creation of a dual society: the local and regional council areas with Israeli norms, standards, services and democracy, and the rest for Arabs who have no political rights under the civil administration."

Against all this daily accumulation of evidence, the Security Council remained immobilized and it did not take Israel too long to go even further.

On a flimsy pretext and through what its leaders atrociously described as "divine inspiration", Israel launched a massive military incursion against Palestinian and Lebanese civilians in Lebanon. The exercise escalated into an inferno of clash, casualty and calamity. Mere words can do no justice to the horror that ensued. If it looked shocking on television screens, one can hardly begin to imagine what the tens of thousands of victims must actually have felt.

One example will suffice. A photograph taken on the spot showed a group of dead children aged from one to six years. In Oriana Fallaci's words:

"The most horrific thing, however, is not the fact that they are so little and so dead; it is the fact that they are literally chopped up in pieces. Here a little foot missing from the body of the smallest, here a little arm missing from the body of the oldest, here a little hand open as if to beg for mercy."

Mercifully, the carnage is now over - for the time being at least.

Israel still acts with arrogant impunity as the military overlord of the present situation. The Committee, however - and indeed the world community - cannot but speculate on how many thousands of lives would not have been lost, how much damage would not have been incurred, how much expense on armaments would not have been frittered away, how much animosity would not have been engendered if only action had been taken with unanimity by the Security Council on the basis of the Committee's recommendations six years ago six sanguinary years of agonized turmoil for the Palestinian people, who came to the United Nations bearing the torch of peace and asking for our help, the help of every individual nation in this Assembly.

The cynicism in the area is almost beyond belief. Israel's international behaviour is intolerable. It arises from a fanatical admixture of biblical and security considerations, stridently advanced by Israel and abetted by the mass media with little regard for truth or reality.

In the same previously-quoted interview, for instance, Ariel Sharon asserts that Israel is not participating in an arms race, it is only trying to improve its defence capabilities. He feels sorry for a commander who doubted the need to enter Beirut. Like his predecessors before him, he claims he does not covet a single inch of Lebanese soil, but so far not much has been done to disprove Israel's voracious appetite for the Arab territory illegally occupied since 1967 - almost 20 years ago - and coming more tightly under Israeli control with every measure enacted by the Knesset. Already, apparently with sinister intent, Israeli troops are equipped for a long stay in Lebanon.

A sense of sanity must be restored urgently to the Middle East before the nuclear threshold is breached.

The Committee detected positive signs and opportunities several years ago, and the sacrifice of Beirut would not have occurred if the positive recommendations had been acted upon then; if the seed of hope thus planted could have been nourished by all instead of being kicked around disdainfully by some.

It is to the credit of the United Nations that its search for peace is never-ending, and so, despite the most recent in a series of tragic setbacks, the Committee as a last resort recommends the holding of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine at a date earlier than originally anticipated, in August 1983 in Paris.

Details of the preparatory work are contained in my second report, in document A/37/49 and Corr.1. Its most significant recommendations are in paragraph 10, concerning participation in the Conference, and paragraph 20, which sets out its objectives. The Committee hopes that both these aspects in particular will be endorsed by this Assembly at this crucial time.

As we all know, and as this brief overview will have shown, it is evident that something is definitely wrong in the state of Palestine. That cradle of civilization, the land of spiritual inspiration for peace and brotherhood, has become the cockpit of conflict, but only because of Israel's barefaced belligerence in its distorted image of peace. By its attitude of "why stop here since I can get away with it?" Israel has gone - and has been allowed to go - much too far. It is on the verge of defeating moderation in the region and plunging the world deeper into economic and political chaos.

But now, at long last, against the bleak and sanguinary picture of the carnage of Beirut, a universal cry of heartfelt protest against senseless slaughter has finally penetrated the corridors of power, even in Israel itself. Influential voices assert with greater conviction that it is time to call a halt to this policy, and to the muddled approaches of the past.

Perhaps the most poignant and significant call for a new approach was made on 26 October by the novelist Amos Kenan. Let me use his own words:

"As long as you Americans help us to stand up, we Israelis have no chance to stand on our own feet. We have no chance to have peace, as long as you support us in war. We have no chance to straighten out our relationships with our neighbours, as long as you help us forget that they, too, are legitimate children of humanity and that they, too, have legitimate rights."

A solution, if it is to endure, needs to have quasi-universal backing. The essential elements for a peaceful solution have been aired in general terms on so many occasions and by so many different leaders, and most recently - somewhat tardily and deficiently, but none the less appreciated - by the President of the United States of America.

The review and recommendations on the situation by the Arab League countries in Fez also marked a joining of ranks and a positive commitment to a peaceful formula for the Middle East. Europe, both East and West, did the same. The Committee's own recommendations remain incomparable in terms of their legal foundation, their logical sequence, their comprehensive content, the

international backing they have already acquired and the reliance on an effective role by the United Nations which they envisage in their progressive approach. There is a wide area of convergence in these declarations and proposals.

Moreover, there is now abundant evidence that the solution cannot be found on the strength of periodic military conflict resulting in armed occupation of land and followed by forced settlement of people. A solution can only be found which rests on internationally accepted principles, particularly the equal rights of peoples to self-determination - one of the 10 principles signed with so much fanfare in Helsinki more or less at the same time as the Palestinian leadership brought their political case to the United Nations.

Perhaps we need to refresh our memories on this principle, which clearly declares:

"... all peoples always have the right, in full freedom, to determine, when and as they wish, their internal and external political status, without external interference, and to pursue as they wish their political, economic, social and cultural development".

This is what the Palestinians legitimately desire. This is what the Committee recognizes and recommends. This is what Israel seems determined perpetually to deny. But neither Israel nor anyone else has the right to defy logic, principle and legality. On the contrary, every Member State has the obligation to strive for the elimination of any form of violation of the principle of self-determination of peoples.

I have already indicated in the past and have repeated today that various proposals made have a lot in common and can be considered as complementary. There has not however been an opportunity for these proposals to be concretized as a whole, in a concise manner, to serve as a blueprint for action. After thorough consideration, and with intellectual candour, the proposed International Conference in Paris next year could establish and clearly define, without equivocation, the broad parameters for a peaceful solution, and so set the seal of universal approval on those proposals and on effective way and means of having them implemented.

It is late, but not too late, to start building up the blocks of a peace based not on force of arms but on the soundness of reason. The protagonists - all of them - will be the main beneficiaries, but the whole world will breathe more freely then, and we shall also have given the United Nations, our one and only Organization, a tremendous boost.

For let us repeat it once more, peace is the leitmotiv of the United Nations, and the Organization itself is the centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of common ends. There can hardly be a more common cause than the practical attainment by the Palestinian people of their rightful place among the family of nations.

Those of us who really wish for peace in the Middle East cannot remain indifferent any longer to the Palestinian cause, the cause of justice; the essential first step is for all to recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and to redress the results of Israeli repression and injustice. In that endeavour not a single nation can remain aloof. The proposed international conference in Paris provides both the platform and the opportunity for justice and peace to be secured in the Middle East.

On 10 December 1982 the following resolutions were adopted on the Question of Palestine:

Resolution A/RES/37/86 A was adopted by 119 votes with 2 against and 21 abstentions.

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976, 32/40 of 2 December 1977, 33/28 of 7 December 1978, 34/65 of 29 November and 12 December 1979, ES-7/2 of 29 July 1980, 35/169 of 15 December 1980, 36/120 of 10 December 1981, ES-7/4 of 28 April 1982, ES-7/5 of 26 June 1982 and ES-7/9 of 24 September 1982,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly;
2. Endorses the recommendations of the Committee contained in paragraphs 114 to 119 of its report and draws the attention of the Security Council to the fact that action on the Committee's recommendations, as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 31/20, is long overdue;

3. Requests the Committee to keep the situation relating to the question of Palestine under review and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly or the Security Council, as appropriate;

4. Authorizes the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the implementation of its recommendations, to send delegations or representatives to international conferences where such representation would be considered by it to be appropriate, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-eight session and thereafter;

5. Requests the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, as well as other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine, to co-operate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation which they have at their disposal;

6. Decides to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate, in accordance with the Committee's programme of implementation;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks.

Resolution A/RES/37/86 B was adopted by 121 votes with 3 against and 21 abstentions.

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,

Noting, in particular, the information contained in paragraphs 103 to 111 of that report,

Recalling its resolutions 32/40 B of 2 December 1977, 33/28 C of 7 December 1978, 34/65 D of 12 December 1979, 35/169 D of 15 December 1980 and 36/120 B of 10 December 1981,

1. Notes with appreciation the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with General Assembly resolution 36/120 B;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to discharge the tasks detailed in paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 32/40 B, paragraph 2 (b) of Assembly resolution 34/65 D and paragraph 3 of resolution 36/120 B, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and under its guidance;

3. Also requests the Secretary-General to provide the Division for Palestinian Rights with the necessary resources to carry out its tasks, as urged in paragraph 109 of the Committee's report;

4. Further requests the Secretary-General to ensure the continued co-operation of the Department of Public Information and other units of the Secretariat in enabling the Division for Palestinian Rights to perform its tasks and in covering adequately the various aspects of the question of Palestine;

5. Invites all Governments and organizations to lend their co-operation to the Committee and the Division for Palestinian Rights in the performance of their tasks;

6. Notes with appreciation the action taken by Member States to observe annually on 29 November the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People and the issuance by them of special postage stamps for the occasion.

Resolution A/HES/37/86 C was adopted by 123 votes with 2 against and 17 abstentions.

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3236 (XXIX) and 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974 and all other United Nations resolutions, including resolution ES-7/2 of 29 July 1980, pertinent to the question of Palestine,

Recalling also its resolutions 36/120 C of 10 December 1981, in which it decided to convene an International Conference on the Question of Palestine for a comprehensive effort to seek effective ways and means to enable the Palestinian people to attain and to exercise their rights, and ES-7/7 of 19 August 1982, in which it decided to convene the Conference at headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in Paris, from 16 to 27 August 1983,

Convinced that a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East can be established, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and its relevant resolutions, through a just solution to the problem of Palestine on the basis of the attainment of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people,

Convinced that the Conference will provide a unique opportunity to heighten awareness of the underlying causes of the question of Palestine and to contribute actively and constructively to a solution of the question on the basis of relevant United Nations resolutions,

Stressing the need to assure the participation of all Member States in the Conference and their support for its preparations,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on the Question of Palestine,

1. Reiterates the responsibility of the United Nations to strive for a lasting peace in the Middle East through a just solution of the problem of Palestine;
2. Endorses the recommendations of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on the Question of Palestine contained in paragraph 32 of its report concerning the preparatory activities for the Conference, the objectives of the Conference, the documentation, the draft provisional agenda, the draft provisional rules of procedure, participation in the Conference and the organization of work;
3. Calls upon all organizations of the United Nations system to continue to extend their fullest support to the Conference and to its preparation;
4. Urges all Member States to promote heightened awareness of the importance of the Conference and to intensify preparations at the national, subregional and regional levels in order to ensure its success;
5. Calls upon all Member States to contribute to the achievement of Palestinian rights and to support modalities for their implementation, and to participate in the Conference and the regional preparatory meetings preceding it;
6. Decides to consider the results of the Conference at its thirty-eighth session.

Resolution A/RES/37/86: D was adopted by 113 votes with 4 against and 23 abstentions.

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions relevant to the question of Palestine, in particular resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3210 (XXIX) of 14 October 1974, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974 and ES7/2 of 29 July 1980,

Recalling resolutions of the Security Council relevant to Palestine,

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

1. Takes note of the declaration of the Palestine Liberation Organization of 19 April 1981 to pursue its role in the solution of the question of Palestine on the basis of the attainment in Palestine of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;
2. Reaffirms the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force;
3. Reaffirms once again that a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East cannot be established without the unconditional withdrawal of Israel

from the Palestinian and the other Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and without the exercise and attainment by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights in Palestine in accordance with the principles of the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

4. Requests the Security Council to discharge its responsibilities under the Charter and recognize the inalienable rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including the right to self-determination and the right to establish its independent Arab state in Palestine;

5. Reiterates its request that the Security Council take the necessary measures, in execution of the relevant United Nations resolutions, to implement the plan which, inter alia, recommends that an independent Arab State shall come into existence in Palestine;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to report on the progress made in implementing the present resolution as soon as possible.

On 20 December 1982 resolution A/RES/37/86 E was adopted by 123 votes with 2 against and 19 abstentions.

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,

Expressing its extreme concern 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,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, particularly resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, ES-7/2 of 29 July 1980, 36/120 D of 10 December 1981 and ES-7/9 of 24 September 1982,

Recalling, in particular, the principles relevant to the question of Palestine that have been accepted by the international community, including the right of all States in the region to existence within internationally recognized boundaries, and justice and security for all the peoples, which requires recognition and attainment of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people,

Recognizing the necessity of participation by all parties concerned in any efforts aimed at the attainment of a just and lasting solution,

1. Reaffirms the inalienable legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination and the right to establish, once it so wishes, its independent State in Palestine;

2. Declares all Israeli policies and practices of, or aimed at, annexation of the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories, including Jerusalem, to be in violation of international law and of the relevant United Nations resolutions;

3. Demands, in conformity with the fundamental principles of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, that Israel should withdraw completely and unconditionally from all the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since June 1967, including Jerusalem, with all property and services intact;

4. Urges the Security Council to facilitate the process of Israeli withdrawal;

5. Recommends that, following the withdrawal of Israel from the occupied Palestinian territories, those territories should be subjected to a short transitional period under the supervision of the United Nations, during which period the Palestinian people would exercise its right to self-determination;

6. Urgently calls for the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace, based on the resolutions of the United Nations and under its auspices, in which all parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, participate on an equal footing;

7. Recommends that the Security Council should take early action to promote a just and comprehensive solution to the question of Palestine;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session on the progress made in implementing the present resolution.

3. Resolution adopted by the 69th Inter-Parliamentary Conference, held in Rome from 12 to 23 September 1982, on the Question of Palestine

The following resolution was adopted on the Situation in Lebanon and the Palestinian Question:

(Resolution adopted by 617 votes to 32, with 132 abstentions)

The 69th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Faithful to its principles and to those of the United Nations Charter,

Considering with grief that, on 6 June 1982, after launching savage air raids against Beirut and dozens of towns, villages and Lebanese and Palestinian refugee camps, Israel invaded Lebanon by land, sea and air, employing vast quantities of deadly weapons, including weapons prohibited by international law,

Recalling the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, and specifically Security Council resolutions 508 (1982), 509 (1982), 520 (1982) and 521 (1982) concerning Israeli aggression in Lebanon,

Recalling, in particular, Security Council resolutions 512 (1982) and 513 (1982) which call for respect for the rights of the civilian populations without any discrimination and condemn all acts of violence against those populations,

Recalling also the resolutions adopted on the Middle East problem and the Palestinian question by Inter-Parliamentary Conferences and the Inter-Parliamentary Council, particularly those concerning the condemnation of Israel's violations of the rights of the Palestinian people, its occupation of Arab territories following the June 1967 aggression, its illegal decision to annex Jerusalem which it considers as Israel's eternal capital, the annexation of the occupied Syrian Golan Heights, the bombing of the Iraqi reactor devoted to scientific and peaceful purposes, the establishment of settlements and the modification of the demographic structure of the occupied territories,

Declaring that all the pretexts put forward by Israel to justify its present and past aggressions against Lebanon are inadmissible and baseless, as is the justification of its conception of Israeli security and peace, all of which are merely a cover for its policy of aggression, expansion and usurpation of Arab and Palestinian lands and rights, and affirming that the recent aggression against Lebanon represents a dangerous escalation which imperils the security of neighbouring States and seriously threatens security and peace in the region and in the world,

Reaffirming the right of the Palestinian people to return to their homeland, to self-determination and to the creation of an independent State on their national soil, and affirming that the PLO is the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people and that any negotiations regarding the Palestinian question, which is at the heart of the Middle East conflict, requires the full and entire participation of the PLO on an equal footing,

Noting with profound regret that one of the permanent members of the Security Council (United States of America) used its veto to prevent the Security Council from taking effective measures which could have dissuaded Israel from pursuing its aggression,

Expressing its deep indignation at the massacres carried out by the invading forces in Lebanon on 17 September - while this Conference was being held - in the Palestinian refugee centres at Chatila and Sabra in Beirut, costing the lives of thousands of unarmed innocent people,

Considering that this dreadful act constitutes the height of collective atrocity against innocent people and against all mankind,

A.

1. Firmly condemns Israeli aggression against Lebanese territory and the violation of Lebanese sovereignty, just as it condemns the Israeli forces of aggression for the massacre of innocent citizens of the Lebanese and Palestinian nations, the destruction of dwellings, villages and towns, the siege and subsequent occupation of Beirut and the uninterrupted bombing of residential areas with all kinds of weapons prohibited by international law;
2. Calls for the immediate, total and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces of aggression from all Lebanese territories and demands that the legitimate Lebanese authorities should have the possibility of extending their sovereignty throughout the Lebanese national territory, as well as the implementation of Security Council resolutions 508 (1982) and 509 (1982);

3. Calls for the release by Israel of all detained Palestinians and Lebanese, and demands that Palestinian and Lebanese prisoners should be treated as prisoners of war in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Convention;
4. Vigorously denounces the attitude of the Israeli Parliament (the Knesset) which, by a large majority, decided to support its Government's aggression against Lebanon, and asserts that this and other previous decisions regarding the annexation of Jerusalem and of the Golan and support for aggressive and expansionist acts are in violation of the commitments of the members of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, whose first concern must be for the safeguard of peace, disarmament, the liberation of peoples and respect for human rights and international legitimacy, and calls for a re-evaluation by the Inter-Parliamentary Union of the Israeli Parliament's behaviour with regard to the principles of the Union;
5. Invites the Parliaments of the world to exert pressure on their respective Governments to apply the resolution adopted at the 9th Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on 5 February 1981 and the resolution adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Council at its meeting in Lagos on 17 April 1982, which called upon all UN member States:
 - (a) To refrain from supplying Israel with any weapons and related equipment and to suspend any military assistance which Israel receives from them;
 - (b) To refrain from acquiring any weapons or military equipment from Israel;
 - (c) To suspend economic, financial and technological assistance to and co-operation with Israel;
 - (d) To sever diplomatic, trade and cultural relations with Israel;
6. Demands that the United States of America put an end to military and economic aid to Israel which has enabled it to commit its criminal aggression against Lebanon;
7. Requests the establishment by the Inter-Parliamentary Council of a committee to investigate the following points:
 - (a) The indiscriminate bombing of residential areas, schools and hospitals and the massacre of the sick and of women and children;
 - (b) The weapons employed in the course of Israel's aggression against Lebanon;
 - (c) The conditions of detention of imprisoned Lebanese and Palestinian combatants;

on the understanding that the committee will present a report on its activities to the Executive Committee, for submission to the next meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Council in April 1983;

B.

1. Once again calls upon Israel to withdraw immediately from all Arab territories occupied since 1967, to abandon the settlements, to refrain from establishing any new settlements, to facilitate the return of displaced and expelled Palestinians and to put an end to all its acts of oppression against persons resisting Israeli occupation;

2. Considers that the principles embodied in the decision of the Twelfth Arab Summit in Fez concerning the invasion of Lebanon by Israel and the Palestinian question constitute a basis for a just and permanent solution of the Middle East problem and of the Palestinian question, and affirms that international legitimacy must be the essential basis of any settlement of the Palestinian question;
3. Appeals to all the parties concerned to undertake, as soon as conditions permit, within the framework of the United Nations, negotiation for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, taking into consideration all the relevant United Nations resolutions;

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Requests the Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union to include in the annual Report that he will present to the 70th Inter-Parliamentary Conference information on Israel's implementation of this resolution and of United Nations Security Council and General Assembly resolutions demanding an immediate, total and unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon.

4. Resolutions adopted by the Thirteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Niamey, Republic of Niger, from 22-26 August 1982, on the Question of Palestine

Resolution No. 1/13-P on the Palestine Question and the Middle East, is as follows:

Proceeding from the Charter of the Organisation of Islamic Conference and the resolution adopted by its Conferences;

Guided by the resolutions adopted by the Third Islamic Summit, held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah & Taif (Session of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif);

Inspired by the Declaration of Makkah Al-Mukarramah and the proclamation of a Holy Jihad as well as by the Islamic action programme drawn up to face the Zionist enemy;

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Organisations on the same question;

Reaffirming that the Palestine Question is the cruz of the confrontation in the Middle East, and that, by its continued occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories, including the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, its persistent denial of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, and its recent aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian people, Israel is flagrantly flouting the principles of the OIC and UN Charters, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the principles of International law;

Reaffirming that the liberation of the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif from Israeli occupation, and its restoration to Arab and Islamic sovereignty, so that it will become the capital of the independent Palestinian State under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the liberation of the Holy Shrines from the racist Zionist occupation constitute one of the duties of Holy Jihad with every single means which must be fulfilled and contributed to by all Islamic peoples and governments according to their respective capabilities;

Aware of the truly aggressive nature of the Zionist entity and its intentions towards the Palestinian people in particular which are akin to its intentions towards the Islamic Ummah and mankind at large;

Convinced that the time has come to take the sanctions enunciated in Article 7 of the United Nations Charter against the Israeli entity because of its continuous violation of the principles of this Charter, its continued occupation of Palestine and Arab territories, its repeated aggression and increased expansion, and due to the execution of its plans meant to liquidate the Palestinian people and negate its national identity and equally convinced that the enemy is carrying out without mercy genocide for

liquidating the PLO, the sole representative of the Palestinian people and it persists in its refusal to implement UN resolutions, which led to open conflict in the Middle East and is endangering World peace and security;

Taking into consideration the strategic alliance between United States and Israel meant to carry out the application of the Camp-David agreement with the object of liquidating the Palestinian people and negate its rights, and to annex Palestinian and Arab territories and subject the Arab and Islamic Countries to its hegemony and domination;

Convinced that the military, economic and political support which the USA renders to Israel encourages the latter to carry out its policies of aggression, occupation, settlement and annexation of territories as well as eviction of the population and genocide;

Reaffirming the legitimacy of the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, the sole representative of the Palestinian^{people,} for the liberation of its homeland and the restoration of its inalienable rights by all possible means including armed struggle conforming to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, struggle which is part of international liberation movement;

Reaffirming that the racist Zionist entity in occupied Palestine and the racist regime of Pretoria in South Africa are organically linked by their policies and racist practices aimed at liquidating the peoples of both countries, the denial of liberties and human dignity as well as imposing their domination and hegemony;

1. Calls for the speedy implementation of all the resolutions adopted by previous Islamic Conferences on

"The question of Palestine and the Middle East" within the framework of the "Islamic work plan to confront the Zionist enemy" and "the proclamation of Al-Jihad Al-Mukaddas" adopted by the Third Islamic Summit under Resolutions numbers 2/3P(IS) and 5/3P(IS).

2. Reiterates its commitment and adherence to the seven principles and bases for the solution of the question of Palestine and the Middle East, as adopted by the Third Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah and Taif (Session on Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif) as contained in Resolution No:2/3-P(IS).

3. Reaffirms that any solution which is not established on these principles and bases and on their application in totality without exception, cannot lead to the realization of a just peace but, on the contrary, contribute to making the situation more explosive in the region. It will also help the parties to the Camp-David Accords in their policy to liquidate the Palestine question, help Israel attain its objectives and its racist, colonialist and expansionist policies, while encouraging bilateral and partial solutions and ignoring the essence of the Palestine question.

4. Considers that Resolution 242 adopted by the Security Council in 1974, is incompatible with Palestinian and Arab rights and does not constitute at all a sound basis for a solution to the Middle East problem and the Palestinian cause and requests Member States to work jointly for the adoption by the Security Council of a new resolution clearly stipulating Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including the Holy city of Al-Quds and guaranteeing the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people including:

- a) Its right to return to its homeland Palestine.
- b) Its right to self-determination without foreign interference.
- c) Its right to establish its independent Palestinian state in its homeland, Palestine, under the leadership of the PLO.

5. Affirms that according to Article 39 of the UN Charter and the Resolution of the UN General Assembly No. 3314(29th Session), the decision of the Zionist entity to annex the Syrian Golan Heights is an act of aggression and that this decision is null and void and devoid of any legal validity.

6. Expresses its full and strong support for, and extends its solidarity with the just struggle, waged by the people and Government of the Syrian Arab Republic against occupation and aggression and for the liberation of its occupied territory.

7. Condemns the aggressive, repressive, and arbitrary measures taken by the Zionist entity against Syrian citizens in the occupied Golan Heights to deny them their basic rights and fundamental liberties, thereby violating the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention and the Declaration of Human Rights. It pays tribute to the resistance of these citizens against occupation and annexation, and expresses its support for their just struggle in defence of their freedom, their territorial integrity, and their national identity.

8. Rejects and condemns the Israeli threats against the Syrian Arab Republic, its territorial integrity, its regional security, and its armed forces, and declare its support to the Syrian Arab Republic and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the other front-line Arab State.

9. Reaffirms its support to its Resolution 1/12-P adopted by the Twelfth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in Baghdad, on the need to take all effective measures internationally, at the United Nations and its specialized agencies, as well as at other international organisations and conferences with a view to:

a) Rejection of the credentials of the Israeli delegation at the UN General Assembly, since it represents an authority with no international legitimacy and that it has made the Holy city of Al-Quds its capital.

b) Suspension of the membership of the Zionist entity in the United Nations and its specialized agencies, by having the General Assembly adopt a resolution annulling the one in which the said entity was accepted as a member of the United Nations, for being a hater of peace, and for not abiding by its obligations as set out in the UN Charter and in other UN resolutions notably General Assembly Resolution 273 (Third Session) of May 11, 1949 .

c) Application of the sanctions against the Zionist entity provided for in Chapter VII of the UN Charter in view of its overt intransigence, perpetual aggression and violation of the principles of the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, and the principles of international law.

10. Decides to work collectively, at the Thirty Seventh Session of the UN General Assembly, for the setting up of an International Commission charged with the task of inquiring into the crimes and atrocities perpetrated by the Israeli Forces during their invasion of Lebanon with particular emphasis on the following acts:

- a) Extermination of the Palestinian people.
- b) Massacre of unarmed citizens and non-combatants.
- c) violations and destruction of the Holy Places.
- d) Violation of the provisions of the Hague Conventions of 1907 and the Geneva Conventions

of 1949 concerning prisoners-of-war and the protection of civilians in time of war.

- e) Use of internationally-prohibited weapons.
- f) Blockade imposed on food, water and medicines being denied to the inhabitants of the city of Beirut aimed to threaten their lives and to force them to submit to the occupation forces.

- And for other crimes and acts contrary to International Charters and Conventions, to the resolutions of the UN, and against principles of international law,

- The Israeli soldiers ought to be brought to justice internationally as criminals of war.

11. Decides to act collectively within the framework of the United Nations to help the UN assess the material and human losses as a result of the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian people, and their property, institutions and refugee camps; and to seek compensation for such losses from the aggressors.

12. Agrees to set up a committee composed of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan, Senegal, Malaysia, Guinea, Palestine (PLO), and the Secretary General to work out and establish the contacts necessary to follow up and implement the contents of forgoing paras 4,9,10 and 11. This Committee would seek whatever help it feels necessary in the accomplishment of its mission and realisation of its objectives.

13. Reaffirms its opposition to and condemnation of the Camp David Accords and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and its determination to oppose them and resist the consequences resulting from these Accords till they are rendered obsolete and to eliminate their sequels.

14. Decides to give moral and financial support to the Palestinian people to enable them to reinforce their resistance to the autonomy plot.

15. Again Condemns the Egyptian government pursuing the policies of normalisation of relations with the Zionist entity, and affirms its determination to redouble its efforts to oppose this normalisation process because of the dangers it poses to Islamic principles, culture and civilisation, and on the future of the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people.

16. Strongly condemns:

- a) The persistent hostile attitude of the United States to the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people and its opposition to a complete Israeli withdrawal from all Palestinian and occupied Arab territories including Jerusalem.
- b) The policy which the United States is trying to impose in the region at the expense of Palestinian and Arab rights and territories.
- c) The continuous and massive support given by the United States to Israel in all fields especially in the military, political and economic fields.
- d) The use by the United States of the veto power against the Security Council ^{draft} resolutions, which is contrary to Law Justice and the principles and objectives of the United Nations Charter; and its protection of the Zionist entity in its aggression and occupation and its attempt to liquidate the Palestinian people and annex the occupied territories; thus encouraging it to persist with its policies.

17. Reaffirms the necessity of continuing to boycott all kinds of relations, whether political, consular, economic, cultural, technical, tourist, transport and others, with the Zionist entity.

18. Expresses its great pride in, and esteem for the enormous sacrifices and the heroic resistance of the Palestinian forces, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, and the Lebanese people and the Syrian army facing the Israeli troops to preventing them from entering Beirut.

19. Decides to accept the representation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in the capitals of the remaining Islamic States, in recognition of the Organisation as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and to grant it all the rights, privileges and diplomatic immunities.

20. Supports the efforts exerted at the United Nations to integrate the budget of UNRWA in the United Nations budget.

21. Vigorously condemns the collusion between Israel and South Africa and their common aggressive racist policies and also denounces their cooperation, especially in the field of nuclear armament, as this constitutes a serious threat to the security and independence of Arab and African States.

22. Reaffirms the need to apply economic and financial pressure against the States supporting Israeli aggression.

23. Requests member states of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference to examine their diplomatic relations with the United States of America.

24. Emphasizes the necessity of declaring Holy Jihad with every single means and the need for Islamic States to adopt a unified stand against continuing Israeli expansionism.

25. Denounces any project that implies recognition of the aggression and its consequences as well as any act likely to open the door to political bargaining with the enemy over Islamic rights.

26. Requests the Secretary General to set up a Committee to follow up Zionist activities whenever they appear, and suggest successful ways and means of checking them.

27. Reiterates the provisions of the following resolutions adopted in its previous sessions:

- a) Resolution No.4/12-P on the Israeli project to dig a canal connecting the Mediterranean with the Red Sea.
- b) Resolution No.5/12-P on Israeli violations in the city of Al-Khalil (Hebron).
- c) Resolution No.6/12-P on Israels' violations of Mosques and Islamic Holy sites in occupied Palestine.
- d) Resolution No. 7/12-P on the policy of continuation of the settlement and Judaisation process in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.
- e) Resolution No. 8/12-P on the evictions of Palestinian citizens from the occupied Palestinian territories.
- f) Resolution No.9/12-P on the permanent sovereignty over the physical resources in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.
- g) Resolution No.10/12-P on the Israeli aggression against the Palestinian camps in Lebanon.
- h) Resolution No.16/12-P on the situation in Lebanon.
- i) Resolution No. 17/12-P on the Declaration of Jihad.
- j) Resolution No. 18/12-P on the Islamic Solidarity Day with the Palestinian people.
- k) Resolution No. 25/12-P on Racism, Zionism and Racial Discrimination.
- l) Resolution No. 39/12-P on the Plan of Action Concerning Quds Al-Sharif.

28. Requests the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and report thereon to the Fourteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Resolution No. 2/13-P on Jerusalem (Al Quds Al Sharif) is as follows:

Emanating from the provisions of the Charter of the Islamic Conference;

Guided by the Resolutions of the Third Islamic Summit (Session of Palestine and Al-Quds Al Sharif) held from 19 to 22 Rabie Al Awal (25 to 28 January, 1981), and firmly resolved to apply the programme of Islamic action then decided upon;

Stressing the deep and lasting attachment of Muslims to the Holy Mosque of Al Aqsa Al Quds Al Sharif, first of the two Qiblas and the Third Holiest Shrine;

Renewing its determination to preserve the Arab character of the city of Al Quds Al Sharif, to liberate that city and to restore it to its original inhabitants so that it may become the capital of the Palestinian State under the aegis of the PLO;

Recalling Resolution No. 2/12-P adopted by the Twelfth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Baghdad, Republic of Iraq, from 28 Rajib to 3 Cha'aben 1401E (1 -5 June, 1981);

Taking due account of the events that have taken place since its Twelfth Session, notably the criminal

attempts to destroy the Holy Al Aqsa Mosque and the Zionist attacks with intent to murder the faithfuls at prayer on 11 April, 1982;

Reaffirming the urgent need to foster Islamic Solidarity in order to reinforce the resistance and struggle of the Palestinian people in Al-Quds Al Sharif and in Palestine;

1. Approves the recommendations of the Sixth meeting of the Al Quds committee held in Ifrane, Kingdom of Morocco under the Chairmanship of His Majesty Hassan II, King of Morocco from 13 to 15 Rajib 1402H (6 - 8 May, 1982).

2. Decides to enhance its support for the Palestinian Resistance in the financial, political and military fields, as well as in its domain of information, and consequently resolutely pledges itself to:

- a. Provide financial support to thwart schemes of Judaization and annexation;
- b. Launch a popular campaign in Islamic countries to collect donations to support the resistance of the Palestinian people in occupied Palestine;
- c. Pursue contacts at the highest level with the Holy See so as to reach a common Islamic-Christian stand to confront measures to Judaize the city of Al Quds, and to organise to this end a meeting of Muslims and Christians;
- d. Pursue contacts at the United Nations and other international organisations with a view to implementing the resolutions on the City of Al Quds Al Sharif;

- e. Draw up an appropriate information programme, especially in Europe and United States of America, to denounce Israeli practices, make the Palestinian cause more widely known, and gain more official and popular support for this cause;
 - f. Urge the Islamic countries that have not yet done so, to announce declaring as twin cities Al Quds Al Sharif, capital of Palestine, with the Islamic capitals and great cities as a symbol of Islamic Solidarity with the Palestinian people;
3. Directs the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and report on it to the next Islamic Conference.