



DIVISION FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

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CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
I. ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE EXERCISE OF THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE	1
II. THE SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERS THE SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES	1
III. THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS ON THE QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES, INCLUDING PALESTINE	7
IV. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS: ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION	18

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

On 9 February, the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People addressed the following letter to the President of the Security Council (see S/20455):

"In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I wish to reiterate once again the Committee's most serious concern at the deterioration of the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory.

"Accordingly, and also with reference to the letter dated 7 February 1989 from the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine (S/20451), the Committee fully supports the request made by the Permanent Representative of Tunisia on behalf of the Arab Group in his letter of 8 February 1989 (S/20454) for an immediate meeting of the Security Council in order to consider the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory."

II. THE SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERS THE SITUATION
IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES

On 10 February 1989, the Security Council began debate on the situation in the occupied Arab territories. The request for the "urgent meeting" was contained in a letter dated 8 February from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the President of the Security Council, acting in his capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group (see S/20454).

The Tunisian letter refers to a letter dated 7 February 1989 from the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the Secretary-General (see A/44/117-S/20451) which states:

"The situation in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem, remains dangerous and has deteriorated further as a result of the effective implementation of additional repressive measures against our people that have resulted in an increasing number of casualties. Over the past weekend, three Palestinian teenagers have been killed and more than 35 injured. It is important to remind you that, since December 1988, 55 Palestinians have been killed and at least 500 injured.

"We believe that the aforementioned dangerous situation requires official consideration by the Security Council."

The Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People took part in the debate as Chairman of the Committee and representative of Senegal and made the following statement (see S.PV.2845):

" Since 9 December 1987, the date of the beginning of the intifadah, there have been at least 494 fatalities and thousands injured, mostly children and young people.

" This grim tally, which is only provisional, demands an urgent and appropriate response from the international community, and it is up to us to take immediate action to ensure that Israel abides by its obligations as an occupying Power, in accordance with the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949.

" Such an action would demonstrate the Security Council's keen awareness of its responsibilities towards the martyred people of Palestine at a time when, in the international arena, we are witnessing a decline in the use of force, something that is doing wonders for the resumption of contact, dialogue and understanding.

" It cannot be denied that what is occurring in occupied Palestinian territory goes against the current of history. Those events clearly bear the hallmark of an anachronistic policy of hegemony and domination raised to the level of a system of government, contrary to the principles of international law and to the provisions of the United Nations Charter.

" Once again, we categorically reject that policy and express our concern at the daily deterioration in the situation, which is so inimical to Palestinian civil society.

" Bloody confrontations, losses of human life, the intolerable practices of deportation, collective punishment and humiliation, arbitrary arrests and detentions, all have increased because blind passion and a thirst for vengeance are continuing to prevail over reason and tolerance.

"That resurgence of oppression and violence reminds us of the vital need to reach a negotiated, just and lasting settlement of the Middle East problem.

"My delegation and the Committee invite the Council to reflect and to enter into an in-depth debate on the best means of translating into concrete reality the message of peace, trust and hope Chairman Yasser Arafat addressed to the international community in December 1988 at Geneva following the historic decisions taken by the Palestine National Council the previous month at Algiers.

"In that message Chairman Arafat brought to the world the Palestinian people's response to both their oppressors and their detractors. By unreservedly accepting a just, comprehensive and lasting settlement of the Palestinian question on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) and on the basis of respect for the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, in particular their right to self-determination, Chairman Arafat, with realism and courage, succeeded in launching a new drive for peace in the Middle East.

"Notwithstanding that clearly expressed wish for peace, one warmly supported by justice-loving and freedom-loving States and peoples, the deteriorating situation in the occupied Palestinian territories continues to command the attention of the Security Council. In the view of my delegation and of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People our deliberations must result in an appropriate response by the Security Council to the repeated and systematic violations of human rights in occupied Palestinian territory.

"The method, nature and forms of such violations of human rights have often been described and denounced. The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People addressed 15 letters to the President of the Security Council on this subject in 1988 alone, and the relevant report of the

United States State Department that has just been published can, should the need still exist, further enlighten us on this subject.

"The international community, through the Security Council, must take new initiatives to reach a comprehensive solution of the Middle East question that will take into account the legitimate interests of all the parties concerned.

"There can be no question that the United Nations is in duty bound to ensure the realization of the legitimate aspirations and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. It is also incumbent upon the Security Council to implement the decisions and recommendations of the General Assembly on the Palestinian question that have been adopted year after year by an ever-increasing majority, particularly those calling for an international peace conference on the Middle East.

"Those objective recommendations are based on internationally recognized basic principles relating to the Palestinian problem, which lies at the heart of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The vast majority of the international community considers that the convening of such a conference is now a vital necessity. That opinion has been expressed not only within the United Nations but also in the decisions and statements of many other non-governmental organizations, including the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the European Economic Community.

"The delegation of Senegal and the Committee are convinced that the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, enjoying as it does such broad support, offers all concerned and interested parties enormous opportunities to participate in negotiations designed to lead to a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the Middle East crisis.

"We appeal to all members of the Security Council to make a positive contribution to establishing a policy of dialogue among all the parties. All of us have the duty to work individually and collectively for the achievement, through sincere and constructive negotiations, of an Israeli-Arab peace under United Nations guarantees.

"It is obvious that the problem cannot be resolved without an international political settlement that will take into account all the aspects of the question and meet the concerns of all the parties.

"On behalf of the delegation of Senegal and on behalf of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I wish once again to stress that neither the use of brute force nor diplomatic delays and excuses can conceal the truth that Palestinian reality is 'alive and vigorous and that it cannot be denied, obscured or wished away.' "

Debate continued on 13, 14 and 17 February 1989. On 17 February 1989, the Security Council voted on a draft resolution submitted by Algeria, Colombia, Ethiopia, Malaysia, Nepal, Senegal and Yugoslavia (see S/20463). The draft resolution received 14 votes in favour to one against (United States of America) and no abstentions. It was not adopted owing to the negative vote of a permanent member of the Security Council.

The full text of the draft resolution read as follows:

"The Security Council,

"Having considered the letter dated 8 February 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, in his capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for the month of February (S/20454), and the letter dated 7 February 1989 from the Alternate Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations (S/20451),

"Bearing in mind the inalienable rights of all peoples recognized by the Charter of the United Nations and proclaimed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

"Gravely concerned over the increasing suffering and continued violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem,

"Gravely concerned in particular over the imposition of new measures by Israel, the occupying Power, which have led to increased injuries and deaths of innocent Palestinian civilians, including children,

"Considering that the current policies and practices of Israel, the occupying Power, in the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem, are bound to have grave consequences for the endeavours to achieve comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East,

"Recalling the obligation of the high contracting parties under article 1 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, to ensure respect for the Convention in all circumstances,

"Conscious of the need to end the Israeli occupation and to achieve a comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East,

"1. Strongly deplores Israel's persistent policies and practices against the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem, especially the violation of human rights, and in particular the opening of fire that has resulted in injuries and deaths of Palestinian civilians, including children;

"2. Strongly deplores also the continuing disregard by Israel, the occupying Power, of the relevant decisions of the Security Council;

"3. Confirms once more that the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war of 12 August 1949 is applicable to the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories;

"4. Calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to abide by the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, as well as to comply with its obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention and to desist forthwith from its policies and practices that are in violation of the provisions of the Convention;

"5. Calls furthermore for the exercise of maximum restraint to contribute towards the establishment of peace;

"6. Affirms the urgent need to achieve, under the auspices of the United Nations, a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Middle East conflict, an integral part of which is the Palestinian problem, and expresses its determination to work towards that end;

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"7. Requests the Secretary-General to follow the implementation of this resolution, including examining the situation in the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem, by all means available to him and to report to the Security Council;

"8. Decides to keep the situation in the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied territories, under review."

III. THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS ON THE
QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE
OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES, INCLUDING PALESTINE

The Commission on Human Rights at its forty-fifth session adopted the following resolutions on the question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine. Final edited texts will appear in the report of the forty-fifth session which will be published in due course.

"Question of violations of human rights
in occupied Palestine

"A

"The Commission on Human Rights,

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

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

"Taking into consideration the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and The Hague Convention IV of 1907, as well as the principles of international law affirmed by the General Assembly in resolutions 3 (I) of 13 February 1946, 95 (I) of 11 December 1946, 260 A (III) of 9 December 1948 and 2391 (XXIII) of 26 November 1968,

"Recalling that military aggression by the force of any State against the territories of another State constitutes an offence against the peace and security of mankind,

"Recalling also the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 605 (1987) of 22 December 1987, 607 (1988) of 5 January 1988 and 608 (1988) of 14 January 1988,

"Recalling further General Assembly resolutions on Israeli violations of human rights in occupied Palestine,

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"Taking note of the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories (A/43/694),

"Recalling all its previous resolutions on the subject,

"1. Affirms that the Israeli occupation of Palestine constitutes a gross violation of human rights and an offence against the peace and security of mankind;

"2. Affirms that the systematic and persistent policy practised by the Israeli occupation authorities and reflected in the killing of Palestinians, including children; the breaking of the bones of youths, causing them grievous and permanent bodily harm; the subjection of towns, villages and camps to living conditions intended to destroy them through the imposition of curfews and military siege; the throwing of gas bombs into houses, mosques and hospitals resulting in the death of many Palestinians by suffocation; savage beatings and maltreatment of pregnant women, causing them to abort; all constitute serious violations of the principles of international law, human rights and fundamental freedoms;

"3. Affirms that Israeli violations of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, applicable to the Palestinian population and territories under Israeli occupation, including the physical and psychological torture of Palestinian detainees and their subjection to improper and inhuman treatment, the imposition of collective punishment on towns, villages and camps, and the administrative detention of thousands of Palestinians for example in the 'Ansar 3' concentration camp in the Negev, the deportation and expulsion of Palestinian citizens by force, the confiscation of their property, raiding and demolition of their houses, and the annexation of Jerusalem, all constitute war crimes under international law;

"4. Condemns Israel:

(a) For its gross violation of international conventions, the principles of international law, and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, through the systematic and persistent practices mentioned above, and calls upon Israel to desist forthwith from such practices and, pursuant to the principles of international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions, to withdraw from the Palestinian territories occupied by force;

(b) For its expropriation of Palestinian land and the establishment of Israeli settlements thereon;

(c) For annexing Jerusalem and altering its architectural character, and its demographic and structural composition as well as the institutional status of the occupied Palestinian territories, and considers all such measures and the consequences thereof null and void;

(d) For its attacks against holy places, such as mosques and churches, and its attempt to occupy Al Aqsa Mosque and to destroy it, as well as for obstructing the freedom of worship and religious practices;

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(e) For its attacks on universities, schools and institutes and the closure thereof in occupied Palestine, and its obstruction of the education of thousands of students and pupils in such institutions;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, the competent United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and international humanitarian organizations, to disseminate it on the widest possible scale, and to report on its implementation to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-sixth session;

"6. Further requests the Secretary-General to provide the Commission with all United Nations reports on the conditions of the population of occupied Palestine issued between sessions of the Commission;

"7. Decides to consider this issue at its forty-sixth session as a matter of high priority.

"B

"The Commission on Human Rights,

"Recalling Security Council resolutions 446 (1979) of 22 March 1979, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981, 592 (1986) of 8 December 1986 and 605 (1987) of 22 December 1987, as well as all its previous resolutions on the application of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 to the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied by Israel and the refusal of Israel to abide by those Conventions,

"Recalling all relevant General Assembly resolutions,

"Recalling the decisions of the International Conference of the Red Cross in respect of the application of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,

"Recalling its previous resolutions on this question,

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

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

"2. Strongly condemns once again Israel's refusal to apply that Convention to Palestine and Arab territories occupied since 1967 and their inhabitants;

"3. Once more strongly condemns Israel for its policies of ill-treatment and torture of Palestinian detainees and prisoners in

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Israeli prisons and concentration camps, and its disregard for the principles of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 1949;

"4. Once more urges Israel to grant prisoner-of-war status, in accordance with the Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, of 12 August 1949, to all Palestinian fighters captured by Israel, and to treat them accordingly;

"5. Urges once more all States parties to the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War to make every effort to ensure respect for and compliance with the provisions of that Convention in all the Palestinian and Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem;

"6. Strongly condemns Israel for the violations of article 49 of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War which it has perpetrated by pursuing a policy of deportation and expulsion of Palestinian citizens, and calls upon Israel to comply with the resolutions of the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights which demand their return to their homeland and to desist forthwith from this policy;

"7. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, the competent United Nations organs, the specialized agencies, the regional intergovernmental organizations, the international humanitarian organizations and non-governmental organizations, and to submit a report on progress in its implementation to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-sixth session;

"8. Decides to consider this subject at its forty-sixth session as a matter of high priority."

27th meeting
17 February 1989

"Human rights in occupied Syrian Arab territory

"The Commission on Human Rights,

"Guided by the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and by the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

"Gravely concerned at the fact that Syrian and other Arab territories occupied by Israel in 1967 are still suffering from Israeli military occupation, aggression and continued violation of human rights,

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"Recalling Israel's violation of Article 25 of the Charter of the United Nations and its refusal to accept and carry out relevant resolutions of the Security Council, in particular resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981, in which the Council, inter alia, decided that the Israeli decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration in the occupied Syrian Arab Golan was null and void and without international legal effect, and demanded that Israel should rescind forthwith its decision,

"Recalling the resolution adopted by the 80th Inter-Parliamentary Conference, held in Sophia from 19 to 24 September 1988, which strongly reproved and denounced flagrant daily violations by Israel of the Geneva Convention of 1949 and the Protocols additional thereto, and called on Israel to withdraw its forces from all Arab territories and to end its occupation of those territories,

"Taking note with deep concern of the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories (A/43/694),

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

"Affirming its resolution 1988/2 of 15 February 1988,

"Recalling World Health Assembly resolution WHA/41.8 of 11 May 1988, by which the Assembly affirmed 'the principle that acquisition of territories by force is inadmissible and that any occupation of territories by force and the practice of repression and violence against the civilian population as well as acts of deportation and expulsion have serious repercussions on the health and psychosocial conditions of the people under occupation, including mental and physical health',

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

"Recalling General Assembly resolution 3414 (XXX) of 5 December 1975 and other relevant General Assembly resolutions, the latest of which are resolutions 43/54 A to C of 6 December 1988, in which it, inter alia, demanded the immediate, unconditional total withdrawal of Israel from all the territories occupied since 1967,

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"Recalling in particular General Assembly resolutions 36/226 B of 17 December 1981 and ES-9/1 of 5 February 1982, as well as other relevant resolutions, the latest of which is resolution 43/58 F of 6 December 1988 relating to the population of the Syrian territory that has been occupied since 1967,

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

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

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

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

"2. Deplores Israel's continued refusal to allow the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories access to the occupied Arab territories and to implement General Assembly resolution 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968 and demands that Israel allow the Special Committee access to the occupied territories;

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

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"4. Condemns Israel's persistence in changing the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure and legal status of the occupied Syrian Arab Golan;

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

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

"7. Calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to rescind forthwith its decision of 14 December 1981 and to cease its acts of terrorism directed against Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Arab Golan in order to impose Israeli citizenship upon them and force them to carry Israeli identity cards, and condemns the Israeli repression of educational institutions in the occupied Syrian Arab Golan and the imposition of curricula that promote hatred, prejudice and religious intolerance;

"8. Condemns Israel for persisting in its policies and practices of annexation in the occupied Syrian Arab Golan, including expropriating land, building settlements thereon and moving Israeli settlers into them, diverting water to those settlements, thus depriving the Golan population of its sources of life, and in particular imposing a boycott on its agricultural products and depriving it of its right to export them;

"9. Calls upon all States to urge Israel, the occupying Power, to cease such practices, including boycott measures, and to facilitate the marketing of the agricultural produce of the Golan inhabitants;

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

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

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

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

27th meeting
17 February 1989

"Situation in occupied Palestine

"The Commission on Human Rights,

"Recalling General Assembly resolutions 181 A and B (II) of 29 November 1947 and 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, as well as all other resolutions which confirm and define the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, particularly their right to self-determination without external interference,

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

"Reaffirming its previous resolutions in this regard,

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

"Reaffirming the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant United Nations resolutions, and expressing its grave concern at Israel's persistence in preventing the Palestinian people by force from enjoying their inalienable rights, in particular their right to self-determination, in defiance of the principles of international law, United Nations resolutions and the will of the international community,

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

"Reiterating its grave concern at the military, economic and political support given by some States to Israel, which encourages and supports Israel in its aggressive and expansionist policies and its continued occupation of Palestinian and other Arab territories,

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"Taking note of the decision taken on 15 November 1988 at Algiers by the Palestine National Council, declaring the establishment of the State of Palestine,

"Taking into account the statement of Mr. Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, to the General Assembly on 13 December 1988 at Geneva,

"1. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to self-determination without external interference and the establishment of its independent sovereign State on their national soil in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolutions since 1947;

"2. Welcomes with great satisfaction the declaration of the establishment of the State of Palestine as an exercise by the Palestinian people of a fundamental, inalienable right, and considers the decisions of the Palestine National Council of 15 November 1988 as prerequisite for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East;

"3. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the Palestinians to return to their homeland Palestine, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and subsequent relevant resolutions;

"4. Reaffirms the right of the Palestinian people to recover their rights by all means in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and with relevant United Nations resolutions, and affirms that the intifadah of the Palestinian people against the Israeli occupation since 8 December 1987 is a form of legitimate resistance and an expression of their rejection of the occupation;

"5. Reaffirms its support for the call to convene an effective international peace conference on the Middle East, to be attended by the permanent members of the Security Council and the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, under the auspices of the United Nations, in accordance with the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council, and to guarantee the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, in particular their right to self-determination;

"6. Calls for intensified international efforts to induce the parties concerned in the conflict to respond to the Palestinian peace initiative and to expedite the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East;

"7. Strongly condemns Israel for its continued occupation of the Palestinian and other Arab territories in violation of the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of international law and the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, the General Assembly, and the Commission on Human Rights;

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

"9. Urges all States, United Nations organs, specialized agencies and other international organizations to extend their support and assistance to the Palestinian people through their representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization, in their struggle to recover their rights and to liberate their land from Israeli occupation, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

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

"11. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the Government of Israel with a view to its implementation and to report thereon to the Commission at its forty-sixth session;

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

51st meeting
6 March 1989

"Situation of human rights in southern Lebanon

"The Commission on Human Rights,

"Gravely concerned by the continuation of the acts of aggression and the arbitrary practices of the Israeli occupation forces in southern Lebanon which constitute a flagrant violation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and the Hague Convention IV of 1907,

"Recalling its deep regret at Israel's failure to implement Security Council resolutions 425 (1987) of 19 March 1978 and 509 (1982) of 6 June 1982,

"Recalling all the resolutions of the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs declaring that the continued occupation and repeated acts of aggression constitute a violation of both

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the will of the international community and the conventions in force in this respect,

"Reaffirming its previous resolutions in this respect,

"Expressing its deepest regret for Israel's continued failure to co-operate with the efforts of the Secretary-General requested in those resolutions,

"1. Strongly condemns Israel for its continued violations of human rights in southern Lebanon manifested particularly in the continuing occupation of parts of that territory by force, the bombardment of villages and the civilian population, their arrest and detention in Israeli prisons and detention centres, the destruction of their homes and their property, the fact that they are terrorized, forced out of their residences and expelled from the occupied area, and other arbitrary practices;

"2. Calls upon Israel to put an immediate end to such practices, which violate human rights, to liberate the Lebanese prisoners whom it has detained, to return all those expelled to their homes, to stop expelling Palestinians arbitrarily to southern Lebanon and to implement the above-mentioned resolutions of the Security Council which require the immediate, total and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all Lebanese territory and respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon;

"3. Calls upon those Governments which are assisting Israel politically, economically and militarily to bring adequate pressure to bear on the Government of Israel to put an end to its aggressive and expansionist policy in southern Lebanon;

"4. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To bring the present resolution to the attention of the Government of Israel and to invite it to provide information concerning the extent of its implementation thereof;

(b) To report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-sixth session on the results of his efforts in that regard;

"5. Decides to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights in southern Lebanon at its forty-sixth session."

55th meeting
8 March 1989

IV. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS:
ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION

In the course of February, the following information describing recent activities was received by the Division for Palestinian Rights:

1. "Palestine Solidarité", Numero 53, bi-monthly publicatio of the Franco-Palestinian Medical Association (AMFP), 14, rue de Nanteuil, 75015 Paris.

2. "America-Israel Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace", monthly newsletter, 4816 Cornell Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515.

3. "The Other Israel", newsletter of the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace, P.O. Box 956, Tel-Aviv, Israel 61008.

4. "The Palestinian", volume 2, No. 2, February 1989, published by the Association of Palestinian Arab Canadians, Capital Region, P.O. Box 2605 Stat.D, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5W7.

5. "Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization", circular letter, 89 Abdel Aziz Al Saoud Street, Manial, Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt.

6. "Solidarity", published by the Bulgarian Committee for Solidarity with the Peoples of Africa and Asia, 1040, 5 Zhdanov Street, Sofia, Bulgaria.

7. "AJME News", volume XIV, No. 3, on the subject of children of the Intifadah, Newsletter of Americans for Justice in the Middle East, P.O. Box 113-5581, Beirut, Lebanon.

8. "Disclose: Facts about Violations of Palestinians Human Rights", bulletin published by the International Centre for Information on Palestinian and Lebanese prisoners, deportees, and missing persons, C.I.I. 14 rue de Nanteuil, 75015 Paris, France. Tel.: (33) (1) 45.30.06.62.

9. "The All India Indo-Arab Friendship Association", has reported on seminars and conferences held at Patna, Bihar State, on 26 November 1988, and at Panjim, Goa on 12 December 1988. Reports of all these meetings may be obtained from the Association. Particular attention is drawn to the report of the Patna meeting held in commemoration of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People at which time a resolution was adopted expressing full support for the PNC proclamation of an independent State of Palestine. The address of the Association is MIG - 38 B, Pocket C, Ashok Vihar III, Delhi 110-052, India.
