



DIVISION FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

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

On 12 March 1987, in a letter addressed to the Secretary-General, the Chairman of the Committee drew his urgent attention to the situation in the Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut and near Tyre. The full text of the letter is as follows:

"In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and with reference to my previous letters sent on behalf of the Committee (A/42/122-S/18682 and A/42/135-S/18713), I wish once again to draw your urgent attention to the situation in the Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut and near Tyre, which continues to arouse the most serious concern.

"According to recent information, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) has been able to enter Burj-El-Barajneh camp twice with medical supplies and food (on 25 February and 3 March) and Shatila once with food (on 27 February). The Agency, however, was barred from bringing medical supplies into Shatila, which is reported as having been totally destroyed. Since those deliveries, the Agency has again been barred from entering the camps. It has not yet been permitted to enter Rashidieh, which remains isolated, although supplies have reached other refugees in the Tyre area.

"In view of the above, it is clear that the situation in the Palestinian refugee camps remains extremely grave and is bound to deteriorate further unless urgent measures are taken. The Committee accordingly wishes to reiterate its pressing appeal to you and to all parties concerned to do everything possible to enable UNRWA and other humanitarian organizations to provide emergency relief to the Palestinian refugees, for whom the international community has a special responsibility."1/

II. SECURITY COUNCIL URGES PARTIES TO FACILITATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PALESTINIAN REFUGEE CAMPS IN LEBANON

After consultations, the President of the Security Council issued the following statement on behalf of the members of the Council, on 19 March 1987:

"The members of the Security Council, mindful of the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon, note with profound concern that, in spite of their previous statements, the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon have not been receiving the necessary humanitarian assistance and that the situation in those camps remains critical.

"Alarmed by the suffering of the civilian population in the camps, the members of the Security Council therefore again urge all parties concerned urgently to facilitate the efforts of various United Nations agencies, particularly the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, as well as any other humanitarian assistance aimed at distributing food and medical supplies in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon and, thus, at fulfilling a critically needed mission.

"Recalling their previous statements, they reiterate their call for a speedy end to violence in and around the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon and a return to a durable peace and a situation of normalcy and for the safeguarding of civilian lives."2/

III. THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS ON THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE AND THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The Commission on Human Rights at its forty-third session adopted the following resolutions on the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East. 3/

1987/4. Situation in occupied Palestine

The Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 181 A and B (II) of 29 November 1947, which called for the establishment of a Palestinian State in Palestine, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 32/14 of 7 November 1977, 32/30 of 25 November 1977, 32/40 A and B of 2 December 1977, 32/42 of 7 December 1977, 33/28 A to C of 7 December 1978, 34/65 A to D of 29 November and 12 December 1979, ES-7/2 of 29 July 1980, 35/169 A to E of 15 December 1980, 36/120 A to F of 10 December 1981, 36/226 A and B of 17 December 1981, ES-7/9 of 24 September 1982, 37/86 A to E of 10 and 20 December 1982, 38/58 A to E of 13 December 1983, 39/49 A to D of 11 December 1984, 40/96 A to D of 12 December 1985 and 41/43 A to D of 2 December 1986,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolutions 1865 (LVI) and 1866 (LVI) of 17 May 1974,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions in this regard, and most recently resolution 1986/22 of 10 March 1986,

Bearing in mind the reports and recommendations of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian people,

Emphasizing once more the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant United Nations resolutions, and expressing its grave concern that Israel continues to prevent the Palestinian people by force from enjoying their inalienable rights, in particular their right to self-determination, in defiance of the principles of international law, United Nations resolutions and the will of the international community,

Expressing its grave concern that no just solution has been achieved to the problem of Palestine, which constitutes the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict,

Reiterating its grave concern at the military, economic and political support given by some States to Israel which encourages and strengthens policies pursued by Israel based on aggression, expansion and continued occupation of Palestinian and other Arab territories,

Recalling Israel's brutal practices and crimes of genocide against the Palestinian people, and its acts of physical liquidation aimed at eliminating the question of Palestine and hindering the exercise by the Palestinian people of their right to self-determination, as exhibited in the Sabra and Shatila massacres in September 1982,

1. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to self-determination without external interference and the establishment of their independent and sovereign State on their national soil in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolutions,

2. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the Palestinians to return to their homeland Palestine and their property, from which they have been uprooted by force,

3. Affirms the right of the Palestinian people to regain their rights by all means in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and with relevant United Nations resolutions,

4. Reaffirms the right of the Palestine Liberation Organization, in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, to full participation in all efforts and international conferences concerning the question of Palestine and the future of the Palestinian people,

5. Reaffirms its support for the call to convene an international peace conference on the Middle East, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 38/58 C and other relevant General Assembly resolutions, and appeals to all States to make further constructive efforts towards the convening of such a conference,

6. Expresses again its deep regret at the negative attitude of some States, which is hindering the convening of the international peace conference, and calls upon these States to reconsider their attitude towards the question of peace in the Middle East,

7. Strongly condemns Israel for its continued occupation of the Palestinian and other Arab territories, which violates the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of international law and the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights and constitutes the major obstacle hindering the exercise of the right to self-determination by the Palestinian people;

8. Strongly condemns Israel for its non-compliance with the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights;

9. Calls upon Israel to comply with its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and withdraw from the Palestinian and Arab territories which it has occupied since 1967;

10. Urges all States, United Nations organs, specialized agencies and other international organizations to extend their support and assistance to the Palestinian people through their representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization, in their struggle to restore their rights in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and with relevant United Nations resolutions;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to make available to the Commission on Human Rights, prior to the convening of its forty-fourth session, all information pertaining to the implementation of the present resolution;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit this resolution to the Government of Israel with a view to its implementation and to report thereon at its forty-fourth session;

13. Decides to place on the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session as a matter of high priority the item entitled "The right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation" and to consider, in the context of this item, the situation in occupied Palestine.

28th meeting
19 February 1987

1987/2 Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine

A

The Commission on Human Rights,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as the principles and provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Guided also by the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

Bearing in mind the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and of The Hague Convention of 1907, as well as the principles of international humanitarian law,

Taking into consideration General Assembly resolution 3314 (XXIX) of 14 December 1974, which defined as an act of aggression "the invasion or attack by the armed forces of a State of the territory of another State, or any military occupation, however temporary, resulting from such invasion or attack, or any annexation by the use of force of the territory of another State or part thereof",

Recalling General Assembly resolutions ES-7/2 of 29 July 1980, 37/88 A to G of 10 December 1982, 37/123 A to F of 16 and 20 December 1982, 38/58 A to E of 13 December 1983, 38/79 A to H of 15 December 1983, 39/49 A to D of 11 December 1984, 39/95 A to H of 14 December 1984, 40/161 A to G of 16 December 1985 and 41/63 A to G of 2 December 1986 and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions on Israeli violations of the human rights of the population of occupied Arab territories,

Recalling, in particular, Security Council resolutions 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967, 446 (1979) of 22 March 1979, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, 468 (1980) of 8 May 1980, 469 (1980) of 20 May 1980, 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980 and 484 (1980) of 19 December 1980 and all other relevant Security Council resolutions,

Taking note of the reports and resolutions of the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Health Organization as well as the report of the seminar on violations of human rights in the Palestinian and other Arab

territories occupied by Israel, held at Geneva from 29 November to 3 December 1982, and the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories,

Recalling its previous resolutions in this connection, particularly resolutions 1982/1 A and B of 11 February 1982, 1983/1 A and B and 1983/2 of 15 February 1983, 1984/1 A and B and 1984/2 of 20 February 1984, 1985/1 A and B of 19 February 1985 and 1986/1 A and B of 20 February 1986 on the "Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine",

Taking note with grave alarm of the content of the report of the Special Committee regarding Israel's pursuance of the "iron fist" policy in the occupied Palestinian territories,

1. Reaffirms the fact that occupation itself constitutes a fundamental violation of the human rights of the civilian population of the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine;
2. Denounces the continued refusal of Israel to allow the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories access to the occupied territories, and calls upon it to allow the Special Committee to visit the occupied territories in implementation of the relevant General Assembly resolutions;
3. Reiterates the deep concern expressed by the Special Committee in its reports submitted to the General Assembly that Israel's policy in the occupied territories is based on the so-called "Homeland" doctrine which envisages a monoreligious (Jewish) State that includes territories occupied by Israel since June 1967, and the affirmation by the Special Committee that this policy not only denies the right to self-determination of the population of the occupied territories but also constitutes the source of the continuing and systematic violation of human rights;
4. Reaffirms the fact that Israel's continuous grave breaches of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and of the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 are war crimes and an affront to humanity;
5. Firmly rejects and reiterates its condemnation of Israel's decision to annex Jerusalem and to change the physical character, demographic

composition, institutional structure or status of the occupied territories, including Jerusalem, and considers all these measures and their consequences null and void;

6. Strongly condemns the implementation of the "iron fist" policy against the population of the occupied territories;

7. Strongly condemns Israel's attempts to subject the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to Israeli laws;

8. Strongly condemns Israeli policies and practices, administrative and legislative measures to promote and expand the establishment of settler colonies in the occupied territories, as well as the following practices:

(a) Annexation of parts of the occupied territories, including Jerusalem;

(b) Continuing establishment of new Israeli settlements and expansion of existing settlements on private and public Arab lands, and transfer of an alien population thereto;

(c) Arming of settlers in the occupied territories to commit acts of violence against Arab civilians, and perpetration of acts of violence by these armed settlers against individuals from Palestinian camps and institutions, causing injury and death and wide-scale damage to Arab property, and all terrorist acts undertaken against the Palestinian inhabitants of the occupied territories by Zionist gangs under the supervision of the occupation authorities;

(d) Striking at Muslim and Christian religious and holy places and repeated attacks on Al Aqsa Mosque aimed at seizing and destroying it, and hindering religious freedom and practices;

(e) Evacuation, deportation, expulsion, displacement and transfer of Arab inhabitants of the occupied territories, denial of their right to return to their homeland and transfer and settlement of alien populations brought from other parts of the world in the place of the original Palestinian owners of land;

(f) Confiscation and expropriation of Arab property in the occupied territories from Palestinian owners and demolition and destruction of Arab houses;

(g) Mass arrests, collective punishments, administrative detention, torture of persons under detention, ill-treatment of the Arab population and inhuman conditions in prisons as well as attacks and use of tear-gas against prisoners in the prisons of Kfar Youna, Janeed, Narha, Hebron, Ashkelon and Fara'a, in September and October 1986;

(h) Pillaging of archaeological and cultural property and systematic Israeli repression of cultural and educational institutions, especially universities, schools and institutes, in the occupied Palestinian territories, their closure or the restriction and obstruction of their academic activities through subjection of the selection of courses, textbooks and educational programmes, admission of students and appointment of faculty members to the control and supervision of the military occupation authorities;

(i) Attacks against Palestinian students in universities and institutes, such as that which occurred in Bir Zeit University, where a number of them were killed or wounded when they were fired upon inside the university campus on 4 December 1986;

(j) Expropriation and exploitation of the natural wealth, water and other resources which belong to the inhabitants of the occupied territories;

(k) The dismantling of municipal services by dismissal of the elected mayors as well as the municipal councils and prevention of the flow of Arab aid funds to the population of the occupied territories;

9. Calls upon Israel to take immediate steps for the return of the displaced Arab inhabitants to their homes and property in Palestine and other Arab territories occupied since June 1967;

10. Calls upon the Israeli authorities to implement forthwith Security Council resolution 484 (1980) of 19 December 1980 and previous resolutions calling for the immediate return of the elected mayors to their municipalities so that they can resume the functions for which they were elected;

11. Urges Israel to refrain from policies and practices which violate human rights in the occupied territories;

12. Reiterates its call to all States, in particular the States parties to the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, in accordance with article 1 of that Convention, and to international organizations and specialized agencies, not to recognize any changes carried out by Israel in the occupied territories, including Jerusalem, and to avoid taking any action or extending any aid which might be used by Israel in its pursuit of the policies of annexation and colonization or any other policies and practices referred to in the present resolution;

13. Requests the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, to recommend to the Security Council the adoption against Israel of

the measures referred to in Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations for its persistent violation of the human rights of the population of the Palestinian and other occupied Arab territories;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, the competent United Nations organs, the specialized agencies, the regional intergovernmental organizations and the international humanitarian organizations and to give it the widest possible publicity, and to report to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-fourth session;

15. Further requests the Secretary-General to provide the Commission with all United Nations reports appearing between sessions of the Commission and dealing with the situation of the population of those occupied territories;

16. Decides to place on the provisional agenda of the forty-fourth session, as a matter of high priority, the item entitled "Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine".

27th meeting
19 February 1987

B

The Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling its resolutions 1982/1 B of 11 February 1982, 1983/1 B of 15 February 1983, 1984/1 B of 20 February 1984, 1985/1 B of 19 February 1985 and 1986/1 A and B of 20 February 1986,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 2674 (XXV) and 2675 (XXV) of 9 December 1970, 3092 A (XXVIII) of 7 December 1973, 32/91 A of 13 December 1977, 33/113 A of 18 December 1978, 34/90 B of 12 December 1979, 35/122 A of 11 December 1980, 36/147 A of 16 December 1981, 37/88 of 10 December 1982, 38/79 B of 15 December 1983, 39/95 D of 14 December 1984, 40/161 A to G of 16 December 1985, 41/43 A to D of 2 December 1986 and 41/63 A to G of 3 December 1986,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, 468 (1980) of 8 May 1980, 469 (1980) of 20 May 1980, 471 (1980) of 5 June 1980, 476 (1980) of 30 June 1980, 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980 and 484 (1980) of 19 December 1980,

Recalling resolution III on the application of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, adopted by the Twenty-fourth International Conference of the Red Cross held at Manila in November 1981, and reaffirmed by its Twenty-fifth International Conference held in Geneva in October 1986,

Bearing in mind that the provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 must be fully applied in all circumstances to all persons protected by those instruments, without any adverse distinction based on the nature or origin of the armed conflict or on the causes espoused by or attributed to the conflict,

Recognizing that the persistent refusal of Israel to apply the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War creates a situation fraught with danger, and considering that it persists in violating human rights,

Taking into account that States parties to the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War undertake, in accordance with article 1 thereof, not only to respect but also to ensure respect for the Convention in all circumstances,

1. Reaffirms that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, is applicable to all Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem;

2. Strongly condemns Israel's systematic refusal to apply that Convention in all its provisions to the Palestinian and Arab territories occupied since 1967 and their inhabitants, despite its adherence to that Convention, and its refusal to recognize the applicability of that Convention to those territories;

3. Strongly condemns Israel for its policies of ill-treatment and torture of Palestinian detainees and prisoners in Israeli prisons;

4. Urges Israel to grant prisoner-of-war status, in accordance with the Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, of 12 August 1949, to all Palestinian fighters captured by Israel, and to treat them accordingly;
5. Calls upon Israel to abide by and respect the obligations arising from the Charter of the United Nations and other principles of international law, in Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem; requests Israel to release all Arabs detained or imprisoned as a result of their struggle for self-determination and the liberation of their territories and to accord them, pending their release, the protection envisaged in the relevant provisions of the international instruments concerning the treatment of prisoners of war, in particular the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War and The Hague Convention of 1907; and demands that Israel cease forthwith all acts of torture and ill-treatment of Palestinian and Arab detainees and prisoners;
6. Urges once more all States parties to the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War to make every effort to ensure respect for and compliance with the provisions of that Convention in all the Palestinian and Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem;
7. Strongly condemns Israel for its policy of deporting Palestinian citizens from their homeland, as occurred recently with regard to Mr. Akram Haniyeh, editor of the Jerusalem newspaper Al Shaab, and calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to refrain forthwith from the deportation of Palestinians and to rescind the deportation decisions to enable those who were deported to return to their homeland and property;
8. Urges Israel to co-operate with the International Committee of the Red Cross and to allow it to visit all Palestinian and Arab detainees in Israeli prisons;
9. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, the competent United Nations organs, the specialized agencies, the regional intergovernmental organizations, the international humanitarian organizations and non-governmental organizations, and to submit a report on progress in its implementation to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-fourth session;
10. Decides to consider this subject at its forty-fourth session as a matter of high priority.

1987/1. Human rights in occupied Syrian territory

The Commission on Human Rights,

Gravely concerned at the fact that Syrian Arab territories occupied by Israel in 1967 are still suffering from the Israeli military occupation, which is becoming increasingly severe and vicious, as Israel has refused, in violation of Article 25 of the Charter of the United Nations, to accept and carry out the numerous relevant decisions of the Security Council, concerning the Syrian occupied territory, in particular resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981, thus failing to carry out its obligations under the Charter,

Recalling once again the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and guided by the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

Reaffirming Security Council resolution 497 (1981),

Recalling the resolution adopted by the 71st Inter-Parliamentary Conference, held at Geneva from 2 to 7 April 1984, which condemned all Israeli policies and practices relating to the annexation of occupied Arab territories in Jerusalem and the Syrian Golan Heights,

Taking note with deep concern of the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories (A/41/680),

Noting with severe disapproval, after having considered the above report, that Israel continues its flagrant violations of human rights in Syrian and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, despite the resolutions on occupied Arab territories adopted by the Commission, the Security Council, the General Assembly and other United Nations organs and specialized agencies, condemning Israel for its continued occupation of the Syrian and other Arab territories and calling upon Israel to put an end to its occupation and to implement the above-mentioned resolutions,

Affirming its resolution 1986/2 of 20 February 1986,

Recalling World Health Assembly resolution WHA/39.10 of 15 May 1986, by which the Assembly condemns Israel for its policy aiming at the annexation of the occupied Arab territories, and for its illegal exploitation of the natural wealth and resources of the Arab inhabitants in those territories, all of which have devastating and long-term effects on the mental and physical health conditions of the population under occupation,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 3314 (XXIX) of 14 December 1974, in which the Assembly defined an act of aggression, inter alia, as "the invasion or attack by the armed forces of a State of the territory of another State or any military occupation, however temporary, resulting from such invasion or attack, or any annexation by the use of force of the territory of another State or part thereof" and provided that "no consideration of whatever nature, whether political, economic, military or otherwise, may serve as a justification for aggression",

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 36/226 B of 17 December 1981, ES-9/1 of 5 February 1982, 37/88 E of 10 December 1982, 37/123 A of 16 December 1982, 38/79 D of 15 December 1983, 39/146 B of 14 December 1984, 40/161 D to F of 16 December 1985 and 41/162 B of 4 December 1986, relating to the population of the Syrian territory that has been occupied since 1967,

Reaffirming that all relevant provisions of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907, and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, continue to apply to the Syrian and other Arab territories, including Jerusalem, that have been occupied by Israel since 1967 and calls upon the parties to those conventions to respect and ensure respect for their obligations under those instruments in all circumstances,

Reaffirming the resolutions of the Security Council, the General Assembly and other bodies which state that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under the principles of international law and relevant United Nations resolutions,

Noting that Israel's record, policies and actions and its continued violations of human rights establish conclusively that it is not a peace-loving Member State and that it has not carried out its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations,

1. Strongly condemns Israel for its persistent disregard for, and defiance of, the provisions of Security Council resolution 497 (1981) and all other resolutions relating to occupied Syrian territory adopted by the General Assembly and other United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, and strongly deprecates Israel's failure to implement the provisions of these resolutions by ending its occupation and ceasing its repressive measures and violations of human rights;

2. Deplores Israel's continued refusal to allow the Special Committee access to the Arab occupied territories and to implement General Assembly resolution 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968 and demands that Israel allow the Special Committee access to the occupied territories;

3. Declares once more that the continued Israeli occupation of the Syrian Golan Heights and its decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan Heights, which has resulted in the effective annexation of this territory, constitute an act of aggression under the provisions of Article 39 of the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 3314 (XXIX), and that the decision of 14 December 1981 is null and void, has no international legal validity or effect, constitutes a grave violation of international law and the Charter of the United Nations and is in defiance of the international community;

4. Strongly deplotes the negative vote and pro-Israeli position of a permanent member of the Security Council which prevented the Council from adopting against Israel, under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, the "appropriate measures" referred to in resolution 497 (1981), adopted unanimously by the Security Council;

5. Deplores the inhuman treatment, terror and practices contrary to human rights which the Israeli occupation authorities continue to apply against Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan Heights by reason of their refusal of Israeli nationality and in order to force them to carry Israeli identity cards, which practices constitute a flagrant violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and the relevant resolutions adopted by the Security Council, the General Assembly and other international bodies and also constitute a threat to peace and international security;

6. Reaffirms its request to all States Members of the United Nations not to recognize any jurisdiction, laws or measures established by Israel in respect of occupied Syrian and other Arab territories, and calls upon the specialized agencies and other international organizations to conform their relations with Israel to the terms of the present resolution;

7. Calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to rescind forthwith its decision of 14 December 1981 and to cease its acts of terrorism directed against Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan Heights in order to

impose Israeli citizenship upon them and force them to carry Israeli identity cards, and condemns the Israeli repression against the educational institutions in the occupied Syrian Golan Heights and the imposition of courses that promote hatred, prejudice and religious intolerance;

8. Emphasizes that Israel must allow the evacuees from among the Golan population to return to their homes and to recover their property and residences occupied by Israel since 1967, and firmly emphasizes the overriding necessity of the total and unconditional withdrawal by Israel from all Palestinian and Syrian territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, which is an essential prerequisite for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, the competent United Nations organs, the specialized agencies, the regional intergovernmental organizations and the international humanitarian organizations and to give it the widest possible publicity, and to report to the Commission of Human Rights at its forty-fourth session;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to provide all the necessary financial facilities to the Special Committee, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories and to the concerned Arab countries, so that it may investigate the Israeli policies and practices referred to in the present resolution;

11. Decides to place on the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session, as a matter of high priority, the item entitled "Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine".

27th meeting
19 February 1987

1987/49. Situation in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon

The Commission on Human Rights,

Guided by the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the principles of international law,

Guided by the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling Security Council resolution 564 (1985) of 31 May 1985 and the Council's statement of 13 February 1987,

Noting the statement made by the Chairman of the Commission on 6 February 1987,

Recalling the press communiqués issued by the mission of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Beirut on 2 December 1986 and 15 January 1987, the reports of the International Committee of the Red Cross of 22 December 1986 and 17 February 1987 and the statement made by that

Committee on 10 February 1987 on the inability of its mission to undertake its humanitarian activities in the Palestinian camps of Burj El-Barajneh and Shatila in Beirut and El-Rashidiyeh in South Lebanon because of the siege of these camps,

Deeply alarmed at the grave situation in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon and the risks to the lives of their population,

Taking note of the statements on this situation made by the representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization and by a number of other delegations,

Emphasizing its respect for Lebanon's full sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity,

1. Expresses its deep dismay at the grave situation in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, resulting from the continuous attacks on and siege of the camps which expose their population to the risk of death;

2. Strongly condemns the repeated attacks on these camps, including the siege which has prevented the delivery of food and medical supplies for 155 days, and deems these attacks to be flagrant violations of the human rights of the Palestinian population of the camps.

56th meeting
11 March 1987

IV. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS: ACTIVITY AND INFORMATION

The International Co-ordinating Committee for NGOs on the Question of Palestine (ICC) met on 16 and 17 March 1987 at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, as a preparatory planning meeting for the Fourth United Nations International NGO Meeting on the Question of Palestine to be held from 7 to 9 September 1987 at the Palais des Nations, Geneva.

The meeting was convened to enable the ICC to draft a proposed agenda for the International NGO Meeting for consideration by the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People as it continues its planning for the International NGO Meeting to be held in September, this year.

The meeting also discussed furthering the ongoing co-operation between the ICC, the NGOs interested in the question of Palestine, worldwide the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the Division for Palestinian Rights.

Further details about the Fourth United Nations International NGO Meeting on the Question of Palestine will soon be made available.

II. The International Association of Democratic Lawyers publishes press releases about developments affecting the Palestinian people. In a recent release they outlined the legal basis for appealing against the conditions under which the refugees in Lebanon are currently living.

Their appeal, dated 12 February 1987, requested that "effect be given to the steps initiated in the United Nations, in particular at the Security Council, so that measures be taken to put an end to such an unbearable situation". They call upon international, regional and national institutions, as well as lawyers to combine their efforts so that humanitarian organizations be granted access and enabled to provide care for the thousands of refugees.

III. The Network for Peace and Justice in the Middle East sponsored a two-day programme in New York endorsed by 20 organizations. The event entitled "New Directions in the Middle East" drew over 400 participants. Speakers included Jane Hunter, publisher "Israeli Foreign Affairs", Gail Pressberg of the American Friends Service Committee, Joe Stork, editor "Middle East Report", Palestinians from the occupied areas and Israeli peace activists.

IV. Churches for Middle East Peace, founded in 1985 and comprised of 11 religious faith groups, is an advocacy organization seeking to emphasize the role that government must play in bringing the leadership of all interested parties into peace negotiations. They recently issued a release clarifying this purpose.

V. The International Center for Peace in the Middle East, Israel, has issued a call signed by over 200 writers, artists, journalists, academicians, reserve officers, business executives, Rabbis and other public figures.

In this statement they point out that "the time has come to establish a peace of mutual recognition, based on territorial compromise and self-determination. Only such a peace will guarantee the security of Israel, the realization of Palestinian aspirations and regional stability.

VI. The Committee for Israeli-Palestinian Dialogue has been formed by a group of Israeli Jews of Oriental origin. They have published a paper entitled "Dialogue" in which they report recent activities involving their members.

Notes

1/ A/42/176-S/18751.

2/ S/18756.

3/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1987, Supplement No. 5 (E/1987/18), chap. II, sect. A.

