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20 May 1950
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Letter addressed to the Chairman of the Commission by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Israel transmitted on 20 May 1950 by the Delegate of Israel to the European Office of the United Nations

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of 11 May 1950.

I understand that when framing it you were not yet in a position to reply to the question contained in my letter of 6 May 1950 as to which Arab state or states are ready to negotiate with Israel on a final peace settlement. I also learn from your conversation with Mr. Reuven Shiloah in Geneva on May 15th last, that the Commission itself realized the inadvisability of resuming its deliberations before the attitude of the Arab Governments on this vital issue was definitely cleared up.

In these circumstances I presume the Conciliation Commission for Palestine will agree with the Government of Israel that it is preferable to await a clarification of the Arab attitude on the question of direct negotiations before considering the next step.

I have the honour to be, yours faithfully

Moshe SHARETT Minister for Foreign Affairs.