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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-second session
Item 38 of the preliminary list*
QUESTION OF PALESTINE

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-second year

Letter dated 24 February 1987 from the Permanent Representative of
Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Arab States for the month of February, I have the honour to request that the attached document be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 38 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohamed Salem BASENDWAH
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/42/50.

ANNEX

Letter dated 24 February 1987 from the Permanent Observer
of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United
Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization I am requested to bring the following to your attention regarding the situation in and around the Palestine refugee camps in Lebanon.

The President of the Security Council issued a statement on 2 December 1986, in which the members of the Council appealed

"to all concerned to take necessary measures to alleviate the suffering of the civilian population. They urge all concerned to facilitate the efforts of various United Nations agencies, particularly the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, as well as non-governmental organizations, to provide humanitarian assistance" (see S/18492).

Another statement was issued by the President of the Security Council on 13 February 1987, in which the members of the Council

"call on the parties concerned to observe an immediate cease-fire and to permit access to these camps for humanitarian purposes" (see S/18691).

The Palestine Liberation Organization wishes to inform that the situation in and around the camps remains very critical. The decisions made by the members of the Security Council have not been implemented and the situation remains the same as has been attested to by statements issued by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East during February 1987.

As we informed in our note of 23 February 1987, developments this past weekend in Lebanon, in particular West Beirut, have serious implications for the safety and security of the Palestinian refugee camps, particularly in the light of the threats made by the Chief of Syrian Military Intelligence in Lebanon to physically liquidate Palestinians in the refugee camps who support the Palestine Liberation Organization. We call on the Secretary-General and the Security Council to take all necessary measures, including deployment of the United Nations observers in accordance with Security Council resolutions 516 (1982), 517 (1982) and 518 (1982), to facilitate implementing the decisions to supply humanitarian relief by international agencies, and to put an end to the continuing siege of the camps in order to restore the normal situation in and around the camps.

Dr. M. Nasser AL-KIDWA
Alternate Permanent Observer