



DIVISION FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

March 1986

Volume IX, Bulletin No. 3

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I. ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE EXERCISE OF
THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

On 24 March 1986, the Acting Chairman of the Committee, in a letter addressed to the Secretary-General (A/41/229-S/17935) expressed the Committee's grave concern at the fact that Israeli authorities had once again refused travel permits to Palestinians living in the occupied territories to attend a United Nations-sponsored meeting. The full text of the letter is as follows:

"In my capacity as Acting Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People I wish to express the Committee's grave concern at the fact that the Israeli authorities have once again refused travel permits to Palestinians living in the occupied territories to attend a United Nations-sponsored meeting. The Palestinians in question, Ms. Sameeha Khalil, Family Welfare Society, West Bank, and Mr. Haidar Abd-al Shafi, Palestine Red Crescent Society, Gaza, had been invited by our Committee to participate in the preparatory meeting for the Non-Governmental Organizations International Meeting, held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 6 to 7 March 1986. In inviting them, the Committee felt that their expertise and involvement in humanitarian activities on behalf of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories would have been of great benefit and inspiration to the other participants in the meeting.

"You will recall that the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People had occasion in the past to deplore measures by the Israeli authorities against participation by Palestinians in United Nations meetings on the question of Palestine. The Committee reported to the General Assembly at its fortieth session that Ms. Sameeha Khalil and Ms. Siham Barghouty from the West Bank had been invited to attend the Non-Governmental Organizations International Meeting held at Geneva from 9 to 12 September 1985 but had been refused a travel permit by the Israeli authorities. In 1983, Mr. Mohammad Mi'ari, now a Knesset member, and Mr. Maysara Sayyid of Haifa, were arrested for having attended the International Conference on the Question of Palestine in Geneva, where they had met with representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization in working sessions of the Conference.

"In the opinion of the Committee, these measures are not based on security considerations but rather aim at barring international exposure of conditions in the occupied territories and at preventing a meaningful dialogue among the various forces devoted to a peaceful solution, including the Palestinian people themselves. The Committee wishes to reiterate that such discriminatory measures violate the right to freedom of movement, and can only make the search for a peaceful solution ever more difficult.

"In conclusion, on behalf of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I wish to appeal to you to do all in your power to ensure that in the future the Israeli authorities will not prevent Palestinians from participating in meetings organized by the Committee.

"I would be grateful if this letter could be issued as a document of the General Assembly, under item 35 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council."

II. THE SIXTEENTH ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS
HELD AT FEZ, MOROCCO, FROM 6 TO 10 JANUARY 1986 ADOPTS
RESOLUTIONS ON THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE AND THE
SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The following resolutions were adopted by the Conference.

Resolution No. 1/16-P. The question of Palestine and the Middle East

The Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Fez, Kingdom of Morocco, from 25 to 29 Rabiul Thani 140H (6-10 January 1986),

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

Commending the sustained efforts made by Islamic States in the United Nations and all other international fora in support of the question of Palestine and the Middle East;

Expressing grave concern over the increasingly deteriorating situation in Occupied Palestine and the Middle East as a result of the continuous wars and hostile practices of the Zionist enemy, against the countries and peoples of the region, thus posing a serious threat to world peace and security;

Convinced that the time has come to hold an International Conference, under the aegis of the United Nations, in which the Palestine Liberation Organization would participate on an equal footing with all parties concerned, with a view to enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable national rights and the recovery of all the Occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

Reaffirming the principle of strengthening Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people and the unwavering commitment of Islamic States to implement all the resolutions adopted on the question of Palestine and the Middle East, especially resolution No. 1/15-P of the Fifteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

1. Reaffirms its adherence and commitment to the following seven principles and basis which should underline the solution of the question of Palestine and the Middle East:

(a) The Palestine question - the primary cause of the Muslims - is the core of the Middle East problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

(b) The Palestine question and the Middle East problem must be treated and solved as an indivisible whole. Consequently, there cannot be a partial solution, or a solution that involves only some of the parties in the conflict, or limited only to some of the causes of the conflict to the exclusion of others. It is also not possible to have partial peace, since peace must involve all parties and eliminate all reasons for hostilities, in addition to being a just peace.

(c) A just peace in the region can only be based on the complete and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli enemy from all the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, and the restoration of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, which include:

(i) Their right to their national homeland, Palestine.

(ii) Their right to return to their homeland, Palestine, and recover their possessions as guaranteed by United Nations resolutions.

(iii) Their right to self-determination without any external interference.

(iv) Their right to freely exercise their sovereignty over their land, Palestine, and their natural resources.

(v) Their right to the establishment of their national independent sovereign State in Palestine, with Al-Quds Al Sharif as its capital, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

(d) The City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif - the capital of Palestine - is an integral part of the occupied land of Palestine. The Israeli enemy should, therefore, withdraw unconditionally from it and restore it to Palestinian sovereignty.

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(e) The Palestine Liberation Organization is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. It alone is fully entitled to represent this people, and to participate independently and on an equal footing in all international conference activities and fora dealing with the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict, for the restitution of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people. No solution can be just, complete or acceptable, unless the Palestine Liberation Organization participates, as an equal and independent party, with other parties concerned, in its establishment. No other party is entitled to claim the right to represent or negotiate on behalf of the Palestinian people, their land or their rights. Anything in contradiction with this rule is null and void, and has no legal consequence.

(f) Security Council resolution No. 242 is not consistent with the Arab and Palestinian rights and is not an adequate basis for a solution to the Palestine question and the Middle East problem.

(g) No Arab party should unilaterally seek a solution to the Palestinian question and the Arab-Zionist conflict. The Camp David Approach and Accords as well as their consequences and any initiative based on them should be resisted continuously until they are foiled and full and effective support, both material and moral, their effects are removed. The Conference reaffirms the imperative of extending to the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories in order to reinforce their resistance to the "self-rule" conspiracy. The Conference also endorses the resolution No. 1/14-P adopted by the Dhaka Conference pertaining to the rejection and condemnation of the Camp David Accords and to continued support to the Palestine Liberation Organization and its independence.

2. Reaffirms that any solution not founded on all these principles and basis and on their application, simultaneously and without exception, cannot lead to a just peace but, on the contrary, it will render the situation in the region more explosive and help the Israeli enemy to achieve its objectives and its expansionist, colonialist and racist settlement policies, as well as encourage bilateral and partial solutions in disregard of the essence of the Palestinian question, and pave the way for the hostile policies and designs aimed at liquidating the Palestinian question.

3. Reaffirms anew the commitment of the Islamic States to the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly calling for the convening of the International Conference, under the aegis of the United Nations, to arrive at a just and comprehensive solution of the Palestine and Middle East question, a conference in which the Palestine Liberation Organization will participate as an independent party and on an equal

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footing with all the other parties concerned, together with the Soviet Union, the United States of America and the other permanent members of the Security Council with a view to implementing the relevant United Nations resolutions as well as the recommendations made by the United Nations Commission on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

4. Reaffirms the need for Member States to take active and collective steps for the adoption, by the Security Council, of a new resolution explicitly providing for:

(a) The total and unconditional withdrawal of the Zionist enemy from all the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

(b) Guarantees for the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return to their homeland, Palestine, their right to self-determination and their right to establish their independent Palestinian State on their national soil, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, their legitimate and sole representative in accordance with the relevant international resolutions.

5. Requests the Six-Member Committee of the OIC to follow up the implementation of paragraphs (4, 20, 30 and V of the resolutions Nos. 1/12-P, 1-13-P, 1-14-P and 1/15-P) adopted by previous Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers.

6. Reaffirms the imperative of continued support to the efforts being exerted with a view to integrating UNRWA's budget into the regular annual budget of the United Nations.

7. Strongly condemns the United States for:

(a) Its hostile attitude towards the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, its continued support for the occupation by the Zionist enemy of all the Palestinian and Arab territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and its non-recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization as the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people.

(b) Its continued and growing support for the Zionist enemy in all fields particularly in the military, political and economic fields under the Strategic Co-operation Agreement between them, and the endeavours to turn the Zionist entity into an arsenal of strategic weapons and a depot of ammunition to be used against the peoples and States in the region.

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(c) The use of the right of veto to prevent the adoption of resolutions by the United Nations Security Council pertaining to the question of Al-Quds, Palestine and the Middle East, which amounts to totally supporting the Zionist enemy and its continued acts of aggression, occupation and attempts to annihilate the Palestinian people and to annex the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, thereby ignoring its obligations as a major Power responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security.

(d) The rapid diplomatic and propaganda campaign launched by the United States of America all over the world, particularly in Western Europe, against the PLO with a view to the closing down of PLO offices there, withdrawing recognition from the said organization and the elimination of the political presence of the Palestinian people in such countries.

8. Calls upon the European Community to take practical steps to implement its previous resolutions on the question of Palestine and the Middle East based on their mutual and vital interests and not to renege on those resolutions under American pressure. It requests the European Community to evolve its policies with a view to helping the Palestinian people achieve their inalienable national rights in accordance with the United Nations resolutions.

9. Requests the Chairmanship of the Islamic Conference, the Member States and the General Secretariat to contact the Spanish Government and ask it not to recognize Israel and to continue its current policy whereby it has affirmed the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people.

10. Calls upon Member States to re-examine their diplomatic relations with the United States of America and any other State in the light of its support and assistance to the Zionist enemy.

11. Calls on Member States to explain, by all ways and means, the Arab Peace Plan adopted by the Twelfth Arab Summit Conference held in Fez and endorsed by the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca and to expound the dimensions of this Plan and to enlist international support for its implementation.

12. Reaffirms its commitment to the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and considers that all settlements that have been, or will be established, by the Zionist enemy in all the Occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif are measures and practices that are null and void and unlawful. These settlements must be dismantled and no more established, in accordance with the United Nations Charter and relevant resolutions.

13. Reiterates its condemnation of the persistence of the Zionist enemy in systematically pursuing a policy of organized state terrorism against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories; dismantling their camps and deporting the inhabitants, confiscating their property and establishing Zionist settlements around the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif as well as in all the other parts of the occupied homeland, in contravention of the will of

the International Community, the United Nations resolutions, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Fourth Geneva Convention. The Conference once again demands that an end be put to all these criminal acts and practices.

14. Strongly condemns anew the measures approved by the Israeli Knesset on 2 January 1984 for the enforcement of Israeli legislation in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip and considers that such highly dangerous measures represent a continuation of the Zionist enemy's designs to annex and Judaize the Occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.

15. (a) Strongly condemns the Zionist enemy for its failure to comply with the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly resolutions regarding its annexation of the occupied Syrian Golan Heights and the enforcement of its laws and suzerainty over the occupied Golan Heights. It reaffirms that this annexation is illegal, null and void and has no legal validity whatsoever. It is an act of aggression according to the provisions of the United Nations Charter and its resolutions.

(b) Also strongly condemns the oppressive terrorist measures taken by the Zionist enemy against Syrian Arab citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan Heights, depriving them of their basic rights and freedom in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Conference pays tribute to the resistance launched by these citizens against occupation and annexation and reaffirms its total support to their just struggle in defence of their freedom, territorial integrity and national identity.

(c) Rejects and condemns the threats of the Zionist enemy against the Syrian Arab Republic, its territorial integrity, its regional security and its armed forces, and expresses its full and active support for and solidarity with the just struggle of the Government and people of the Syrian Arab Republic against the Zionist aggression and occupation and for the liberation of their occupied territories.

16. Reaffirms its determination to maintain the independence and sovereignty of Lebanon, the unity of its people and institutions and its territorial and institutional integrity. It reaffirms that the Israeli forces should withdraw immediately and unconditionally from all Lebanese territories and emphasizes the need to safeguard the complete and absolute sovereignty of Lebanon over all its territories and in all national affairs. It also hails the steadfastness and firmness of the heroic people of Lebanon in their sustained resistance against the Zionist occupation forces, and lauds the courageous national resistance to the Israeli invasion troops in South Lebanon.

17. Reaffirms the commitment of Member States and their peoples to sever political, economic, cultural, military and other forms of direct or indirect relations with the Zionist entity, to enforce the provisions of the Islamic boycott against it; and decides again that Member States which still maintain any form of relations, at whichever level, with the Zionist enemy should sever such relations forthwith and without delay, in implementation of the Charter and resolutions of the Islamic Conference.

18. Reaffirms the commitment of all Islamic States to work together for the co-ordination of their stands and to redouble their efforts at all international fora in order to eliminate all forms of racism, racist discrimination and zionism, to rid humanity, international communities and Arab, African and Islamic peoples of their evils and their manifestations evidenced at present by the Israeli entity in occupied Palestine and the Pretoria racist régime in South Africa. It also calls upon Member States to use all their economic and financial potentialities as an effective weapon against zionism and racism and their supporters. Moreover it reiterates its unwavering solidarity with the just struggle of the Namibian people, led by SWAPO, and the struggle of the South African people, led by its national movements.

19. Condemns all countries that allow Jewish emigration from or across their territories to occupied Palestine and calls for an end to such illegal Zionist emigration to Palestine. It further calls for resolute action to encourage the return of the migrant Jews to their countries of origin.

20. Reaffirms the imperative of establishment of offices of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the capitals of the Member States where such offices have not yet been established, considering that the PLO is the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people, and calls for grant of full diplomatic rights, privileges and immunities to these offices.

21. Commends the valiant Palestinian people for their steadfastness and unflinching struggle against the Zionist enemy, their brave resistance to occupation in all its forms and their rallying around their sole, legitimate leadership represented by the Palestine Liberation Organization. It reiterates the Islamic States' commitment to the preservation of Palestinian national unity, the independence of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the inadmissibility of interference in its international affairs.

22. Reaffirms the principle of Islamic solidarity with the people of Palestine, the right of the PLO to continue the struggle in all its military and political forms using all other possible means in order to liberate Palestine and recover the national and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

23. Reaffirms the need on the part of all Muslim people and Governments to celebrate Islamic Solidarity Day with the people of Palestine on 21 August every year and to recall on this occasion the criminal Zionist attempt to set fire to the blessed Aqsa Mosque, and the establishment of the OIC in 1969 as a natural and unified response to this act, and to emphasize Islamic solidarity towards its primal cause: the question of Palestine and that of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and its stand against the Zionist enemy and its supporters and protectors.

24. Calls anew upon all Member States to extend immediate and effective aid to the Palestine Liberation Organization so that it may reconstruct the Palestinian refugee camps and houses destroyed in Lebanon in the war, and compensate the inhabitants of these camps for their vast human and material losses.

25. (a) Hails friendly third-world countries which cherish peace, justice and equality, particularly non-aligned countries and OAU Member States, for their principles and firm support for the question of Palestine and the Middle East, and their consistent backing of the just struggle waged by the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO against the Zionist enemy and its supporters.

(b) Also hails the firm stand of these friendly countries in the face of the Zionist enemy's attempts to infiltrate them in order to achieve its designs aimed at restoring relations with them and putting an end to its diplomatic isolation from them and recalls the resolution by the League of Arab States that the African racist issues are to be treated as Arab causes like the Palestine cause.

26. Strongly condemns the air raid carried out by Israel on Tunis, and the PLO headquarters there, on 1 October 1985, which resulted in heavy losses of life and property. It considers that this act of aggression is a link in a chain and another episode in the series of Zionist terrorism and aggression supported by the USA against the political presence of the Palestinian people, the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the peace-loving fraternal State of Tunisia, and the Arab and Islamic Ummah.

27. Commends the countries that have denounced that aggression and stood by the fraternal State of Tunisia and the PLO in their valiant resistance to it and in claiming compensation for the losses sustained, in implementation of the Security Council resolution in that respect.

28. Calls upon the world States at large to take joint action for the imposition of preventive sanctions as provided for in the Seventh Chapter of the United Nations Charter, against the Zionist enemy and its supporters and to enforce a strict, comprehensive boycott, as well as political isolation, against the Zionist entity.

29. Strongly condemns the continued Israeli threats supported by the United States of America to attack PLO offices, centres and headquarters anywhere in the world. These threats constitute flagrant violations of the United Nations Charter and resolutions, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the Palestinian people's right to existence, independence, and their right to exercise national sovereignty on their soil under the leadership of the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative. The Conference strongly condemns such threats, regards them as directed against the entire Arab and Islamic Ummah, and invites peace and justice-loving countries of the world to reject such aggressive threats, and calls for continued support for the steadfast struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative.

30. Requests the General Secretariat to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report on the progress achieved to both the Al-Quds Committee and the Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Resolution No. 2/16-P. The City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif

The Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Fez, Kingdom of Morocco, from 25 to 29 Rabiul Thani, 1406H (6-10 January 1986),

Proceeding from the principles and the objectives of the OIC Charter;

Confirming resolution 1/3-P(IS) of the Third Islamic Summit held in Makkah Al-Mukaramah and Taif;

Commending the continuous efforts of the Member States at the United Nations and all other international organizations in support of the Palestine issue and Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

Reaffirming the principle of Islamic solidarity with the people of Palestine and the firm commitment of Member States to implement all resolutions concerning the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

Expressing its deep concern over the deteriorating situation in the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and all the Islamic and Christian holy places there under the Zionist Israeli occupation as a result of the acts of annexation, judaization and sacrilege committed in the City, the grave perils and damage to which its Palestinian inhabitants have been subjected, the persistent Zionist threats to the City and its future as an Arab-Islamic City - where all the revealed religions had, during the Muslim rule, enjoyed full freedom for fourteen centuries - and the grave danger to world peace and security posed by the perpetuation of this situation;

Considering the fundamental linkage between the Palestine question and the conflict with racist zionism in the wake of Zionist usurpation of Palestine, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the fact that the Zionist usurpation is the root cause of the struggle against this city should never be a subject for bargaining or concession;

Determined to combat the escalating organized official Zionist terrorism in Palestine, particularly in the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, which has reached a most serious stage and is aimed at the expulsion of Palestinian Arabs from their homeland and the destruction of the blessed Aqsa Mosque and the erection on its ruins of the so-called Third Temple, as well as the continuous attempts to achieve such aims, in addition to encircling the City of Al-Quds by a cordon of buildings and settlements and bringing in new Jewish immigrant settlers;

Reaffirming that the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif is an integral part of the usurped Palestinian homeland and the capital of the Independent Palestinian State under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and that its return to Palestinian sovereignty is the only guarantee for the preservation of its sanctity and its Islamic character, and for guaranteeing the freedom of religious practice in it;

Expressing its strong denunciation of the continued racist Zionist acts of aggression and attempt at the judaization and obliteration against the blessed Aqsa Mosque, Al-Haram Al-Ibrahimi Al-Sharif, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and other Islamic and Christian holy places and archaeological sites in Palestine, which are pursuance for the Ummah Muslim Arab civilization and history;

1. Calls upon the Member States to take immediate measures to implement all resolutions concerning the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, especially resolution 2/15-P of the Fifteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, and to put them into effect during the year 1986.

2. Reiterates its strong conviction that the Islamic Arab character of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif be preserved, and its commitment to work for its liberation and its return to Arab Palestinian sovereignty as the capital of the independent Palestinian State on its national soil under the leadership of the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

3. Calls upon the Member States to mobilize all their resources against the decisions and measures taken by the Zionist enemy to annex the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and to declare it the permanent capital of the Zionist entity, including political, economic and cultural boycott and the prevention of any form of direct or indirect co-operation at any level.

4. Appeals to all countries of the world to refrain from establishing, with the Zionist authorities, any form of communication which could be construed by the Zionist entity as implying a tacit recognition of the fait accompli imposed by its declaration that Al-Quds Al-Sharif is the unified permanent capital of the Zionist entity.

5. Calls upon the Member States to take action individually and collectively, to implement all international resolutions on the issue of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, to reject all the measures and criminal practices of the Zionist enemy and to strongly condemn all these measures and consider them as null and void, illegal and unacceptable as fait accompli, and to demand that such measures be continuously resisted until they are, together with their effects and consequences, completely eliminated.

6. Urges the Member States to maintain contacts with the Holy See and other Christian religious circles so as to urge a unified Islamic-Christian stand to preserve the Arab historical and sacred religious character of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and to urge them to take a clear and unequivocal stand against the aggressive Zionist measures and practices in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

7. Calls upon the Member States to implement the Information Plan and to hold seminars to promote public awareness of the Palestinian issue and Al-Quds Al-Sharif throughout world capitals and at grass root levels, especially in the United States and Western Europe.

8. Also calls upon the Member States to declare the twinning of their capitals with Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the capital of Palestine, as a symbol of Islamic solidarity with the people of Palestine, especially the inhabitants of resistance against the Zionist occupation.

9. Requests the General Secretariat to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to both the Al-Quds Committee and the Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Resolution No. 8/16-P. Countering the Zionist colonial settlements in and around Al-Quds Al-Sharif and in the other parts of the occupied Palestinian Territories

The Sixteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Fez, Kingdom of Morocco, from 25 to 29 Rabiul Thani 1406H (6-10 January 1986),

In implementation of resolution 2/14-P adopted by the Fourteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

Responding to the recommendations adopted by Al-Quds Committee at its Seventh Session, held in Marrakesh on 23 January 1983, under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II, which provide for "the elaboration of an urgent plan to counter the dangers represented by the persistence of Israeli settlement in and around Al-Quds Al Sharif as well as in the other occupied Palestinian territories";

Pursuant to the decision of the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to set up a committee called: "The Islamic Expert Committee for the study of the means of countering the dangers of the Zionist colonial settlement in Palestine";

Pursuant to the Explanatory Note and its annexes submitted by the General Secretariat concerning the meetings of this Committee and its conclusions and recommendations;

In implementation of the resolutions adopted by the previous Islamic conferences, which consider the question of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif as the first and premost cause of the Muslims, and call for support for the Palestinian people's steadfastness and struggle against the Zionist enemy and the liquidation schemes in their own land, particularly in Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

1. Approves the plan proposed by the "Islamic Expert Committee for the study of the means of countering the dangers of the Zionist colonial settlement in Palestine", at its third meeting, held from 26 to 27 Safar, 1406H (9-10 November 1985);

2. (a) Calls upon the Member States to contribute to the Al-Quds Fund as well as its Waqf, providing an amount of one hundred million United States dollars each for the budgets of the Fund as well as its Waqf, in pursuance of the provisions of the previous resolutions of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers;

(b) Decides that the contributions of the Member States to the budgets of the Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf be made annually,, regularly and obligatorily;

(c) Requests the General Secretariat to take the necessary measures for the consolidation of the Fund and its Waqf through the collection of donations from institutions and individuals.

3. Emphasizes the need fo intensifying Islamic action at the international level in order to stem the flow of Jewish emigration in implementation of the international resolutions declaring the settlements established by the Zionist entity as null and void and illegal.

4. Calls for the intensification of Islamic information activity in order to ensure the widest possible projection of the cause of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharid and to expose the Zionist colonial settlement policy and its dangers for peace and security in the Middle East.

5. Requests the General Secretariat to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to Al-Quds Committee and the Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

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III. THE UNITED NATIONS-SPONSORED EUROPEAN REGIONAL
AND NATIONAL JOURNALISTS ENCOUNTERS ON THE
QUESTION OF PALESTINE

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/96 C of 13 December 1985, the European regional journalists encounter on the question of Palestine was held in the United Nations Office in Vienna, Austria, from 25 to 28 February 1986. The objective of the encounter was to promote a better understanding of the question of Palestine among leaders of the media by bringing them together with experts on the subject for a brief, in-depth, informal and candid discussion of the various aspects of the Palestinian problem.

In order to provide the journalists with objective and balanced perspectives of the question, the following panelists were invited to speak to journalists:

H.E. Ambassador Peter Jankowitsch
International Secretary of the S
Socialist Party of Austria

H.E. Ambassador George Agius
Permanent Representative of Malta
to the United Nations

Mr. Zehdi Labib Terzi
Permanent Observer of the Palestine
Liberation Organization to the
United Nations

Mr. Amos Kenan
Prominent Israeli author and journalist
Columnist at Israeli newspaper, Yediot Aharonot
Leader of the Peace Movement in Israel.

Fourteen high-level journalists, nominated by the United Nations Information Centres in Europe, took part in the encounter.

The selection of the journalists was intended to cover the whole European continent and to have a balance between representatives of the press, radio and television media.

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The agenda of the encounter was as follows:

Historical review of the origins of the Palestinian question.

United Nations and the question of Palestine.

The inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

The prospects for a peaceful settlement of the Palestinian problem.

There was a wide consensus among the journalists on the need and necessity to hold an international peace conference on the question of Palestine under the auspices of the United Nations in order to achieve a just and lasting settlement.

In addition, three national journalists encounters on the question of Palestine were held in the same region. These encounters were held in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 24 February; Budapest, Hungary, on 3 March; and Athens, Greece, on 6 March. The purpose of the encounters was to provide the opportunity for the largest possible number of local journalists and foreign correspondents to meet with experts on the subject, constituting a small balanced panel, for a brief discussion of the various aspects of the Palestinian question in a way of an in-depth press conference.

IV. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS: ACTIVITY AND INFORMATION

1. Uri Avnery (Israeli journalist, editor and publisher of Haolam Hazeh, former Knesset member and founding member of the Israeli Council for an Israeli Palestinian Peace) and Hanna Siniora (Palestinian journalist, editor of Al Fajar and Al Fajr Weekly, accepted nominee from the occupied territories to be on the joint Palestinian-Jordanian negotiating team) were on a national tour in the United States during the month of March. The tour was co-sponsored by the America Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace and the Palestine Human Rights Campaign.
2. The Church of Humanism sponsored a programme entitled "Making the Great Peace in Jerusalem" on 8 March in New York City.
3. The Union of Women's Work Committee (West Bank and Gaza) has sent us their Newsletter which is published quarterly. They ask that those interested in receiving this publication write to them at: UWWC, P.O.B. 20576, East Jerusalem, via Israel.

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4. The International Jewish Peace Union sponsored a talk by Naim Giladi, noted Hebrew and Arabic language journalist, on "Oriental Jews and Middle East Peace". The lecture was given at the City University of New York Graduate Center.

5. The Middle East Institute Outreach Programme of Columbia University and the Women's Collective on the Middle East are co-sponsoring a film series which includes "Fertile Memories", a film by Palestinian film-maker Michel Khleifi. A discussion will be led by Miriam Rosen of Fordham University, frequent contributor to MERIP Reports.
