



General Assembly

A/RES/40/96 (A-D)
12 December 1985

40/96. Question of Palestine

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions [3376 \(XXX\)](#) of 10 November 1975, [31/20](#) of 24 November 1976, [32/40](#) of 2 December 1977, [33/28](#) of 7 December 1978, [34/65 A and B](#) of 29 November 1979 and [34/65 C and D](#) of 12 December 1979, [ES-7/2](#) of 29 July 1980, [35/169](#) of 15 December 1980, [36/120](#) of 10 December 1981, [ES-7/4](#) of 28 April 1982, [ES-7/5](#) of 26 June 1982, [ES-7/9](#) of 24 September 1982, [37/86 A](#) of 10 December 1982, [38/58 A](#) of 13 December 1983 and [39/49 A](#) of 11 December 1984,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, [1/](#)

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly;
2. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Committee contained in paragraphs 163 to 172 of its report and draws the attention of the Security Council to the fact that action on the Committee's recommendations, as repeatedly endorsed by the General Assembly at its thirty-first session and subsequently, is still awaited;
3. *Requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine as well as the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Achievement of Palestinian Rights [2/](#) adopted by the International Conference on the Question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly or the Security Council, as appropriate;
4. *Authorizes* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the implementation of its recommendations, including representation at conferences and meetings and the sending of delegations where such activities would be considered by it to be appropriate, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-first session and thereafter;
5. *Requests* the Committee to continue to extend its co-operation to non-governmental organizations in their contribution towards heightening international awareness of the facts relating to the question of Palestine and in creating a more favourable atmosphere for the full implementation of the Committee's recommendations, and to take the necessary steps to expand its contacts with those organizations;
6. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution [194 \(III\)](#) of 11 December 1948, as well as other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine, to co-operate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation which they have at their disposal;
7. *Decides* to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate, in accordance with the Committee's programme of implementation;
8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks.

B

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, 1/

Noting the particularly relevant information contained in paragraphs 135 to 150 of that report,

Recalling its resolutions 32/40 B of 2 December 1977, 33/28 C of 7 December 1978, 34/65 D of 12 December 1979, 35/169 D of 15 December 1980, 36/120 B of 10 December 1981, 37/86 B of 10 December 1982, 38/58 B of 13 December 1983 and 39/49 B of 11 December 1984,

1. *Takes note with appreciation of the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with General Assembly resolution 39/49 B;*
2. *Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to discharge the tasks detailed in paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 32/40 B, paragraph 2 (b) of resolution 34/65 D, paragraph 3 of resolution 36/120 B and paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 38/58 B, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and under its guidance;*
3. *Also requests the Secretary-General to provide the Division for Palestinian Rights with the necessary resources to accomplish its tasks and to expand its work programme, particularly through additional meetings for non-governmental organizations, in order to heighten awareness of the facts relating to the question of Palestine and to create a more favourable atmosphere for the full implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People;*
4. *Further requests the Secretary-General to ensure the continued co-operation of the Department of Public Information and other units of the Secretariat in enabling the Division for Palestinian Rights to perform its tasks and in covering adequately the various aspects of the question of Palestine;*
5. *Invites all Governments and organizations to lend their co-operation to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the Division for Palestinian Rights in the performance of their tasks;*
6. *Takes note with appreciation of the action taken by Member States to observe annually on 29 November the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People and the issuance by them of special postage stamps for the occasion.*

C

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, 1/

Noting , in particular, the information contained in paragraphs 151 to 162 of that report,

Recalling its resolutions 38/58 E of 13 December 1983 and 39/49 C of 11 December 1984,

Convinced that the world-wide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of non-governmental organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent sovereign Palestinian State,

1. *Takes note with appreciation of the action taken by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in compliance with General Assembly resolutions 38/58 E and 39/49 C;*
2. *Requests the Department of Public Information, in full co-operation and co-ordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to continue its special information programme on the question of Palestine for the biennium 1986-1987 and, in particular:*
 - (a) *To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine;*
 - (b) *To continue to update publications on the facts and developments pertaining to the question of Palestine;*
 - (c) *To publish brochures and booklets on the various aspects of the question of Palestine, including Israeli violations of the human rights of the Arab inhabitants of the occupied territories;*
 - (d) *To expand its audio-visual material on the question of Palestine, including the production of a new film, special series of radio*

programmes and television broadcast;

(e) To organize fact-finding news missions to the area for journalists;

(f) To organize regional and national encounters for journalists.

D

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions [38/58 C](#) of 13 December 1983 and [39/49 D](#) of 11 December 1984, in which it, *inter alia*, endorsed the convening of an International Peace Conference on the Middle East,

Reaffirming its resolution 39/49 D, in which it, *inter alia*, requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Security Council, to continue his efforts with a view to convening the Conference,

Having considered the reply of the President of the Security Council to the Secretary-General, dated 26 February 1985, in which he, *inter alia*, stated on the subject of the Conference: "in this context, members of the Council invite the Secretary-General to continue consultations on the subject in any manner he deems appropriate in the light of General Assembly resolution 39/49 D", [3/](#)

Having considered again the reports of the Secretary-General of 13 March 1984^{4/} and 13 September 1984, ^{5/} in which he stated, *inter alia*, that "it was clear from the replies of the Governments of Israel and the United States of America that they were not prepared to participate in the proposed Conference", and regretting the continued negative response of these two Governments and the lack of willingness to reconsider their position towards the Conference,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General of 11 March 1985^{6/} and 22 October 1985, ^{7/} in which he, *inter alia*, referred to the difficulties experienced in his efforts made the previous year with a view to convening the Conference,

Having heard the constructive statements made by numerous representatives, including that of the Palestine Liberation Organization,

Taking note of the positive positions of the concerned parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, and of other States on the convening of the Conference, ^{5/}

Taking note also of the position of the Palestine Liberation Organization which condemns all acts of terrorism, whether committed by States or individuals, including acts of terrorism committed by Israel against the Palestinian people and the Arab nation,

Reiterating once again its conviction that the convening of the Conference would constitute a major contribution by the United Nations towards the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General;
2. *Reaffirms again* its endorsement of the call for convening the International Peace Conference on the Middle East in conformity with the provisions of its resolution 38/58 C;
3. *Stresses* the urgent need for additional constructive efforts by all Governments in order to convene the Conference without further delay and for the achievement of its peaceful objectives;
4. *Determines* that the question of Palestine is the root-cause of the Arab-Israeli conflict in the Middle East;
5. *Calls upon* the Governments of Israel and the United States of America to reconsider their positions towards the attainment of peace in the Middle East through the convening of the Conference;
6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Security Council, to continue his efforts with a view to convening the Conference and to report thereon to the General Assembly not later than 15 March 1986;
7. *Decides* to consider at its forty-first session the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution.

* * *

2/ Report of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, Geneva, 29 August-7 September 1983 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.I.21), chap. I, sect. B.

3/ See A/40/168-S/17014, para. 3.

4/ A/39/130-S/16409. For the printed text, see Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-ninth Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1984, document S/16409.

5/ A/39/130/Add.1-S/16409/Add.1. For the printed text, see Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-ninth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1984, document S/16409/Add.1.

6/ See A/40/168-S/17014, para. 2.

7/ A/40/779-S/17581 and Corr.1.