



## 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 1 March 1988, in a letter addressed to the Secretary-General, the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People drew urgent attention to the further aggravation of the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories and to the intensification of repression by the Israeli armed forces against Palestinian protesters. The full text of the letter is as follows:<sup>1/</sup>

"In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I wish to draw once again your most urgent attention to the further aggravation of the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories and to the intensification of repression by the Israeli armed forces against Palestinian protesters, including the use of live ammunition, rubber bullets, tear gas, a declared policy of severe beatings and even burying persons alive. The Committee is also seriously concerned at reports of growing attacks by Israeli settlers against Palestinians.

"The toll of Palestinians known to have been killed by Israeli gunfire or beatings is at least 79 since the beginning of the protests in early December, according to a report issued by Reuters on 29 February 1988. It is to be noted that at least 29 Palestinians have died since my last letter to you on 10 February (A/43/132-S/19490), indicating an extremely serious increase in casualties.

"The New York Times also reported on 28 February that at least another 12 deaths have been attributed to the effects of tear gas. Physicians for Human Rights, a medical group which visited the occupied territories recently, has estimated that injuries run into the thousands, many of them victims of beatings administered randomly by the army with the intent to disable. The physicians also reported that medical personnel have been refused entry to refugee camps and areas under curfew, and that hospitals have been assaulted, medical personnel beaten, equipment smashed and patients pulled from beds and arrested.

"A brief chronology of incidents since my last letter is as follows:

"Reuters reported on 12 February that Israeli troops had shot dead two Palestinian youths, aged 12 and 17, and wounded several others in fierce clashes after Friday prayer in the Old City of Nablus in the West Bank.

"The New York Times reported on 12 February that a day earlier Israeli troops shot and killed a Palestinian youth at the Tulkarm refugee camp in the West Bank.

"In a further report on 14 February, The New York Times said that the beating of Palestinians by the Israeli army appeared to have grown more severe, with another two Palestinians having died of beating injuries, bringing the total to four during that week. A fifth person was reported by The New York Times of 16 February to have died of beating injuries on 14 February.

"In another incident described by The New York Times on 14 and 16 February, Israeli soldiers and Jewish settlers had severely beaten four young Palestinians in the village of Salim in the West Bank, then had forced

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them to lie on the ground and had used a bulldozer to bury them. The four were later rescued by villagers. A similar incident, in which an 18-year-old Palestinian was buried alive on the beach in Gaza Strip and later rescued by villagers was reported by the Jerusalem Post on 23 February.

"According to UPI, on 17 February Israeli soldiers shot and killed a Palestinian protester in the village of Shuyukh, near Hebron. On 21 February, The New York Times reported that two Palestinians, one of them 12 years old, had been shot and killed in Ramallah and Tulkarm refugee camp, respectively. The following day, the same newspaper reported that a Palestinian was shot, probably by a settler, in Deir Ammar refugee camp, near Ramallah, and another in Nablus.

"On 23 February, according to UPI, a 13-year-old Palestinian girl was killed by settlers in the village of Baqa Esh-Sharqiyya in the West Bank, and a Palestinian youth was killed by troops in the village of Kafr El-Yamun.

"Reuters reported on 24 February that a Palestinian suspected of collaborating with the Israeli occupation authorities had shot dead a 4-year-old boy and wounded 14 Palestinians when villagers attacked his home at Qabatiyah, near Jenin. The man was subsequently lynched.

"On 25 February, Reuters reported the killing of a 14-year-old boy in Nablus and an 18-year-old at Jenin refugee camp.

"The next day, according to UPI, three Palestinians were killed by the army, including a 12-year-old boy and a 55-year-old woman, during protest demonstrations at Arrub refugee camp in Tubas, near Nablus, and in Jabaliya refugee camp. A fourth Palestinian died of suffocation as a result of tear gas in Hebron

"In another day of bloodshed, three Palestinians were reported to have died on 27 February in Halhul after clashes with the army, according to The New York Times of 28 February.

"According to The New York Times of 29 February and 1 March 1988, the latest violent incidents reported were an attack by armed settlers on an Arab village during the night of 27 February, during which two more Palestinians were shot to death, and a clash with the army in the village of Buruqin, near Nablus, during which an 18-year-old Palestinian was killed. Another Palestinian died of bullet wounds sustained in an earlier incident in Jenin.

"In view of the gravity of the incidents described above, the Committee wishes to reaffirm once again the applicability of the fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 to the occupied Palestinian territories and to appeal to all concerned to do their utmost to ensure the safety and protection of the Palestinian people under occupation.

"Further, the Committee wishes to reiterate its view that, as long as the Palestinian people is prevented from exercising its inalienable rights in accordance with internationally recognized principles and United Nations resolutions, a comprehensive, just and lasting peace will not be achieved in the region. The Committee remains convinced that positive action by the Security

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Council on its recommendations, and on the International Peace Conference on the Middle East in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/58 C, would advance prospects for a just and lasting settlement of the Palestine question, and reiterates its appeal for the intensification of efforts by all concerned to promote such a settlement.

"I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 37 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council."

- In a subsequent letter dated 30 March 1988 addressed to the Secretary-General, the Chairman of the Committee expressed the Committee's most serious concern at the escalation of the campaign of repression and violence by Israel against the entire Palestinian population in the occupied Palestinian territories. The letter read as follows:<sup>2/</sup>

"In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I wish to express the Committee's most serious concern at the escalation of the campaign of repression and violence by Israel against the entire Palestinian population in the occupied Palestinian territories. Events since my letter of 1 March 1988 (A/43/183-S/19562) show that Israeli authorities have greatly intensified their punitive measures and extended them to many areas of life, including bans on supplies of food, fuel oil and petrol, day and overnight curfews, cutting of international telephone links, stringent curbs on internal and foreign travel, a partial ban on exports of produce, and other economic as well as financial sanctions. Live ammunition continued to be used widely against demonstrators and thousands of Palestinians have been detained. The toll of Palestinians known to have been killed by Israeli gunfire, beatings and tear gas inhalation is at least 127 since the beginning of the uprising in early December. The most recent incidents are reported below.

"On 27 and 28 March, The New York Times reported that at least 7 Palestinians were killed by gunfire and 8 others wounded in two days. During the week of 20 to 25 March, Reuters and UPI reported the deaths of 9 Palestinians by gunfire, and the injuring of at least 43 others during clashes between demonstrators and the army. A week earlier 8 Palestinians were reportedly killed and 35 wounded by the army. According to an UNRWA press release on 18 March, another 165 were injured by beatings, including children aged 3 to 12.

"According to The New York Times of 28 March, Mr. Yitzhak Rabin, Defence Minister of Israel, told the Cabinet that the number of Palestinians detained by the army had reached 4,000, but Palestinians and foreign relief workers estimate that the number is much higher. It was reported that some 2,000 Palestinians have been detained during the last ten days. According to a Reuters dispatch on 22 March, the detentions are part of stringent new measures announced by Mr. Rabin, which included an easing of the rules allowing for administrative detention without charges or trial; the outlawing of the Shabiba (youth) movement; and allowing Israeli civilians to shoot at demonstrators who hurl firebombs.

"In addition, the imposition of a variety of economic measures was also announced. The amount of money that Palestinians crossing into the West Bank from Jordan are allowed to bring in was reduced to one fifth of the amount previously permitted. Bank accounts of Palestinian welfare organizations would be scrutinized to ascertain where the money came from and how it was being spent.

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"Reuters reported that forms of economic pressure have also included, since 20 March, a ban on West Bank food supplies, an overnight curfew in the Gaza Strip, the cutting of international telephone links and limits on travel by Palestinians between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The New York Times reported on 28 March that, in Gaza, vegetable markets and pharmacies were closed by the army and that electricity was cut off to the Deir el Balah refugee camp for the third day in a row.

"In view of demonstrations planned to mark Land Day on 30 March, the Israeli army, according to a report in The New York Times of 29 March, has now declared the entire West Bank and Gaza Strip closed military zones for three days, banning journalists and prohibiting Palestinians from travelling between the occupied territories and Israel. The Gaza Strip has been placed under curfew for the duration, meaning that more than 650,000 Palestinians are confined to their homes.

"In view of the gravity of the situation and the policies and practices of the Israeli authorities, the Committee wishes to reaffirm once again the applicability of the fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 to the occupied Palestinian territories and to appeal to all concerned to do their utmost to ensure the safety and protection of the Palestinian people under occupation.

"Further, the Committee is convinced that these repressive measures, which are aimed at preventing the Palestinian people from exercising its inalienable rights in accordance with internationally recognized principles and United Nations resolutions, pose grave obstacles to the attainment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region. The Committee reiterates its view that positive action by the Security Council on its recommendations, and on the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/58 C of 13 December 1983, would advance prospects for a just and lasting settlement of the Palestinian question, and reiterates its appeal for the intensification of efforts by all concerned to promote such a settlement.

"I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 37 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council."

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II. GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESUMES ITS CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE  
ACTION BY THE UNITED STATES TO CLOSE THE OBSERVER  
MISSION OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION

The General Assembly resumed its forty-second session on 29 February 1988, to consider the question of the possible closing of the New York offices of the United Nations Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). The General Assembly was resumed at the request of Bahrain, as Chairman of the Arab Group, Zimbabwe as Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, Kuwait, on behalf of the members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

The Assembly had before it a report by the Secretary-General (A/42/915 and Add.1).

The Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People took part in the debate on this issue and made the following statement:<sup>3/</sup>

"It is a great honour for me to address this resumed session of the General Assembly as representative of Senegal and Chairman of the African Group, and as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. We hope that the resumed session will be calm and fruitful and will deal with all due responsibility with a question of great significance to us, the closing of the Palestine Liberation Organization's Mission in New York.

"At the outset, I would say how greatly we value the Secretary-General's efforts, as described in his report contained in document A/42/915.

"The General Assembly, in adopting resolution 42/210 B of 17 December 1987 by 145 votes in favour and one against, an overwhelming majority, requested the host country to abide by its treaty obligations under the United Nations Headquarters Agreement and in this connection to refrain from taking any action that would prevent the

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discharge of the official functions of the Permanent Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to the United Nations.

"The virtually unanimous vote in favour of that resolution demonstrates the General Assembly's grave concern at non-compliance with the relevant provisions of the Headquarters Agreement. The proper functioning of the United Nations and its ability to fulfil its mandate under the Charter are at stake. Aside from the immediate problem of the proposed shutting of the PLO Observer Mission, many other questions arise as to the implications of this measure for the future of the Organization as a whole. Relations between the United Nations and the host country must be based not only on legal agreements but also on a willingness by the parties to live up to those agreements and to abide by the dispute-settlement procedure contained therein.

"The host country's adoption of the proposed legislation, in violation of the Headquarters Agreement, as reported in the Secretary-General's report (A/42/915), has caused considerable distress at the United Nations. In fact, it was only a matter of days after the General Assembly's adoption of resolution 42/210 B that the President of the United States signed and promulgated, on 22 December 1987, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act for the Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989, Title X of which, the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1987, includes a prohibition

'to establish or maintain an office, headquarters, premises or other facilities or establishments within the jurisdiction of the United States at the behest or direction of, or with funds provided by the PLO or any of its constituent groups, any successor to any of those or any agents thereof.'

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"We have noted with satisfaction the official position taken by the United States Department of State, which is that the United States is under an obligation to permit PLO Observer Mission personnel to enter and remain in the United States to carry out their official functions at the United Nations. However, we continue to be deeply disturbed by the fact that the United States Government has been unable to provide an assurance that the present arrangements for the PLO Observer Mission will not be curtailed or otherwise affected by the new legislation. Moreover, we are disturbed by the host country's continued unwillingness to enter formally into the dispute-settlement procedure set forth in section 21 of the Headquarters Agreement, as requested by the Secretary-General, that procedure clearly being the sole legal remedy available to the United Nations in this case. Under the new law, the PLO Observer Mission would be closed down on 21 March - three weeks from now - and yet, as I said a few moments ago, we still do not know whether the United States Government intends to apply the law or whether it is prepared to agree to the arbitration procedure stipulated in the Headquarters Agreement.

"As we all know, the PLO Observer Mission to the United Nations was established more than 13 years ago and has functioned unimpeded since that time, in keeping with the relevant provisions of the Headquarters Agreement, that is, with the assent of the United States Government. In resolution 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974 the General Assembly invited the PLO, with observer status, to take part in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly and all international conferences convened under the auspices of the General Assembly and other United Nations organs. Its presence here is the result of the will of the international community, which feels that the participation of the PLO, the representative of the Palestinian people, in all efforts, deliberations and conferences relating to the Middle East, is of fundamental importance to the

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solution of the question. The implementation by the United States Government of the law to which I have referred would therefore prevent the PLO from exercising its right, as recognized by the international community, to participate in the United Nations efforts to find a comprehensive and just settlement to the Palestinian question.

"Events in the occupied Palestinian territories since last December have made clear to everyone the tragic consequences of 20 years of Israeli military occupation and have shown that it is more than ever urgently necessary to move towards a comprehensive and lasting solution. In the opinion of the overwhelming majority at the United Nations, such a solution must be based on the recognition and exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and on the full participation of their legitimate representatives in any determination of its future.

"The moment has come to show greater political will and, above all, to resort to conciliation as well as to confidence-building measures. Besides being contrary to present-day realities and United Nations resolutions, any attempt to minimize the participation of the PLO in this process would result in heightened tension and impede progress towards a peaceful settlement of the questions of the Middle East and Palestine. Nor would it be in keeping with the noble tradition of the United States of America, which has always been to uphold the right to freedom of expression and association and the right of peoples to self-determination.

"We strongly urge the host country to provide the assurances requested by the Secretary-General with regard to the maintenance of present arrangements for the PLO Observer Mission and to take the necessary steps to defer the measures it has adopted against the PLO.

"If those steps are not taken quickly, the host country should agree to binding arbitration, as provided in section 21 of the Headquarters Agreement, for the

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settlement of disputes between the United Nations and the United States in respect to interpretation or implementation of the Agreement. Meanwhile, we give our unreserved support to certain proposals, among which is that the General Assembly request an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice to determine whether the legislation in question is compatible with the United Nations treaty obligations as host country. That opinion would guide the arbitral tribunal in its final decision. While awaiting such an advisory opinion from the Court, the host country would be under an obligation to take no steps to implement that law.

"It is clear to all here who have taken part over the years in the debates on the Middle East and the question of Palestine in the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and many other organs of the United Nations, including the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, that the representatives of the PLO have played a unique and irreplaceable role as the legitimate and sole spokesman of the Palestinian people. Their voice must be heard, and we must ensure that it is heard."

On 2 March 1988, the Assembly adopted the following resolutions:<sup>4/</sup>

42/229. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

A

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General of 10 and 25 February 1988, <sup>1/</sup>

Recalling its resolution 42/210 B of 17 December 1987,

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<sup>1/</sup> A/42/915 and Add.1

Reaffirming the applicability to the Permanent Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations in New York of the provisions of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, dated 26 June 1947, 2/

Having been apprised of the provisions of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989, which was signed on 22 December 1987, Title X of which establishes certain prohibitions regarding the Palestine Liberation Organization, inter alia, a prohibition "to establish or maintain an office, headquarters, premises, or other facilities or establishments within the jurisdiction of the United States at the behest or direction of, or with funds provided by the Palestine Liberation Organization or any of its constituent groups, any successor to any of those, or any agents thereof",

Bearing in mind that that provision takes effect on 21 March 1988,

Taking note of the position of the Secretary-General in which he concluded that a dispute existed between the United Nations and the United States of America concerning the interpretation or application of the Headquarters Agreement,

Noting that the Secretary-General invoked the dispute settlement procedure set out in section 21 of the Agreement and proposed that the negotiations phase of the procedure commence on 20 January 1988,

Noting also from the report of the Secretary-General of 10 February 1988 3/ that the United States was not in a position and was not willing to enter formally into the dispute settlement procedure under section 21 of the Headquarters Agreement, that the United States was still evaluating the situation, and that the Secretary-General had sought assurances that the present arrangements for the Permanent Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization would not be curtailed or otherwise affected,

Affirming that the United States of America, the host country, is under a legal obligation to enable the Permanent Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization to establish and maintain premises and adequate functional facilities and to enable the personnel of the Mission to enter and remain in the United States to carry out their official functions,

1. Supports the efforts of the Secretary-General and expresses its great appreciation for his reports;

2. Reaffirms that the Permanent Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations in New York is covered by the provisions of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations 2/ and that it should be enabled to establish and maintain premises and adequate functional facilities and that the personnel of the Mission should be enabled to enter and remain in the United States of America to carry out their official functions;

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2/ See resolution 169 (II).

3/ A/42/915.

3. Considers that the application of Title X of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989, in a manner inconsistent with paragraph 2 above would be contrary to the international legal obligations of the host country under the Headquarters Agreement;

4. Considers that a dispute exists between the United Nations and the United States of America, the host country, concerning the interpretation or application of the Headquarters Agreement, and that the dispute settlement procedure set out in section 21 of the Agreement should be set in operation;

5. Calls upon the host country to abide by its treaty obligations under the Agreement and to provide assurance that no action will be taken that would infringe on the current arrangements for the official functions of the Permanent Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations in New York;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to continue in his efforts in pursuance of the provisions of the Agreement, in particular section 21 thereof, and to report without delay to the Assembly;

7. Decides to keep the matter under active review.

104th plenary meeting  
2 March 1988

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 42/210 B of 17 December 1987 and bearing in mind its resolution 42/229 A above

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General of 10 and 25 February 1988, 1/

Affirming the position of the Secretary-General that a dispute exists between the United Nations and the host country concerning the interpretation or application of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, dated 26 June 1947, 2/ and noting his conclusions that attempts at amicable settlement were deadlocked and that he had invoked the arbitration procedure provided for in section 21 of the Agreement by nominating an arbitrator and requesting the host country to nominate its own arbitrator,

Bearing in mind the constraints of time that require the immediate implementation of the dispute settlement procedure in accordance with section 21 of the Agreement,

Noting from the report of the Secretary-General of 10 February 1988 3/ that the United States of America was not in a position and was not willing to enter formally into the dispute settlement procedure under section 21 of the Headquarters Agreement and that the United States was still evaluating the situation,

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Taking into account the provisions of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, in particular Articles 41 and 68 thereof,

Decides, in accordance with Article 96 of the Charter of the United Nations, to request the International Court of Justice, in pursuance of Article 65 of the Statute of the Court, for an advisory opinion on the following question, taking into account the time constraint:

In the light of facts reflected in the reports of the Secretary-General, 1/ is the United States of America, as a party to the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, 2/ under an obligation to enter into arbitration in accordance with section 21 of the Agreement?

104th plenary meeting  
2 March 1988

Resolution 42/229 A was adopted by 143 votes in favour to 1 against (Israel). The United States did not participate in the vote on this resolution.

Resolution 42/229 B was adopted by 143 votes in favour to none against. Israel and the United States did not participate in the vote.

The General Assembly again resumed its forty-second session on 18 March 1988, following the decision by the United States Government, the host country, to close the PLO Observer Mission. In a letter dated 11 March 1988, the Attorney General of the United States had informed the PLO Permanent Observer Mission that, as of 21 March 1988, maintaining the PLO Observer Mission to the United Nations in the United States would be unlawful. The Assembly had before it two additional reports by the Secretary-General (A/42/915/Add.2 and 3).

The Acting Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People took part in the debate of the resumed session and made the following statement:<sup>5/</sup>

" It is regrettable that the Assembly has had to meet for the second time in less than two weeks to consider the decision of the host country to shut the Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to the United Nations. Now, at a time when the situation in the occupied territories is

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worsening, now, when it is more urgent than ever before to reach a negotiated settlement, such a measure will be counter-productive and will jeopardize the cause of peace. More than 13 years ago, when General Assembly resolution 3237 (XXIX) was adopted, the Assembly invited the PLO to participate in the sessions and work of the General Assembly and in all international conferences convened under the auspices of the General Assembly. In resolution 3375 (XXX) the Assembly expressed its conviction that the invitation to the PLO, the representative of the Palestinian people, to participate in all efforts, deliberations and conferences on the Middle East, was essential for the solution of the question of Palestine, the crux of the conflict in the Middle East.

"That is the position of the overwhelming majority of the States Members of the United Nations, one that has repeatedly been reaffirmed in recent years. The magnitude and strength of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories has made it clear that that position is even more justified today than ever before. Therefore, to shut the Observer Mission of the PLO to the United Nations would be to deprive one of the parties to the conflict of the right to participate in United Nations efforts to bring about a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the question. Such a decision would further obstruct such efforts.

"Our Committee regrets this decision taken by the host country, in particular because of the statement made on 2 March by that country's representative in the General Assembly, in which he said that the Government of the United States

'will consider carefully the views expressed during this resumed session,'

(A/42/PV.104, p. 59)

and went on to state:

'It remains the intention of this Government to find an appropriate resolution of this problem in the light of the Charter of the United Nations, the Headquarters Agreement and the laws of the United States.' (Ibid.)

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As we know, every country that participated in the debate on this question expressed opposition to the proposed measure, considering it a violation of the Headquarters Agreement. They expressed their concern at the consequences such a decision might have for the future of the Organization and they urged the host country to respect the obligations it had undertaken under the Agreement. Resolution 42/229 A reaffirmed that the provisions of the Headquarters Agreement were applicable to the Observer Mission of the PLO and urged the host country to abide by the Agreement. That resolution was adopted by the overwhelming majority of 143 votes to 1.

"However, as is stated in the Secretary-General's report (A/42/915/Add.2), the Attorney-General of the United States has determined that he is required by the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1987 to close the office of the Permanent Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations

'irrespective of any obligations the United States may have under the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations.' (A/42/915/Add.2, para. 4)

The Attorney-General also informed the Secretary-General that his Government believed that

'submission of this matter to arbitration would not serve a useful purpose.'  
(Ibid.)

"In those circumstances, our Committee vigorously echoes the protest made by the Secretary-General in his report, and we sincerely thank him for, and support, the efforts he has made, as the main custodian of the Headquarters Agreement, to resolve this regrettable controversy.

"As has been repeatedly stated in the debate in the regular session and the resumed session, the host country's decision goes beyond the status of the Observer Mission of the PLO, threatening the independence and integrity of the Organization

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itself. Under the Headquarters Agreement, the Organization's legal status in the territory of the host country is defined. The Agreement allows the United Nations to carry out its functions and achieve its purposes without any interference, irrespective of any national interests or considerations of the host country. The Agreement is based on Articles 104 and 105 of the Charter, which governs the legal capacity and privileges and immunities of our Organization.

"By signing the Agreement the host country entered into a commitment to the entire international community. The decision of the United States Government unilaterally to modify the Headquarters Agreement, which is an international treaty, makes the Organization subject to domestic legislation, in violation of the general principles of international law. The measure is also a violation of the purposes and principles of the Organization and would obstruct its unimpeded functioning.

"On behalf of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I wish to reiterate our position, which is that the host country is obliged to respect fully and strictly the letter and spirit of the Agreement. Any dispute about its interpretation or applicability should be resolved through the arbitration machinery provided for in it. If either party feels that its rights are being violated and that a dispute exists, the other cannot simply cancel the procedures and deny the existence of the dispute. On the contrary, the dispute must be acknowledged and must be resolved through the procedures provided for in the Agreement.

"In the light of that clear obligation, which the representative of the host country has repeatedly recognized in the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, in the General Assembly and in other bodies, our Committee once again urges the Government of the host country to refrain from implementing the proposed measure and urgently to take steps to resolve the dispute through the machinery

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provided for in the Headquarters Agreement. We firmly believe that this question can and must be resolved amicably, avoiding a confrontation, which would only undermine the host country's international position, the Organization itself and, in the end, the cause of peace in the Middle East and the attainment of the purposes of the Charter, of which the host country was one of the principal architects."

On 23 March 1988, the Assembly adopted the following resolution 6/ by 148 votes in favour to 2 against (United States and Israel) with no abstentions:

42/230. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General of 11 and 16 March 1988, 1/

"Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and, in particular, the provisions of Chapter XVI,

"Recalling its resolutions 42/210 B of 17 December 1987 and 42/229 A and B of 2 March 1988,

"Recalling that the United Nations was created with the aim, inter alia, as defined in the Charter, "to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained",

"Recalling that the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, dated 26 June 1947, 2/ was drawn up in accordance with the Charter, in particular Articles 28 and 105 thereof,

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1/ A/42/915/Add.2 and 3.

2/ Resolution 169 (II).

"Concerned that the application to and enforcement against the Permanent Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations in New York of Title X of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989, would impede the realization of the aims of the United Nations,

"Expressing its appreciation to the International Court of Justice for having unanimously adopted an order on 9 March 1988 accelerating its procedure on the request submitted by the General Assembly for its advisory opinion on "the applicability of the obligation to arbitrate under section 21 of the United Nations Headquarters Agreement of 26 June 1947",

"Expressing grave concern about the attitude of the Government of the host country as expressed in the letter dated 11 March 1988 from the Acting Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the Secretary-General, 3/ which states, inter alia, that "the Attorney General of the United States has determined that he is required by the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1987 to close the office of the Palestine Liberation Organization Observer Mission to the United Nations in New York, irrespective of any obligations the United States may have under the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations",

"Expressing serious alarm at the warning contained in that letter that "if the PLO does not comply with the Act, the Attorney General will initiate legal action to close the PLO Observer Mission on or about March 21 1988",

"1. Strongly supports the position taken by the Secretary-General and expresses its great appreciation for his reports; 1/

"2. Reaffirms that the Permanent Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations in New York is covered by the provisions of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations 2/ and that the Palestine Liberation Organization has the right to establish and maintain premises and adequate functional facilities and that the personnel of the Mission should be enabled to enter and remain in the United States to carry out their official functions;

"3. Affirms the crucial importance of the Agreement and consequently the arrangements mentioned in paragraph 2 above concerning the functioning of the organs of the United Nations, including the General Assembly, at Headquarters in New York;

"4. Determines that the application to and enforcement against the Permanent Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations in New York of Title X of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989, is inconsistent with paragraph 2 above and is contrary to the international legal obligations of the host country under the Headquarters Agreement;

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3/ A/42/915/Add.2, annex I.

"5. Reaffirms that a dispute exists between the United Nations and the United States of America, the host country, concerning the interpretation or application of the Headquarters Agreement, and that the dispute settlement procedure provided for under section 21 of the Agreement, which constitutes the only legal remedy to solve the dispute, should be set in operation, and requests the host country to name its arbitrator to the arbitral tribunal;

"6. requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure the proper constitution of the arbitral tribunal provided for under section 21 of the Headquarters Agreement;

"7. Deplores the failure of the host country to comply with its obligations under the Headquarters Agreement;

"8. Urges the host country to abide by its international legal obligations and to desist from taking any action inconsistent with paragraph 2 above;

"9. Notes the fact that, within the text of its order, the International Court of Justice on 9 March 1988 took note of paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 42/229 A;

"10. Requests the Secretary-General to take adequate measures on a preliminary basis, if necessary, in order to ensure the discharge of the official functions of the Permanent Observer Mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations in New York;

"11. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly without delay on developments in this matter;

"12. Decides to keep the matter under active review."

109th plenary meeting  
23 March 1978

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### III. JOINT NORDIC STATEMENT ON THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden at their meeting at Tromsø, Norway, on 23 and 24 March 1988, discussed the situation in the Middle East and issued the following statement: Y/

At their meeting at Tromsø, Norway, on 23 and 24 March 1988, the Nordic Ministers for Foreign Affairs discussed the situation in the Middle East.

They expressed their deep regret and concern about the developments in the Israeli occupied territories. The Ministers rejected the Israeli occupation policy, which is in contravention of important principles of international and humanitarian law. The international community has an obligation to increase its assistance to those affected, and the Ministers called for increased contributions to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East activities in the occupied territories.

The Ministers reiterated their full support for the early convening of an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations, with the participation of all parties directly concerned, to deal with all aspects of the Middle East conflict. At such a conference the Palestinian people must be represented by those who enjoy their full confidence. They reiterated their strong appeal to all parties to promote a peaceful resolution of the conflict, and as soon as possible to enter into negotiations on the basis of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), and the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, with all that that involves.

It is a particular responsibility of the Government of Israel, as the occupying Power, to guarantee that the obligations concerning human rights and international law be complied with in the occupied territories. This applies especially to the provisions of the Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War as they relate to the occupied territories.

Pending a comprehensive and peaceful solution, the parties must break the vicious circle of violence. All must contribute towards an increased confidence between all parties.

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IV. PARAGRAPHS FROM THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE AND RESOLUTIONS  
ADOPTED ON THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE QUESTION  
OF PALESTINE BY THE SEVENTEENTH ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN  
MINISTERS, SESSION OF ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY WITH THE UPRISING  
OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, HELD AT AMMAN, HASHEMITE KINGDOM  
OF JORDAN, FROM 21 TO 25 MARCH 1988

The following paragraphs were adopted in the final communique on the situation in the Middle East and the question of Palestine:8/

The Conference hailed with pride the heroic uprising of the Palestinian Arab people against the heinous Israeli occupation forces in defence of their homeland and their inalienable national rights. It reaffirmed the unflinching stand of the Islamic States to support the Palestinian people in their ongoing struggle until the total withdrawal of Israeli enemy forces from all occupied Palestinian territories, including the Holy City of Al-Quds al-Sharif. The Conference reaffirmed its rejection of any partial and individual solutions that would disregard the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and would bypass the Palestine Liberation Organisation, their sole legitimate representative. The Conference condemned Israel's expansionist policy and continued occupation of Arab lands and denounced its coercive measures in violation of human rights as well as the imposition of an economic strangulation on the population to force them to end their courageous uprising. It deplored the policy of the United States of America of disregarding the Palestine Liberation Organization and for providing support to Israel. The Conference mandated the Secretary General to maintain contacts with the United Nations Secretary-General and with other regional and international organisations with a view to implementing Security Council resolutions 605 (1987), 607 (1988) and 608 (1988) and the application of the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War. The Conference also decided to set up committees for the support of Palestine throughout the Islamic world to express solidarity with the Palestinian people and to provide them with material and moral assistance; to request information institutions in Islamic States to intensify their coverage of news on the uprising in occupied Palestine; to mandate the General Secretariat and the Islamic States Broadcasting Organisation to draw up a special information programme on the Palestinian uprising; to promote an awareness of the jihad of the Palestinian people; to exert all possible efforts with official and information quarters in non-member countries to denounce racist Israeli crimes; to organize an international campaign of opinion to condemn Israel and expose its practices and designs.

The Conference affirmed the necessity of exerting intensive efforts by its members to force Israel to respect United Nations resolutions aimed at the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East on the basis of full Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including Al-Quds al-Sharif, and the guaranteeing of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab peoples, including their right to return, self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian State on their national soil, with Al-Quds as their capital, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, their sole legitimate representative.

The Conference reaffirmed its previous resolutions, including the most recent resolutions adopted by the Fifth Islamic Summit in Kuwait, that the Palestine Liberation Organization is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, which possesses the exclusive right to represent them and to participate, on their behalf, independently and on an equal footing, in all conferences and activities relating to the question of Palestine.

The Conference stressed the need for sustained efforts in order to establish a just and comprehensive peace through the convening of an effective International Conference on Peace in the Middle East vested with powers under the aegis of the United Nations to be conveyed by the United Nations Secretary-General and to be held with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council and all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, on an equal footing with the other parties concerned, this being the appropriate approach for achieving a peaceful, comprehensive and just settlement that guarantees the recovery of the occupied Palestinian and the Arab territories and the solution of the Palestinian question in all its aspects and safeguards the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people.

The Conference adopted a resolution reaffirming that the Israeli decision to annex the occupied Syrian Arab Golan and to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration is illegal, null and void and constitutes a flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions and the principles of international law. It condemned Israeli efforts to change the legal status of the occupied Golan Heights, its demographic composition and structure. It called for the imposition of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against Israel to force Israel to rescind its decision.

The Conference saluted with admiration and pride the Arab people in Palestine, the Golan and South Lebanon for their heroic and valiant resistance inside the Arab occupied territories. It expressed appreciation to all peace-loving people. Governments, international bodies, organizations and personalities who have condemned the terroristic and oppressive Israeli measures and have exposed such measures before world public opinion. The Conference expressed appreciation for the support afforded by the Islamic States to the struggle and also called for encouraging popular initiatives designed to provide assistance to the struggle and extend its scope. It condemned any attempt at containing, aborting and halting the uprising in order to introduce partial and defeatist solutions and requested the Security Council to shoulder its full responsibility in respect of the violations by the Israeli occupationist authorities of the Geneva Convention of 1949 and their persistence in committing war crimes such as murder, torture, inhuman treatment, exile, deportation, detention, expulsion and displacement of Arab citizens. The Conference requested the General Secretariat to monitor and follow up the serious violations committed by the Israeli occupation authorities, which constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity, and bring them to the attention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in order that reports on them are circulated as documents of the General Assembly.

The Conference condemned the Israeli enemy's continued occupation of Lebanese territory and the inhuman practices in the occupied territories, including terrorism and forced emigration in order eventually to annex these territories. It

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paid tribute to the national Lebanese resistance against the Israeli enemy in southern Lebanon and in the western Beq'aa and called upon the United Nations to compel Israel to implement Security Council resolutions regarding the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territory to internationally recognized borders and respect for Lebanon's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Conference condemned the agreement concluded between the United States and Israel on strategic alliance in November 1981, and the unlimited United States supplies of sophisticated weaponry and equipment to the Zionist entity. The Conference considered that this alliance has strengthened the aggressive nature of the Tel Aviv expansionist régime and hinders efforts aimed at bringing about a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, in addition to constituting a threat to the security of Islamic countries.

The Conference denounced the decision taken by the United States to close both the Palestine Liberation Organization Information Office in Washington and the office of its Observer Mission to the United Nations in New York, which was an effort to deprive the Palestinian people of their legitimate right to submit, through the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative, their just cause to the international community. The Conference also considered the decision to be a blatant violation of the Headquarters Agreement signed between the United States and the United Nations. The Conference expressed support for the efforts of the United Nations Secretary-General to ensure compliance of the Headquarters Agreement by the United States in order to prevent the closing of the Palestine Liberation Organization Office in New York.

The Conference declared that Israel is not a peace-loving State and it has reneged on its commitments set forth in General Assembly resolution 273 (III) of 11 May 1949 by virtue of which it became a member of the United Nations. It emphasized the need to reject the credentials submitted by the Israeli delegation to attend the various sessions of the United Nations General Assembly.

The Conference expressed deep concern at Israeli nuclear armament, which poses a threat to the security of the region and called upon the international community to condemn Israel for refusing to accede to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, to abandon its policy of possessing nuclear weapons and for consistently refusing to implement the United Nations Security Council resolution 484 (1981) and the resolutions of the General Assembly and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) calling upon it to subject all of its nuclear installations to IAEA safeguards. The Conference condemned the collusion between Israel and South Africa in the sphere of nuclear armament and reaffirmed the determination of member States to continue their co-operation at all international forums to compel Israel to abide by international resolutions. It requested the Conference on Disarmament to speed up the conclusion of an international convention on banning military acts of aggression against existing nuclear installations.

The Conference regretted the resumption, by some States, of their diplomatic relations with the Zionist enemy as being contrary to the resolutions of the Islamic Conference and those of the Council of Ministers of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). It requested States that had resumed their diplomatic relations with the Zionist enemy to reconsider their decision. Similarly, it appealed to States that intend to resume or establish diplomatic relations with the Zionist enemy to reconsider their position.

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The Conference decided to maintain co-operation and co-ordination between the military commands of the Islamic States and the Palestine Liberation Organization with a view to supporting the holy jihad and the just struggle of the Palestinian people to free their occupied homeland and to liberate the holy Mosque of Al-Aqsa and the holy city of Al-Quds.

The Conference called upon the member States to enforce the provisions of Islamic boycott of the Israeli enemy and to endorse the principles of boycott.

The Conference endorsed the plans and programmes of the Islamic Expert Committee on ways of countering the dangers of Zionist colonialist settlement in Palestine and to enable the Palestinian people to remain steadfast on the soil of their occupied homeland and to recover their inalienable national rights.

The Conference decided to support and strengthen the efforts made by the Committee on Monitoring the Moves of the Zionist Enemy, in implementation of its approved plans and programmes to counteract the attempts of the Zionist enemy to break out of its isolation.

The Conference called upon all the Islamic States to assist in reaching the target of the capital of the Al-Quds Fund and its yaqf, amounting to 100 million dollars respectively, and requested them to settle their statutory contributions to the Fund and the yaqf.

The Conference decided that all Islamic States should continue to issue the Palestinian stamp on a permanent basis as long as the question of Palestine and the Holy City of Al-Quds remains unresolved and to remit the proceeds to the Palestinian Welfare Society.

The Conference decided that the unified course in the history and geography of Palestine should be taught as a mandatory subject at all levels of school education in all Islamic States.

The Conference affirmed its commitment to implement the Islamic Programme of Action to Confront the Zionist Enemy adopted by the Third Islamic Summit and to consider the question of Palestine and Al-Quds al-Sharif as the paramount cause of Islam and the Muslims. It condemned the crimes perpetrated by the Israeli occupation authorities and their continuous aggression against the holy places, particularly the holy Al-Aqsa Mosque. It reaffirmed its determination to preserve the Islamic and Arab character of the city of Al-Quds al-Sharif and to restore it to Arab sovereignty. The Conference rejected the Israeli decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the city of Al-Quds al-Sharif and to consider the decision as illegal, null and void. It praised the stand taken by the Holy See on the issue of Al-Quds al-Sharif and called upon member States to maintain contacts with the Holy See and other Christian religious institutions in order to adopt a unified Islamic-Christian stand on Al-Quds al-Sharif. It called upon the member States to promote public awareness of the question of Al-Quds al-Sharif and Palestine, specially in the United States and Western Europe. It also called on member States to declare twinning of their capitals with Al-Quds al-Sharif; the capital of Palestine, in order to enhance Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people.

The Conference called upon all member States to commit themselves to the implementation of all decisions and recommendations of the Al-Quds Committee, including those adopted at its extraordinary session held at Ifrane, Kingdom of Morocco, on 5 January 1988.

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The following resolutions were adopted on the situation in the Middle East and the question of Palestine:

RESOLUTION  
ON THE PALESTINE QUESTION AND THE  
ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban 1408H (21-25 March 1988),

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

Reaffirming the resolutions of the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference held in Kuwait from 26 to 29 January 1987;

Welcoming with appreciation the resolutions of the Extraordinary Arab Summit Conference held in Amman from 8 to 11/11/1987 on the Arab-Israeli Conflict, the International Conference on Peace in the Middle East and the increasing consensus of international opinion for the convening of the International Peace Conference to find a solution to the conflict in the Middle East and the core of the conflict which is the Palestinian question, in all its aspects;

Considering that the foregoing resolutions have emphasized that the PLO is the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people and that it has, alone, the right to represent them and attend on its behalf independently and on an equal footing all the Conferences and participate in all activities connected with the question of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict, so as to ensure that the solution reached would be just, comprehensive and acceptable and in order to secure the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people;

Calling for the sustained enhancement of Islamic Solidarity and the unswerving commitment of the Islamic States to stand together in support of the just struggle of the Arab people in Palestine, the Golan and South Lebanon;

Emphasizing that the Palestine Question is the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and that the Zionist enemy's continuing occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories and its refusal to withdraw from them, its annexation of

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Al-Quds Al-Sharif, declaring it to be its unified permanent capital, its annexation of the Occupied Syrian Arab Golan and denial of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people constitute a flagrant violation of the principles of international law, the UN Charter and the relevant UN resolutions, as well as international legitimacy;

Noting with deep concern the Zionist enemy's persistence in pursuing a policy of racism and expansionism and in escalating its acts of terrorism and repression against Arab civilians in the occupied territories;

Expressing full solidarity with the general popular uprising of the Arab people in the occupied Arab territories, and in their valiant confrontation with, and resistance to, Zionist racist and terrorist violence;

Emphasizing that the danger of Zionist aggression and expansionism threatens not only the Arab frontline States, but also the peoples and countries of the region, as well as international peace and security;

Noting that the Zionist enemy, in coordination and cooperation with world imperialism, is seeking to destabilize the Islamic States and threaten their independence;

Taking into consideration the new elements brought about by the Palestinian uprising on the international scene, which have generated the necessary momentum to end the Israeli occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories, foremost of which is Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and achieve a just, lasting, comprehensive and peaceful settlement to the conflict;

Declaring its support for the UN General Assembly resolutions 42/209-A of 11/12/1987 and 42/66-D of 2/12/1987 on the convening of an International Conference on Peace in the Middle East;

Reiterating the principle of strengthening Islamic solidarity with the people of Palestine, and the firm commitment of the Islamic States to implement all the resolutions adopted on the Palestine question and the Middle East conflict;

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1) Salutes with pride and admiration the Arab people in Palestine, the Golan and Southern Lebanon, for their valiant-steadfastness and unflagging resistance, which aim at putting an end to Israeli occupation.

2) Stresses the need for the Islamic States to exert intensive efforts to compel Israel to heed the United Nations resolutions which aim at establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region on the basis of total Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and at securing the inalienable national rights of the Arab Palestinian people, including their right to return, to self-determination and to the establishment of their independent Palestinian State on their national soil with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as Capital and under the leadership of the PLO, their legitimate and sole representative.

3) Stresses the need to mobilize all the potential and means of the OIC Member States in order to increase the capacity and potential of the PLO and the frontline States, at all levels, in support of their legitimate struggle to liberate their land and recover their usurped rights.

4) Denounces the policy of the United States Administration which continues to deny the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, to ignore the PLO, their legitimate and sole representative, and refuse to deal with it as a main party to the Arab-Israeli conflict, and continue to extend unlimited support to the Zionist enemy in its occupation of the Palestinian and other Arab territories including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, thus encouraging Israel to persist in its aggressive expansionist policy and to consolidate its occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories; it denounces the use by the U.S.A. of its right of veto to prevent the adoption by the UN Security Council, of some resolutions on the question of Palestine and the Middle East, in contradiction with its responsibility as a superpower responsible for maintaining international peace and security.

5) Reiterates the commitment of Member States to intensify their efforts and coordinate their stand in all

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international fora with a view to increasing world cooperation to liquidate all forms of racism, racial discrimination, apartheid and zionism in Palestine and South Africa.

6) Emphasizes that the Al-Quds Al-Sharif forms an integral part of the occupied Palestinian territories and that the Zionist enemy must withdraw from it totally and unconditionally and return it to Arab sovereignty.

7) Calls upon Member States to refrain from establishing any form of direct or indirect diplomatic, consular, military, economic or cultural relations with Israel and urges those Member States that still maintain any form of such relations, at any level, to sever them.

8) Reiterates that the establishment of Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and the constant confiscation of land, and appropriation of water sources are null and void and are a violation of the principles of international law, concerning armed occupation, in particular, the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians in Times of War.

9) Emphasizes its rejection of any partial or separate solutions that do not fulfil the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, by-pass the PLO, their legitimate and sole representative, and do not guarantee complete Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

10) Stresses the need for sustained efforts in order to establish a just and comprehensive peace through the convening of an effective and fully empowered International Conference on Peace in the Middle East under the aegis of the U.N. to be conveyed by the U.N. Secretary-General and to be held with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council and all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the PLO, the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people, on an equal footing with the other parties concerned, this being the appropriate approach for achieving a peaceful, comprehensive and just settlement that guarantees the recovery of the

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occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and the solution of the Palestinian question in all its aspects, and safeguards the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people.

11) Decides to pursue its action by all ways and means in order to explain the Arab Peace Plan for solving the question of Palestine and the Middle East and enlisting international support for its implementation, the plan which was approved by the Twelfth Arab Summit Conference at Fez in 1982, and endorsed by the Islamic Summit at Casablanca, and which was reaffirmed by the Extraordinary Arab Summit held in Amman in November 1987, which laid down its framework.

12) Decides to maintain contacts with the European community so that the latter may further develop its recent positive stand, implement its previous resolutions on the question of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict, and deal with the PLO so as to secure the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, in accordance with the United Nations resolutions.

13) Expresses appreciation of the stand taken by the international community at political and information levels in support of Arab rights, and in condemnation of Israel's repressive policies and practices in the occupied territories; it also salutes the stand of the African States which oppose Israeli attempts at infiltrating into Africa.

14) Expresses appreciation of the constructive efforts of the UN Secretary General to bring about a peaceful settlement of the Middle East conflict and the Palestine question and views favourably the contents of his report included in Document (S/19442) of 21/1/1988, which was submitted to the Security Council in accordance with Resolution 605.

15) Condemns Israel for its failure to comply with the resolutions of the UN Security Council and General Assembly on Israel's decision to annex the Golan Heights, applying its laws and extending its jurisdiction thereon, and reiterates that this decision is illegal and therefore illegitimate, null and void and has no legal effects whatsoever, and that it is an act of aggression, according to the provisions of the UN Charter and resolutions.

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16) Reaffirms its determination to safeguard the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon as well as the unity of its people and institutions, ensure the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all the Lebanese territory and guarantee to Lebanon its full sovereignty over all of its territory and all national fields of action; salutes the steadfastness of the valiant people of Lebanon in their unwavering opposition to the Zionist occupation forces and their heroic national resistance to the Israeli invading forces in South Lebanon.

17) Expresses gratitude to the Committee for the practice of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, chaired by Senegal through its Permanent representative, for the Committee's efforts to fulfil the tasks entrusted to by the UN General Assembly.

18) Requests the General Secretariat to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a progress report thereon to the Eighteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

RESOLUTION  
ON THE  
UPRISING OF THE PALESTINIAN ARAB PEOPLE IN  
OCCUPIED PALESTINE

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan from 3 to 7 Sha'ban 1408H (21-25 March, 1988),

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the OIC and the relevant resolutions adopted by Islamic Summit and Ministerial Conferences;

Stressing anew the principle of enhancing Islamic solidarity with the people of Palestine by supporting their cause and their blessed heroic uprising;

Noting that the convening of the Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers coincides with the 20th anniversary of the battle of Karama;

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Referring to the resolutions adopted by the U.N. General Assembly and Security Council on the situation prevailing in the Occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, particularly UN Security Council Resolutions 605 (1987) and 607 and 608 (1988);

Taking into consideration that the provisions of the Geneva Convention on the protection of civilian persons in time of war concluded in August, 1949 apply to the Palestinian people in the Palestinian and Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

Expressing its deep concern over the serious condition currently prevailing in the Palestinian and Arab territories due to the continued Israeli occupation, Israel's arbitrary practices, coercive measures, the perpetual confiscation of Arab land and property on which new settlements are built, the imposition of collective sanctions on the population, the desecration of the sanctity of Islamic and Christian Holy places and attacks, with toxic gas bombs, against people at prayer;

Expressing its total solidarity with the uprising of the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and with their heroic countering of and resistance to the Israeli occupation authorities and the illegal measures and violations perpetrated by these authorities;

Hailing the increasing international support to the uprising of Palestinian Arab people in their homeland, Palestine, and commending the UN Secretary General for his report contained in document No. 19444/S issued on 21 January, 1988, and submitted to the Security Council in accordance with Resolution 605 of 1987;

1) Decides to call this session of the Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers "the Session of Islamic Solidarity with the Palestinian people", as a tribute to their uprising in occupied Palestine.

2) Hails with great pride and esteem the Palestinian Arab people and their sweeping heroic uprising, which they are still waging against the heinous Israeli occupation forces, on every inch of the hallowed Palestinian soil, in defence of their homeland, Palestine, and their inalienable national rights, and commend their national unity.

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3) Affirms the unflinching stand of the Islamic States by the side of the Palestinian people in their ongoing Jihad and blessed uprising, until the total withdrawal of the Israeli enemy forces from all the Palestinian territories, including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, is secured, and the Palestinian people can exercise their inalienable national rights through an international conference; urges Member States to commit themselves to the consolidation of the uprising of the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied Palestinian territories, materially, morally and politically, so that they may pursue their uprising and struggle, until an end is put to the tyrannical Israeli occupation, and they recover their homeland, Palestine, primarily Al-Quds Al-Sharif and exercise their national rights.

4) Affirms its rejection of any partial or individual solution that disregards the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and seeks to abort their uprising and ignore the Palestine Liberation Organization, their sole legitimate representative.

5) Condemns Israel's expansionist policy and continued occupation, and denounce its coercive practices, its violation of human rights and international humanitarian norms, the confiscation of land and property and the establishment of settlers' colonies, as well as its imposition of an "economic stranglehold" on the population to force them to end their courageous uprising and accept the policy of fait accompli founded on occupation, annexation and denial of the national rights of the Palestinian people.

6) Denounces the United States of America for disregarding the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and refusing to deal with it as a basic party to the Arab-Israeli conflict and for providing sustained support to Israel; urges all nations to see to it that the USA refrains from providing any support to Israel that can entrench its repressive policies and practices against the Palestinian people in the Palestine occupied territories; warns the USA not to disregard the real significance of the uprising of the Palestinian Arab people who firmly adhere to their inalienable national rights and to adopt just and balanced policies that can lead to a just and comprehensive solution in the Middle East.

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7) Mandates the OIC Secretary General, to maintain his contacts with the U.N. Secretary General, the regional and international organizations and all other international groups and coordinate with them with a view to implementing Security Council Resolution 605, 607 and 608 in order to secure to the Palestinian people an international protection and the application of the provisions of the 4th Geneva Convention of 1949 relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War.

8) In order to maintain support to the Palestinian people and their blessed uprising, the Conference decides:

a) To set up "Backing Palestine" Committees throughout the Islamic world to express solidarity with the Palestinian people and provide them with material and moral assistance so that they may consolidate their revolution and pursue their uprising until they liberate their homeland and exercise their right to self-determination.

b) To call upon all Member States to continue to provide the Palestinian people in occupied Palestine with all forms of urgent and effective official and popular support, through available channels, and in coordination with the PLO, their sole legitimate Representative, so that they may pursue their legitimate struggle and vindicate their gallant uprising.

c) To request information institutions and publishing homes in Islamic States to continue intensify their coverage of news on the popular uprising in occupied Palestine and comment thereon with a view to promoting the awareness of international and Islamic public opinion in this connection, and acquainting them with the real conditions obtaining in occupied Palestine.

d) To mandate the General Secretariat and ISBO, in coordination with the PLO Information Department, to draw up a special information programme on the cause of the Palestinian uprising and its developments, in the interest of its national and Islamic objectives.

e) To request Muslim Ulemas and preachers of the Friday Khutbah throughout the Islamic world to promote an awareness of the Jihad of the Palestinian people and their heroic uprising within occupied Palestine, and consider the first Friday of the Holy month of Ramadan the day of solidarity with the uprising of the Palestinian people.

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9) To request the Council of Ambassadors of Islamic States in the capitals of the world, in particular those capitals on which the Israeli enemy still relies for its supply of weapons for aggression against the Palestinian people and the Arab nation, to exert all possible efforts with official and information quarters so that they may continue to express their solidarity with the Palestinian people, denounce the racist Israeli crimes and call for their cessation.

10) To welcome the growing international support to the uprising to the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied Palestinian territories, viewed as a legitimate action within the context of the Palestinian struggle against Israeli occupation.

11) To welcome the interest taken in the uprising by the world information media and organize an extensive international information campaign in order to isolate Israel at world level and expose its practices, action and schemes; to reaffirm the national inalienable rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including their right to return to their homes, their right to self-determination and their right to establish their independent Palestinian State on their national soil, with Al-Quds as their capital, under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

12) To express its thanks and appreciation to all States, international bodies and groups that declared their solidarity with the Palestinian people and their blessed uprising, and denounced the brutal Israeli crimes, exposing them overtly and officially to world public opinion.

13) To express its thanks and appreciation to all popular forces institutions and organizations, to individuals and information media who raised their voice in condemnation of Israeli crimes against the Palestinian people, and in support of their heroic uprising and inalienable national rights.

14) To keep the issue under consideration and request the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution.

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RESOLUTION  
ON THE  
CRITICAL CONDITIONS OF THE ARAB PEOPLE IN THE OCCUPIED  
PALESTINE AND ARAB TERRITORIES

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, meeting in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban 1408H (21-25 March 1988),

Having examined the critical conditions resulting from the continued Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories, the Syrian Arab Golan and Southern Lebanon; the developments consequent upon the heroic uprising of the Arab people in Palestine; and the valiant resistance and continued steadfastness of the Arab citizens in the Golan and South Lebanon; and the killings, torture, and other suppressive measures to which they are subjected at the hands of the Israeli occupation authorities in violation of international practices and conventions;

Expressing firm support for the uprising of the Arab people in Palestine, the Golan and South Lebanon, and their valiant confrontation with, and resistance to, Zionist racist terrorist violence against their lives, their sanctities, and their possessions;

Determined to enable the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied Arab territories to pursue their struggle and exercise their legitimate right to resist terrorism and Zionist racist violence with a view to putting an end to occupation and recover their and inalienable national rights;

Reaffirming the unity of the struggle waged by the Arab people in Palestine, the Golan and Southern Lebanon against Israeli occupation;

Referring to Article One of the Geneva Convention of 1949 on the Protection of Civilians in Times of War and under which the high-level contracting parties undertake to respect, and guarantee the respect of the provisions of this Convention under all circumstances;

1. Salutes with admiration and pride the Arab people in Palestine, the Golan and South Lebanon in their heroic and galant resistance inside the occupied Arab territories and their opposition with all available means to the Israeli acts of repression and genocide.

2. Expresses its appreciation to all the peace-loving peoples, governments, international bodies and organisations, and personalities that have promptly condemned the Israeli terrorist oppressive measures and exposed such measures before world public opinion, and calls upon them to continue and intensify such condemnation and to bring pressure to bear on the Israeli occupation authorities to halt these suppressive practices.

3. Requests that Islamic Popular forces be mobilized to rally round the legitimate struggle of the Arab people under occupation and that all forms of support be extended to them in their struggle, and expresses appreciation of the support afforded by the Islamic States and masses for that struggle. Also calls for encouraging any popular initiatives designed to provide assistance and extend its scope.

4. Requests Member States to launch an intensive information campaign at international level, in order to further isolate the Zionist racist entity internationally, condemn its terrorist practices, expose its acts of genocide and war crimes, and to reaffirm the right of the Arab Palestinian people to defend their land and their inalienable national rights and to counteract the attempts of Zionist media at dividing the Palestinian people into those living inside Palestine and those living outside it, and at tearing their national unity apart

5. Exposes and condemns any attempts or initiatives aiming at containing, aborting and halting the uprising in order to introduce partial and defeatist solutions.

6. Requests the Security Council to shoulder its full responsibilities in respect of the violations, by the Israeli occupation authorities, of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, their persistence in committing the war crimes referred to in Articles (49) and (147) such as murder, torture, inhuman treatment, exile, deportation, detention,

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expulsion and displacement of Arab citizens from their homes, and stabilizing settlers' colonies. Compliance with these two articles is the responsibility of all parties to the Convention. Likewise, it is the responsibility of the international community, to force the occupation authorities to immediately put an end to such acts and practices and to ensure the return of deportees to their homes, in implementation of the relevant resolutions of the Security Council.

7. Requests the OIC General Secretariat to monitor and follow up the serious violations committed by the Israeli occupation authorities in occupied Palestine and Arab territories, which constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity; and to submit report thereon to the UN Secretary General, for circulation as documents of the UN General Assembly and Security Council to all governmental and non-governmental international organisations concerned.

8. Requests the OIC Secretary General to submit to the Member States of the Organisation periodical reports on the implementation of this resolution.

RESOLUTION  
ON THE  
MONITORING OF THE MOVES OF THE ZIONIST ENEMY

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3-7 Sha'ban 1408H (21-25 March, 1988),

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

Affirming the principles of Strengthening Islamic Solidarity with the people of Palestine and their blessed uprising;

Noting the efforts exerted for the monitoring of the moves of the Zionist Enemy, and the effective ways and means proposed to vindicate the Palestinian people and establishing them to exercise their inalienable national rights on the soil of their homeland, Palestine;

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Aware of the importance of the plans and programmes proposed by the Committee to counteract the attempts and moves of the Zionist enemy to break out of its isolation and put an end to its ongoing denunciation at international fora and by world public opinion;

Also aware of the importance of exposing the Zionist enemy's constant violations of divine tenets, international law and human norms, as well as exposing its criminal practices and terrorist methods against Palestinians and their right to exist;

Referring to all relevant Islamic resolutions;

DECIDES:

To support and strengthen the efforts made by the Committee to follow up and implement its approved plan of action.

RESOLUTION

ON THE

DECISION TAKEN BY THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION TO CLOSE  
THE OFFICE OF THE PLO OFFICIAL MISSION TO THE U.N.  
IN NEW YORK

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The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban, 1408H (21-25 March 1988),

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

Emphasizing the principle of Islamic solidarity with the blessed uprising of the Palestinian people;

Reaffirming that the question of Palestine and of the Al-Quds Al-Sharif are the paramount cause of Islam, and that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people;

Expressing its high appreciation to all the countries of the world which recently made statement at the United Nations General Assembly rejecting the decision of the US Administration to close the Office of the PLO official

mission to the UN, in New York, by 21 March 1988, at the latest;

Expressing its deep appreciation to the UN Secretary General for taking all legal measures and stands to ensure compliance with the Headquarters agreement, including recourse to international arbitration;

1) Denounces the decision taken by the United States to close both the PLO Information Office in Washington D.C. and the Office of the PLO Official Mission to the UN in New York.

2) Considers the decision of the U.S. Administration a flagrant challenge levelled at the Palestinian people and their inalienable national rights as well as an attempt to deprive them of their natural and legitimate right to submit, through the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, their just cause to the international community.

3) Considers this decision a blatant violation of the Headquarters Agreement signed in 1947 by the US and the UN and an impediment to the ability of the UN of carrying out its functions.

4) Supports the efforts made by the UN Secretary General to implement General Assembly resolutions that call for compliance with the Headquarters Agreement in order to prevent the closing of the PLO Office in New York and enable the Organization to perform its official duties in its capacity as permanent observer to the U.N.

RESOLUTION

ON THE

STATES WHO DECIDED TO RESUME OR ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC  
RELATIONS WITH THE ZIONIST ENEMY AND THE STATES  
THAT STILL MAINTAIN RELATIONS WITH IT

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban 1408H (21-25 March 1988),

Inspired by the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference;

Recalling the resolutions of previous Islamic Conferences which reaffirm the commitment of Member States to sever all diplomatic, economic, military, cultural and other direct and indirect relations with the Zionist enemy;

Recalling again that the maintenance or resumption of diplomatic, economic, military, cultural or other relations with the Zionist enemy contributes to the continuing usurpation of Palestine and the inalienable national rights of its people;

Calling attention to the resolution No. 3379 (D.30) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 10 November, 1975 which affirms that Zionism is a form of racial discrimination;

Recalling Resolution No. 21 of the OAU Council of Ministers adopted at its Second Extraordinary Session held in Addis Ababa from 19 to 21 November recommending to the Member States of the OAU to maintain the severance of relations with the Zionist enemy;

Recalling Resolution No. 8/15-P of the Fifteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on checking the Zionist attempt to break through their isolation;

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Recalling resolution 1057 (1986) of the Twenty-second Summit Conference of the Organisation of African Unity and resolution 1085 (D-45) of the OAU Council of Ministers held in Addis Ababa from 23 to 28 March 1987, which recommended the Member States to renew their adherence to the principle of non-establishment or resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel;

Having discussed the latest development concerning the resumption by some Member State governments of their diplomatic relations with the Zionist enemy, a fact that contributes to ending its isolation and strengthens its ability to persist in its repressive, settlers colonialist and expansionist practices and policies;

1. Regrets the resumption by some States of their diplomatic relations with the Zionist enemy, as this action is contrary to the resolutions of Islamic Conferences, and those of the OAU Council of Ministers, and is considered to be a hostile act towards the Arab nation and Islamic Ummah;
2. Requests to the States that resumed their diplomatic relations with the Zionist enemy to reconsider their position.
3. Appeals to the States that intend to resume or establish diplomatic relations with the Zionist enemy to reconsider their position in order to avoid any negative consequences that might occur in their relations with the Arab and Islamic States.
4. Urges the Member States that maintain diplomatic or other relations with the Zionist enemy to abide by their commitment to the relevant resolutions of Islamic Conferences.

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RESOLUTION  
ON THE  
TEACHING OF A "HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY OF PALESTINE COURSE"  
IN ALL THE SCHOOLS OF ISLAMIC STATES

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The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban 1408H, (21-25 March 1988),

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter;

Stressing the principle of strengthening Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people and their auspicious uprising;

Expressing appreciation for the intensive efforts made by the Committee of Experts on Education in preparing a unified course in the History and Geography of Palestine to be taught at all levels of school education in all Islamic States;

Recognizing the importance of informing the rising generations of the Islamic Ummah of the nature of the long historic struggle of the Palestinian people and their Arab nation and Islamic Ummah against the Zionist enemy and all those who both support and protect him, to secure and protect the eternal rights of the Islamic Ummah in Al-Aqsa Mosque, Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and usurped Palestine, and to fulfil the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, particularly their right to return to their homeland, Palestine, their right to self-determination, and to establish, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, their sole legitimate representative, their independent national state, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital;

Invoking all the Islamic resolutions adopted in this regard;

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DECIDES

1. That the unified course in the History and Geography of Palestine be taught as a mandatory subject at all levels of school education in all Islamic States as of the next school year 1988-1989.

2. That the Islamic States be invited, together with all the institutions concerned, all charitable establishments, universities and the Islamic Development Bank in Jeddah, to participate generously in covering the cost of printing the official curriculum text-books in the local and official languages of the non-Arabic speaking Islamic States which shall be specified by the Islamic Committee of Experts on Education.

RESOLUTION

ON THE

ISLAMIC OFFICE FOR THE BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, meeting in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban 1408 (21-25 March, 1988),

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter;

Reaffirming the principle of strengthening Islamic Solidarity with Palestinian people and their glorious uprising.

Expressing its highest appreciation to the Islamic States which established local offices for the Boycott of Israel;

Lauding the excellent efforts exerted by the Main Arab Boycott Bureau, and its effective participation in the action and activities of the Main Islamic Office for the Boycott of Israel;

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Convinced that Islamic boycott is an effective method, a legitimate weapon and one of the sovereign rights exercised by Islamic State against the Zionist enemy and against all those who support and protect him, in pursuance, of their right to protect their national interests and defend their just causes, primarily the question of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif,

Considering all relevant Islamic resolutions;

1. Calls upon all Member States to be fully committed to enforce the provisions of Islamic boycott of the Israeli enemy and endorse the general principles of boycott, the unified Islamic law, the statutes of Boycott Bureaus and their periodical meetings, and to consider them as part of national laws currently in force;
2. Calls on Islamic States which have not yet established local Boycott Offices do so, and appoint office directors who would liaise with the Main Islamic Office for the Boycott of Israel, at the General Secretariat in Jeddah;
3. Decides that the Arab Boycott Bureau be considered as a local Islamic office and its directors as liaison officers with the Main Islamic Office for the Boycott of Israel;
4. Decides to endorse the conclusions of the Third Meeting of the Directors of Regional Islamic offices (Liaison Officers).

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RESOLUTION  
ON THE  
ISLAMIC BUREAU FOR MILITARY COORDINATION  
WITH PALESTINE/THE PLO

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban 1408H (21-25 March 1988),

Proceed from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Islamic Conference;

Affirming the need to strengthen Islamic solidarity with the people of Palestine and their glorious uprising as a matter of principle;

Expressing its deep appreciation to those Islamic States which support the Palestinian military effort and supply it with the basic requirements in terms of military posting, training and standard raising;

Convinced of the value of the effective role assumed by the Bureau for raising the military capacity of the Palestinian revolutionary forces in conjunction with the military commands of the Islamic States, and the PLO;

Pursuant to all the Islamic resolutions adopted in that respect;

DECIDES:

1. To maintain cooperation and coordination between the military commands of the Islamic States and the PLO, with a view to supporting the Holy Jihad and just struggle of the Palestinian people to free their occupied homeland, Palestine, and liberate the Holy Mosque of Al Aqsa and the Holy City of Al Quds from the clutches of the Zionist enemy.

2. That Islamic States continue to support the PLO in that field, and satisfy its growing needs for military ware, equipment, expertise, increased competence, and provide the necessary scholarships and training courses for its forces, in addition to strengthening bilateral contacts with that Organization.

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RESOLUTION  
ON  
AL-QUDS AL-SHARIF

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan from 3-7 Sha'ban 1408H (21-25 March 1988),

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

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

Confirming the sustained enhancement of Islamic Solidarity with the Palestinian people and the solemn obligation of Islamic States to declare Jihad to liberate the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the Holy Mosque of Al-Aqsa and to support the Palestinian people to recover their inalienable national rights;

Recalling the Resolutions of the U. N. General Assembly and Security Council stipulating as null and void all legislative and administrative measures and steps adopted by Israel which altered, or were intended to alter, the character and status of the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, in particular what is termed as the organic law on Al-Quds and declaring it the capital of Israel;

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 full support to the uprising of our fellow brothers in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and countering Israeli aggression on holy places and particularly the Mosque of Al-Aqsa Al-Sharif;

Condemning the continuous efforts of Islamic States at the United Nations and all other international fora in support of the Palestine Question and Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

/...

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

Denouncing the continued racist acts of aggression and the attempts at judaization and the obliteration of the historical sites of the blessed Mosque of Al-Aqsa, 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 preserve for the Arab and Islamic Ummah its civilization and history;

Condemning the acts of aggression perpetrated by the Israeli occupation authorities against people performing prayers in the blessed Mosque of Al-Aqsa and dispersing them by force of arms, gas, poisonous and incendiary bombs;

Commending the continuous efforts of Al-Quds Committee under the Chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of Morocco, to follow-up and implement the Resolutions of the OIC on Al-Quds Al-Sharif and to safeguard the success achieved by the Palestinian people, led by their legitimate and sole representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization, through their struggle in their occupied homeland, and at international level, and to pursue the necessary joint Islamic action to concretise these achievements;

1. Affirms the commitment to implement the content of the Islamic Programme of Action designed to confront the Zionist enemy, which was adopted by the Third Islamic Summit, and to consider the Question of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif as the paramount cause of Islam and Muslims, and the Jihad to liberate Palestine and the Holy Mosque of Al-Aqsa and support the Palestinian people, the personal duty of every Muslim, man and woman;

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2. Condemns the crimes and practices perpetrated by the Israeli occupation authorities and their continuous aggression on holy places, particularly the Holy Mosque of Al-Aqsa Al-Sharif, which constitute a serious violation of the principles of international law, the UN Charter and UN General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, the Charter and Resolutions of the OIC, and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

3. Confirms its firm determination to preserve the Islamic Arab character of the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and the commitment to endeavour to liberate it and restore it to Arab Sovereignty.

4. Rejects and condemns Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and to introduce demographic changes therein and to consider such a decision as illegal, null and void, and with no legal effects whatsoever;

5. Confirms the commitment of Member States to pursue and coordinate their action with those international groups which support Arab and Islamic right and the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, with a view to implementing international resolutions adopted by the United Nations and its specialized agencies, such as UNESCO, etc., on stopping the hostile measures and aggressive practices in this Holy City, in particular the deliberate violations of the sanctity of the Holy Mosque of Al-Aqsa and other sacred places, and the oppression of the City's Palestinian Arab inhabitants;

6. Invites all States to refrain from having any dealings with the Israeli occupation authorities which might be interpreted as an implicit recognition of acceptance of the fait accompli imposed by the proclamation of Al-Quds as the permanent and unified capital of the Zionist entity; and to invite all States which still maintain diplomatic relations with the Israeli enemy to refrain from transferring their Embassies or missions to the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

7. Lauds the stand taken by the Holy See condemning Israeli measures and practices perpetrated in the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and calls upon Member States to maintain

contacts with the Holy See and other Christian religious institutions in order to adopt a unified Islamic - Christian stand to preserve the Arab identity and Islamic character of the city of Al-Quds.

8. Calls upon Member States to coordinate their efforts at information level and to hold Seminars to promote public awareness of the Question of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Palestine throughout world capitals and at grass root level, especially in the United States and Western Europe.

9. Calls on Member States to declare the twinning of their capitals with Al-Quds Al-Sharif, Capital of Palestine, in order to enhance Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people, and as a tribute by the Islamic Ummah to the inhabitants of this Holy City for their unflinching defence of the sanctity of the First Qibla and the Third Holy Mosque - the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, and other sacred places, and for their unwavering steadfastness in the face of Israeli occupation and their admirable heroic resistance to it and their determined stand against Zionist designs aimed at the Judaization of their Holy City.

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

RESOLUTION

ON

THE AL-QUDS COMMITTEE.

The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers convened in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan from 3 to 7 Sha'ban, 1408H (21-25 March 1988),

Recalling the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Islamic Conference;

Affirming the principle of strengthening Islamic Solidarity with the people of Palestine and their blessed uprising;

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Expressing its deep appreciation to those Islamic States who follow up with practical implementation the resolutions and recommendations adopted by the meetings of Al-Quds Committee, in support of the Holy Struggle waged by the Palestinian people and their heroic steadfastness;

Recalling the praiseworthy efforts exerted by Al-Quds Committee, under the chairmanship of the sovereign of Morocco, His Majesty King Hassan II in following up the implementation of the Islamic resolutions on Palestine and the Holy City of Al-Quds;

Referring to all Islamic resolutions adopted in this respect;

Calls upon all Islamic States to commit themselves to the implementation of all the decisions and recommendations of the Al-Quds Committee, the most recent being those adopted at its extraordinary session held in Ifrane, Morocco, on 5 January 1988, and carry them out, to support the uprising of the Palestinian people and their blessed revolution.

RESOLUTION  
ON THE  
OCCUPIED SYRIAN ARAB GOLAN

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The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3-7 Sha'ban, 1408H (21-25 March, 1988),

Having considered the item entitled "The Occupied Syrian Arab Golan, the Israeli decision to annex it, the coercive measures to which the Syrian Arab citizens there, are subjected and attempts made by Israel to compel them to accept the Israeli identity";

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by previous Conferences, the latest being Resolution 3/5-P (IS) of the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference;

Recalling also Security Council Resolution 497 (1981) of 17/12/1981 and the relevant U.N. General Assembly Resolutions, the most recent being resolution 42/209 of 11/12/1987;

1. Salutes with admiration and pride the Syrian Arab people in occupied Golan for their valiant resistance to the coercive measures taken by Israel and its futile efforts to weaken their attachment to their Syrian Arab identity;
2. Reaffirms that Israel's decision to annex the occupied Syrian Arab Golan and impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on it is an illegal, null and void, act, with no legal effect whatsoever and constitutes a flagrant violation of the OIC Charter and resolutions, the UN Charter and relevant resolutions, and the norms of International Law;
3. Strongly condemns for its persistence in Israel changing the legal status of the occupied Golan Heights, its demographic composition, and international structure;
4. Strongly condemns Israel for imposing the Israeli nationality and identity cards on Syrian Arab civilians. These measures constitute a flagrant violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the 1949 Geneva Convention and the relevant resolutions adopted by the Security Council, the UN General Assembly and other international bodies;
5. Reaffirms that Israel's record, policies and practices prove that it is a non peace-loving state and that therefore, comprehensive mandatory sanctions stipulated in Chapter VII of the United Nations' Charter should be imposed against it.
6. Calls upon all States to sever diplomatic, consular, military, trade and cultural relations with Israel, stop the assistance given to it, take all measures needed to force it to rescind its decision to annex the Syrian Golan Heights and refuse to recognize the consequences of this annexation, in accordance with Security Council Resolution 497 (1981) and relevant UN resolutions.

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RESOLUTION  
ON  
ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF LEBANESE TERRITORIES

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The Seventeenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, from 3 to 7 Sha'ban 1408H (21-25 March 1988),

In accordance with the United Nations Charter and the Declaration of Human Rights;

In accordance with the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and all the relevant resolutions adopted by previous OIC Conferences;

Considering that the authorities of the Israeli enemy have occupied and are still occupying certain territories in Lebanon and plundering possessions and property, in violation of all the principles of International Law and Human Rights;

1. Strongly condemns the continuing occupation by the Israeli enemy of Lebanese territories and also condemns all the inhuman practices of the Israeli enemy in the occupied areas, its slaughter, oppression and torture of the populations of these areas, the pressure, terror and displacement resorted to by Israel, prior to assimilating and annexing such territories. It further condemns the repressive methods used by Israel to impose the teaching of Hebrew in schools and to levy taxes on the local inhabitants, with the ensuing aggression against the educational, cultural and civilizational structures of these areas.

2. Hails the Lebanese national resistance against the Israeli enemy in the South and in Western Bq'a'a and calls upon Member States to support this resistance and enhance the steadfastness of the inhabitants of these areas and to extend to them all forms of the material and moral assistance they need.

3. Calls on the United Nations and all its organs to force Israel to apply the resolutions of the U.N. Security Council in particular Resolutions 425 (1978) and 508 & 509 (1982) on the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territory beyond the internationally recognised boundaries,

enforce respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon and provide assistance to the Lebanese legitimate authorities in establishing their sovereignty over the entire Lebanese territory.

4. Decides to follow up this question at all levels and in all international fora and to support and assist Lebanon.

V. REPORT ON THE UNITED NATIONS-SPONSORED FACT-FINDING  
NEWS MISSION TO THE MIDDLE EAST

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 42/66 C of 2 December 1987 on the question of Palestine a fact-finding mission for journalists to the Middle East was organized during the period 13 March to 2 April 1988.

The following journalists participated in the news mission:

JENNI HEWETT  
Features Editor  
Australian Financial Review  
Australia

GORDON BARTHOIS  
Deputy Foreign Editor  
Toronto Star  
Canada

ANNE FONGER  
Jerusalem Correspondent  
Süddeutsche Zeitung  
Federal Republic of Germany

JOELLE HAZARD  
Grand Reporter  
Television FR3  
France

S. Nihal SINGH  
Columnist and Commentator  
Times of India  
India

EDOARDO FORNACIARI  
Photoreporter  
Gamma Agency  
Italy

KENTARO HIRAYAMA  
News Commentator/Senior Correspondent  
NHK  
Japan

MIGUEL ANGEL AGUILAR  
Director of Information  
EFE  
Spain

WALDO C. DANNENBRINK  
Vice President/News  
Executive Editor  
The Daily Messenger,  
(Canandaigua, New York)  
U.S.A.

RALPH MAXWELL LIMANOWSKI  
Telegraph Editor  
Head of Foreign and National News Desk  
The Chicago Sun Times  
U.S.A.

The mission visited Tunisia from 13 to 17 March, Egypt from 17 to 24 March, Jordan from 24 to 29 March and Syria from 29 March to 2 April. A formal request to the Permanent Mission of Israel for the mission to visit Israel and the West Bank was unanswered.

In Tunis, the journalists met Mr. Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization. They also met the Tunisian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Mahmoud Mistiri, and the Minister of Information, Mr. Abdel-Wahab Abdallah. From the Arab League, they met Mr. Adnan Omra Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

In Cairo, the mission met the following officials:  
Dr. Mohamed Abdallah, Chairman of Foreign and Arab Relations Committee of the People's Assembly; Dr. Mamdouh El-Beltagui, Chairman of the State Information Service; Ambassador Badr Hammam, Director of Israeli Department; and Ambassador Abdallah Fouad, Deputy Director of North American Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The journalists also met Mr. Amos Kenan, prominent Israeli journalist and author whom DPI invited to Cairo to speak to the journalists. They also met Mr. Nabil Shaath, Adviser to Mr. Yasser Arafat. Finally, the mission visited the Egyptian borders on the Gaza Strip and the Palestinian refugee camp in Rafah (Canada Camp).

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In Amman, the delegation met with Crown Prince Hassan and the following senior officials and personalities: Mr. Marwan Doudin, Minister of Occupied Territories; Mr. Hani El-Khasawnah, Minister of Information; Mr. Rasheed Oraykat, Minister of Labour; Sheikh Abdel-Rameed El-Sayeh, Chairman of the Palestine National Council; Mr. Abdel Jawad Saleh, the reported Mayor of Al-Beerih City in the West Bank and the Royal Committee for Jerusalem Affairs. The mission also visited the Baqa'a Palestinian refugee camp outside Amman and met senior UNRWA officials and also visited the King Hussein bridge on the Jordan River.

In Damascus, the mission met Mr. Abdel Halim Khaddam, Vice-President of Syria; Mr. Mohamed Salman, Minister of Information; Mr. Nasser Kaddour, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. The mission also visited the city of Quneitra and Khan Dannoun Palestinian refugee camp outside of Damascus.

The mission this year was very successful, particularly because it coincided with the heightened state of tension in the region due to the uprising in the Palestinian occupied territories.

Also, participants expressed gratitude and appreciation to the United Nations for organizing the mission which in their view achieved its purpose of giving them the opportunity to learn first-hand and in-depth about the various aspects of the Palestinian question.

Government officials in the four countries also expressed their support and appreciation for United Nations public information programme on the question of Palestine. The mission received extensive media coverage in all the countries it visited.

A compilation of the articles and television programmes produced by the participants as a result of the mission is currently underway.

#### VI. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS: ACTIVITY AND INFORMATION

The International Co-ordinating Committee for NGOs on the Question of Palestine (ICCP) undertook a fact-finding mission to the West Bank and Gaza, from 6 to 12 March 1988, to gather first-hand information on the status of the current uprising and to meet representatives of non-governmental groups there in order to ascertain their needs and perspectives on this crisis.

The delegation of four persons included Dr. Don Betz, Chairman of ICCP and member of Palestine Human Rights Campaign (USA); Dr. Sonia Dayan-Herzbrun, French NGO Committee; Dr. Jim Graff, NECEP (Canada) and Mr. Hans Christian Knaevelsrud, Palestine Groups of Norway.

The conclusions reached by the members of the fact-finding committee, inter alia, were that the uprising was more than a full scale rebellion. It was a social and political revolution. The response was universal, spreading throughout the region into the smallest hamlets secluded from the publicity of the Western media. The level of brutality employed by the occupying military forces and the Israeli settlers in the West Bank and Gaza exceeds the dramatic impressions recorded by the media. The uprising was contributing to the changing role of women in society. The women took to the streets on International Women's Day, March 10, to demonstrate peacefully and silently. Their public display was met by harassment and abuse, tear gas and truncheons. Clandestine meetings in Gaza with neighbourhood and camp committee representatives reinforced perceptions that Gaza was under siege. Testimonies of abuse and oppression abounded. Everyone visited produced tear gas canisters made in the United States that they explained had been fired into their homes. Each individual declared that the PLO was the representative of Palestinians, and only Palestinians could choose their leaders. The ICCP mission left the West Bank and Gaza, the territories of Palestine occupied in the 1967 war, with firm resolve to continue and expand the work of ICCP. Such resolve includes assisting those in peril, relating their story, and mobilizing the concerned global public behind a programme that ends the occupation and supports a viable peace process based on the United Nations-sponsored International Peace Conference.

According to the International Jewish Peace Union (IJPU), its Chapters in New York, Seattle and the Bay area have put together a series of ongoing responses to the present crisis in the West Bank and Gaza Strip since January. These have included demonstrations, vigils, counter demonstrations, petitions, congressional delegations, advertisements and speaking engagements. The recognition of the long-term and predictable nature of this crisis has impelled many North American Jews who have never been active on the Middle East to begin to express their outrage at Israeli government actions.

According to the Near East Cultural and Educational Foundation of Canada (NECEF), radio and press coverage of the Palestinian revolt has been extensive in Canada, and coverage of NGO demonstrations in Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, London (Ontario) and Vancouver had been generally favourable. A candlelight vigil in Montreal, organized by the Regroupement pour un dialogue Israël-Palestine, and a small demonstration on Parliament Hill in Ottawa received national coverage. Following Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's description of Israel as "showing restraint" and his denial that Israel had committed any human rights abuses, intensive NGO activity began, resulting in hundreds of phone calls, letters, and petitions to the Prime Minister's office. A press conference called by the National Council (Ottawa) to urge Mulroney to reverse his position received nationwide TV and press coverage. By the end of January, the Canadian Government had announced its readiness to join with other countries in an effort to persuade the Israeli Government to abide by the Fourth Geneva Convention, had reiterated its view that the Fourth Geneva Convention applies to the occupied territories and is violated by a number of Israeli practices, including its settlement policies, and had issued statements supporting Security Council resolutions criticizing Israel for its use of excessive force and its illegal deportations of Palestinians from their homeland.

The Palestine Solidarity Committee (PSC) reported that it continues its work against the threatened closure of the PLO observer mission to the United Nations. Working with a variety of NGOs in Seattle for example, activists collected signatures from several dozen community members for a statement opposing the closure which was run in the Seattle Post Intelligence. PSC is also circulating a call for a national day of protest against the occupation for 4 June 1988. It is seeking endorsement of this action from all concerned NGOs with the goal of making 4 June a major milestone in recent organizing efforts to end the occupation.

In a recently issued statement, the New York Network for Peace and Justice in the Middle East called on Israel to "stop the killing, release those detained", and not to "expel Palestinians from their homes". The statement said the Governments of both Israel and the United States must begin to talk directly with leaders of the PLO, and said that measures to close the PLO offices in the United States only "obscure the way to peace". The statement concluded by saying that "the financial and diplomatic support the United States has given to Israel brings a special responsibility on our government for violations of human rights in the areas Israel occupies and a special onus and capacity to help Israel turn toward peace with the Palestinians."

The U.S. Interreligious Committee for Peace in the Middle East reports that it is working to involve religious leaders from around the country in their work and is gathering endorsers for their statement, entitled "A Time for Peace in the Middle East." Their goal is to enlist 500 to 1000 endorsements for the statement before going public.

#### Notes

- 1/ A/43/183-S/19562
- 2/ A/43/264-S/19710
- 3/ A/42/PV.101
- 4/ A/RES/42/229
- 5/ A/42/PV.106
- 6/ A/RES/42/230
- 7/ A/43/295-S/19754
- 8/ A/43/273-S/19720

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