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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS
AND THE ORGANISATION OF THE ISLAMIC
CONFERENCE
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO
INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES
AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE
POPULATION OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-third year

Letter dated 29 January 1988 from the Permanent Representative of
Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to forward herewith the official final communiqué and resolution adopted at the emergency meeting of the Al-Quds Committee held in Ifrane, Morocco, on 15 Jumada I A.H. 1408 (5 January 1988).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and the annex thereto to be distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under the items entitled "Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference", "Question of Palestine", "The situation in the Middle East", and "Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Driss SLAOUI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Final communiqué and recommendations adopted at the
emergency meeting of the Al-Quds Committee on
15 Jumada I A.H. 1408/5 January 1988

In the wake of the massive national uprising currently sweeping Al-Quds al-Sharif (Jerusalem the holy) and the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, which has spread to all the Palestinian Arab territories under occupation, and following the escalation by the Zionist enemy of its repression of the uprising, described by its media as the most violent since 1967, the Al-Quds Committee held an emergency meeting in the city of Ifrane, Morocco, on 15 Jumada I, A.H. 1408 (5 January 1988), at the invitation of His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco, the Chairman of the Al-Quds Committee, to consider all aspects of the savage means of repression being employed against the Palestinian people.

The meeting was attended by Brother Mujahid Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, and by representatives of all the member States of the Committee with the exception of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Syrian Arab Republic.

The meeting was also attended by Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada, Secretary-General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

His Majesty King Hassan II, the Chairman of the Al-Quds Committee, opened the meeting with an address in which he stated that resistance was the acknowledged right of people whose dignity had been trampled. Following the events in Al-Quds, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the other occupied territories, he could only express astonishment at seeing the United States, a super-Power and a friend, renounce the principles "which in the past it has fought to defend, and for which we have fought by its side."

His Majesty recalled the Arab Peace Plan, approved by the Arab Summit Conference at Fez. He expressed his apprehension that there might have been confusion between the issue of Al-Quds al-Sharif and the Arab-Israeli problem, which would delay the solution of the former. He suggested that the Al-Quds Committee, or the Foreign Ministers of OIC member States at their forthcoming meeting in Amman, should draft practical guidelines on winning the sympathies of adherents of religions other than Islam, and rallying the maximum number of sympathisers for Muslims and the cause of Al-Quds.

His Majesty added that such action was essential, for "if we close ranks on the question of Al-Quds, we will compel the enemy to enter into a dialogue. If the enemy should refuse a dialogue, it would help to convince the world that it seeks neither a dialogue nor a peaceful solution, and is not ready for either."

His Majesty commended the efforts of the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the service of the Organization and of the Al-Quds Committee. He asked the Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee to convey to the fighters outside the occupied territories and the resistance forces within them the word of Allah the Almighty: "Lord, fill our hearts with steadfastness. Make us firm of foot and help us against the unbelievers. By Allah's Will, they routed them."

Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada, Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, expressed his thanks and appreciation to His Majesty King Hassan II for having called the important meeting at a time when the Palestinian cause and Al-Quds al-Sharif were undergoing such difficulties. He expressed the grave concern of the Muslim world at the continuing vicious Zionist onslaught against the Palestinian people, the murdering of unarmed children, women and elderly people in the occupied territories, the violation of holy places, and the firing at worshippers in mosques.

His Excellency expressed his admiration for and pride in the outstanding heroism demonstrated by the steadfast Palestinian people in the face of the occupation. The young Palestinians had been confronting the occupation forces, which were armed to the teeth with the most sophisticated weaponry, with nothing more than the stones of their blessed land and their magnificent courage, which had shaken the Zionist entity and sown panic in its ranks.

Speaking next, Mr. Yasser Arafat expressed his thanks to His Majesty King Hassan II for his fraternal, faithful and sincere stand towards the Palestinians at that critical juncture. He then reviewed the phases in the current upsurge of the Palestinian people, stating that the upsurge would, with the help of God, continue unabated.

He informed the Committee that the Palestine Liberation Organization had asked for a meeting of the Security Council to consider the attempts by the Zionist entity to deport Palestinian citizens from their homeland, and called for international protection for the Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

The Committee heard a message sent to His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco, the Chairman of the Al-Quds Committee, by his brother, His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Emir of the State of Kuwait and Chairman of the Fifth Islamic Summit, in which His Highness hailed the meeting of the Al-Quds Committee and expressed appreciation to His Majesty King Hassan II for his initiative in convening it, thus revealing his awareness of the importance of united Islamic action to help the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories.

The Committee also listened to statements by the heads of the delegations of Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Senegal, in which they expressed pride in the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and their worthy resistance, which had culminated in the present uprising. They also thanked His Majesty King Hassan II for his initiative in convening the meeting

of the Committee to consider the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories. They emphasized the need to support the Palestinian people in their resistance, their rejection of occupation and help them to counter the designs of the Zionist entity and its policies and practices aimed at uprooting the Palestine people from their land.

The Al-Quds Committee, following closely and with grave concern the development of the serious situation in the City of Al-Quds al-Sharif and the other occupied Palestinian territories:

1. Salutes the Arab Palestinian people, expresses pride in their uprising, and calls upon all OIC member States to intensify their political and material support for the Arab Palestinian people inside their occupied homeland so as to strengthen their capacity for steadfastness and for resistance to occupation, terrorist and racist practices;
2. Reiterates its condemnation of Israel's occupation of the Palestinian and Arab territories, including Al-Quds, and considers that the continuation of the occupation constitutes a grave violation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the Palestinian people;
3. Strongly condemns the inhuman Zionist policies and practices against the Arab population in the occupied Palestinian territories, as exemplified by evictions, expulsions, deportations, killings, mass detentions, expropriations, and the violation and desecration of holy places, and calls upon the international community to hold an investigation, under the auspices of the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross, with a view to determining the magnitude of the heinous crimes committed by Israel against the Arab people of Palestine, and bringing such crimes to an end;
4. Calls upon all member States of OIC to use their influence and friendly relations with the international community, and to make all necessary efforts and political and diplomatic contacts with States, international and regional organizations to persuade them to bring pressure to bear on the Zionist occupation authorities to comply with international treaties and conventions, in particular the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and respect the relevant international resolutions;
5. Calls for the setting up, throughout the Muslim world of committees on solidarity with the Palestinian people, in order to provide material and moral assistance to the revolution until the Palestinian people can liberate their land and determine their own destiny;
6. Calls upon the councils of Muslim Ambassadors in all world capitals to make urgent contacts with the Governments, political parties and public organizations and the information media in their countries of accreditation, and to urge them to denounce and decry Zionist practices and call for an end to them;

7. Calls upon all Islamic media institutions to give still more coverage to news of the popular uprising in occupied Palestine and write commentaries on the situation so as to enlighten Islamic public opinion about the true facts in the occupied Palestinian territories;
8. Expresses its appreciation to all States, international organizations and communities which have condemned Israel's repressive measures promptly, publicly and officially, and urges them to continue and intensify their condemnation and bring pressure to bear on the Israeli occupation authorities to stop such measures;
9. Calls upon the international community to do everything possible to help the Palestinian people regain their legitimate rights, and reiterates that peace and stability cannot return to the city of Al-Quds, the rest of the Palestinian territories or the Middle East region as a whole, until a just and comprehensive solution is found to the problem of Palestine, which is the primary concern of the Muslims and the key to the conflict in the Middle East. Such a solution must enable the Palestinian people to regain their inalienable national rights, including title to their homeland and the right to return, to recover their property, to determine their own future without any outside interference, to exercise unfettered sovereignty over their country and its natural resources, and to establish an independent and sovereign State in Palestine with Al-Quds al-Sharif as its capital, under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization;
10. Calls for the early convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East under United Nations auspices, with the participation on an equal footing of all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, and the five permanent members of the Security Council;
11. Designates Friday, 25 Jumada I A.H. 1408 (5 January 1988) as a Day of Islamic Solidarity with the Palestinian Uprising, and calls for the Friday sermon on that day in all mosques throughout the Muslim world to be devoted to the uprising and the agony, suffering and resistance of the Palestine people, and for prayers for the dead to be read that day in memory of the martyrs;
12. Calls upon Islamic Governments to make appropriate arrangements for organizing a fund-raising campaign, collecting one day's salary in cash or in kind as an expression of solidarity with the Palestinian people and their uprising;
13. Decides to address telegrams to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Chairman of the Security Council, and the heads of the member States of the Security Council, urging their immediate intervention to halt the Zionists' practices against the unarmed Palestinian population in the occupied Arab territories, to take deterrent measures against the Israeli entity, and to impose sanctions against it in accordance with Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations;

14. Authorises its members to contact the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the permanent members of the Security Council in order to apprise them of developments in the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, and to urge them to work for the implementation of Security Council resolution 605 (1987), including the compulsory international protection of Palestinian citizens under occupation;

15. Expresses its deep appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, the Chairman of the Al-Quds Committee, for his commendable efforts and his invitation to hold an emergency meeting of the Committee, which reflect his concern for Al-Quds al-Sharif and all the other occupied Arab territories, the importance that he attaches to the resistance of their population and the support and defence of their inalienable national rights, and his continued efforts to restore Arab Islamic sovereignty over Al-Quds al-Sharif. The members of the Committee also express their appreciation and thanks to the Moroccan people for the warm welcome and generous hospitality extended to them;

16. Requests the general secretariat of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to circulate this communiqué to all member states of the Organisation.
