Permanent Observer Mission of
the State of Palestine to the United Nations

The United Nations
and
the Question of Palestine

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Preface

The Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine to the United Nations in New York prepares this report on a yearly basis following every session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). This Session witnessed a historic event on 29 November 2012, with the adoption of General Assembly Resolution 67/19 which changed the status of Palestine from an observer entity to that of an observer State. The report shows the voting record of each Member State on all resolutions concerning Palestine and the Palestinian people adopted during the 67th session of the UNGA mainly during the period from September to December 2011. The main purpose for the preparation of this report is to understand voting patterns of UN Member States on resolutions related to the Question of Palestine (QoP) and where necessary to undertake specific efforts to garner more support for these important resolutions, which cover a wide range of issues relevant to the QoP and in particular reaffirm core principles and rules of international law in this regard. The report also seeks to illustrate and evaluate political support of Member States on issues related to Palestine in the UN. It also illustrates the shifts in voting that may have taken place in comparison with previous sessions.

The report contains tables that clearly show voting patterns of Member States of the UN. It also includes the text of General Assembly resolutions adopted during the said period. The report also includes a special section on the messages received on the Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, as well as key statements made by delegates of Palestine, in particular at the historic adoption of GA Resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012 in which Palestine acquired Observer State status in the United Nations. The end of the report includes two short legal memorandums explaining the legal changes which took place over the last year.

The report does not intend to evaluate the reasons for voting patterns by Member States, which requires more extensive analysis and could be derived from a range of factors. Rather it only lists votes on resolutions concerning the QoP, which by themselves reflect the scope of support by any particular country.

Finally, I hope that this report provides useful information and will serve as a vehicle to increase support for the State of Palestine in the international arena particularly at the United Nations as we continue to engage the international community to achieve the independence of the State of Palestine where the Palestinian people can finally live in peace, prosperity and dignity.

Riyad Mansour

Dr. Riyad Mansour
Ambassador, Permanent Observer
of the State of Palestine to the United Nations
New York

Forward

"The core components of a just solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict do not require effort to discover, but rather what is needed is the will to implement them. And marathon negotiations are not required to determine them, but rather what is needed is the sincere intention reach peace. And those components are by no means a mysterious puzzle or intractable riddle, but rather are the clearest and most logical in the world. This includes the realization of the independence of the State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, over the entire territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and the realization of a just, agreed solution to the Palestine refugee issue in accordance with resolution 194 (III), as prescribed in the Arab Peace Initiative."

H.E. Mahmoud Abbas
President of the State of Palestine
during the General Debate of the 67th
United Nations General Assembly
-- 27 September 2012

Abbreviated Terms

PLO:	**Palestine Liberation Organisation**
PA:	**Palestinian Authority**
QoP:	**Question of Palestine**
UN:	**United Nations**
GA:	**General Assembly**
SC:	**Security Council**
UNGA	**United Nations General Assembly**
67th session:	**United Nations General Assembly 67th session**
Yes or Y:	**Voting in favour**
No or N:	**Voting against**
A:	**Abstain**
X:	**Absent**
Plen.	**Plenary of the General Assembly of the United Nations**
C.1, C.2, C.3, C.4	**First Committee, Second Committee, Third Committee, Fourth Committee**

Abbreviations for Resolutions

CEIRPP:	**Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People**
DPR:	**Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat**
DPI Prog:	**Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat**
Peaceful settlement:	**Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine**
Jerusalem:	**Jerusalem**
UNRWA assist.:	**Assistance to Palestine refugees**
Displaced persons 1967:	**Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities**
UNRWA Operations:	**Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East resolution**
Refugee's properties:	**Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues**
Special Committee:	**Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the Occupied Territories**
Applicability GC:	**Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories**
Settlements:	**Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan**
Israeli Practices:	**Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem**
Self-determination:	**The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination**
Natural Resources:	**Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources**

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No.	Resolution Title	UN Symbol	Date of Action	Vote Yes –No-Abstain
1.	Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources	A/RES/67/229	21 Dec. 2012	170-7-9
2.	The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination	A/RES/67/158	20 Dec. 2012	179-7-3
3.	Assistance to the Palestinian people	A/RES/67/86	13 Dec. 2012	Without Vote
4.	Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem	A/RES/67/121	18 Dec. 2012	164-8-6
5.	Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan	A/RES/67/120	18 Dec. 2012	169-6-5
6.	Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories	A/RES/67/119	18 Dec. 2012	171-6-3
7.	Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories	A/RES/67/118	18 Dec. 2012	98-8-72
8.	Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues	A/RES/67/117	18 Dec. 2012	173-6-2
9.	Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	A/RES/67/116	18 Dec. 2012	172-6-1
10.	Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities	A/RES/67/115	18 Dec. 2011	170-6-4
11.	Assistance to Palestine refugees	A/RES/67/114	18 Dec. 2012	170-1-8
12.	Jerusalem	A/RES/67/24	30 Nov. 2012	162-7-6
13.	Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine	A/RES/67/23	30 Nov. 2012	163-6-5
14.	Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat	A/RES/67/22	30 Nov. 2012	160-7-7
15.	Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat	A/RES/67/21	30 Nov. 2012	103-7-61
16.	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People	A/RES/67/20	30 Nov. 2012	106-7-56
17.	Status of Palestine in the United Nations	A/RES/67/19	29 Nov. 2012	138-9-41

Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources (A/RES/67/229)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 66/225 of 22 December 2011, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/23 of 26 July 2012,

Recalling also its resolutions 58/292 of 6 May 2004 and 59/251 of 22 December 2004,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[1] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Recalling, in this regard, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[2] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan,

Recalling also the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the*Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[3] and recalling further its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Expressing its concern about the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of the natural resources of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Expressing its grave concern about the extensive destruction by Israel, the occupying Power, of agricultural land and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including the uprooting of a vast number of fruit-bearing trees and the destruction of farms and greenhouses, and the grave environmental and economic impact in this regard,

Expressing its concern about the widespread destruction caused by Israel, the occupying Power, to vital infrastructure, including water pipelines and sewage networks, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in particular in the Gaza Strip in the recent period, which, inter alia, pollutes the environment and negatively affects the water supply and other natural resources of the Palestinian people,

Taking note, in this regard, of the 2009 report by the United Nations Environment Programme regarding the grave environmental situation in the Gaza Strip,[4] and stressing the need for follow-up to the recommendations contained therein,

Aware of the detrimental impact of the Israeli settlements on Palestinian and other

Arab natural resources, especially as a result of the confiscation of land and the forced diversion of water resources, including the destruction of orchards and crops and the seizure of water wells by Israeli settlers, and of the dire socioeconomic consequences in this regard,

Aware also of the detrimental impact on Palestinian natural resources being caused by the unlawful construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and of its grave effect as well on the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people,

Reaffirming the need for the resumption and accelerated advancement of negotiations within the Middle East peace process, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[5] and the Quartet performance-based road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[6] as endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003 and supported by the Council in its resolution 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008, for the achievement of a final peace settlement on all tracks,

Stressing in this regard the need for respect for the obligation upon Israel under the road map to freeze settlement activity, including so-called “natural growth”, and to dismantle all settlement outposts erected since March 2001,

Stressing also the need for respect and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling the need to end all acts of violence, including acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction,

Taking note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan,[7]

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and of the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land, water and energy resources;

2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease the exploitation, damage, cause of loss or depletion, and endangerment of the natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

3. *Recognizes* the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, damage, loss or depletion, or endangerment of their natural resources resulting from illegal measures taken by Israel, the occupying Power, and Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with within the framework of the final status negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

4. *Stresses* that the wall and settlements being constructed by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, are contrary to international law and are seriously depriving the Palestinian people of their natural

resources, and calls in this regard for full compliance with the legal obligations affirmed in the 9 July 2004 advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice [3] and in relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution ES-10/15;

5. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, with respect to the alteration of the character and status of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

6. *Also calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cease all actions harming the environment, including the dumping of all kinds of waste materials in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, which gravely threaten their natural resources, namely water and land resources, and which pose an environmental, sanitation and health threat to the civilian populations;

7. *Further calls upon* Israel to cease its destruction of vital infrastructure, including water pipelines and sewage networks, which, inter alia, has a negative impact on the natural resources of the Palestinian people;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including with regard to the cumulative impact of the exploitation, damage and depletion by Israel of natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources".

Notes

[1]United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.
[2] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[3] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.
[4] *Environmental Assessment of the Gaza Strip following the Escalation of Hostilities in December 2008-January 2009*(United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.III.D.30).
[5] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.
[6] S/2003/529, annex.
[7]A/67/91-E/2012/13.

The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination (A/RES/67/158)

The General Assembly,

Aware that the development of friendly relations among nations, based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, is among the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as defined in the Charter,

Recalling, in this regard, its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 entitled "Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations",

Bearing in mind the International Covenants on Human Rights,[1] the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[2]the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples[3] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[4]

Recalling the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[5]

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[6]

Recalling further the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the*Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[7] and noting in particular the reply of the Court, including on the right of peoples to self-determination, which is a right *erga omnes*,[8]

Recalling the conclusion of the Court, in its advisory opinion of 9 July 2004, that the construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, along with measures previously taken, severely impedes the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination,[9]

Expressing the urgent need for the resumption and accelerated advancement of negotiations within the Middle East peace process, based on the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, the Madrid terms of reference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[10] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[11] and for the speedy achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Stressing the need for respect for and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and recalling in this regard its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Recalling its resolution 66/146 of 19 December 2011,

Affirming the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine;

2. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their right to self-determination.

Notes

[1] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[2] Resolution 217 A (III).
[3] Resolution 1514 (XV).
[4] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.
[5] See resolution 50/6.
[6] Resolution 55/2.
[7] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.
[8] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1, advisory opinion, para. 88; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.
[9] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1, advisory opinion, para. 122; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.
[10] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.
[11] S/2003/529, annex.

Assistance to the Palestinian people (A/RES/67/86)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 66/118 of 15 December 2011, as well as its previous resolutions on the question,

Recalling also the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[1] and the subsequent implementation agreements concluded by the two sides,

Recalling further all relevant international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, and, in particular, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[3] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[4]

Gravely concerned at the difficult living conditions and humanitarian situation affecting the Palestinian people, in particular women and children, throughout the occupied Palestinian territory,

Conscious of the urgent need for improvement in the economic and social infrastructure of the occupied territory,

Welcoming, in this context, the development of projects, notably on infrastructure, to revive the Palestinian economy and improve the living conditions of the Palestinian people, stressing the need to create the appropriate conditions to facilitate the implementation of these projects, and noting the contribution of partners in the region and of the international community,

Aware that development is difficult under occupation and is best promoted in circumstances of peace and stability,

Noting the great economic and social challenges facing the Palestinian people and their leadership,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well-being of all people, in particular women and children, in the whole Middle East region, the promotion of which is facilitated, inter alia, in a stable and secure environment,

Deeply concerned about the negative impact, including the health and psychological consequences, of violence on the present and future well-being of children in the region,

Conscious of the urgent necessity for international assistance to the Palestinian people, taking into account the Palestinian priorities,

Expressing grave concern about the humanitarian situation in Gaza, and underlining the importance of emergency and humanitarian assistance,

Welcoming the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians and the work being done by the World Bank as its secretariat and the establishment of the Consultative Group, as well as all follow-up meetings and international mechanisms established to provide assistance to the Palestinian people,

Underlining the importance of the International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Economy for the Reconstruction of Gaza, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 2 March 2009, in addressing the immediate humanitarian situation in Gaza and in mobilizing donors to provide financial and political support for the Palestinian Authority in order to alleviate the socioeconomic and humanitarian situation being faced by the Palestinian people,

Recalling the International Donors' Conference for the Palestinian State, held in Paris on 17 December 2007, the Berlin Conference in Support of Palestinian Civil Security and the Rule of Law, held on 24 June 2008, and the Palestine Investment Conferences, held in Bethlehem from 21 to 23 May 2008 and on 2 and 3 June 2010,

Welcoming the latest meetings of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians, held in Brussels on 21 March and in New York on 23 September 2012,

Welcoming also the activities of the Joint Liaison Committee, which provides a forum in which economic policy and practical matters related to donor assistance are discussed with the Palestinian Authority,

Welcoming further the implementation of the Palestinian National Development Plan 2011-2013 on governance, economy, social development and infrastructure, and stressing the need for continued international support for the Palestinian State-building process, as outlined in the summary of the Chair of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee held on 23 September 2012,

Stressing the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building Palestinian institutions and in providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people,

Welcoming recent steps to ease the restrictions on movement and access in the West Bank, while stressing the need for further steps to be taken in this regard, and recognizing that such steps would improve living conditions and the situation on the ground and could promote further Palestinian economic development,

Acknowledging the measures announced by Israel regarding access to the Gaza Strip, while calling for full implementation and complementary measures that address the need for a fundamental change in policy that allows for the sustained and regular opening of the border crossings for the movement of persons and goods, including for the reconstruction and economic recovery of Gaza,

Welcoming the action of the Special Representative of the Quartet, Tony Blair, charged with developing, with the Government of the Palestinian Authority, a multi-year agenda to strengthen institutions, promote economic development and mobilize international funds,

Stressing the urgency of reaching a durable solution to the crisis in Gaza through the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009,

Stressing also the importance of the regular opening of the crossings for the movement of persons and goods, for both humanitarian and commercial flows,

Noting the active participation of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority in the activities of the Special Envoys of the Quartet,

Welcoming the endorsement by the Security Council, in resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, of the performance-based road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[5] and stressing the need for its implementation and compliance with its provisions,

Commending the efforts within the Quartet by the United States of America, the European Union, the United Nations and the Russian Federation in pursuing vigorously a two-State solution, noting the commitment of the Quartet to remain actively involved and the need for strong international support to promote the peace process, and calling for the resumption and acceleration of negotiations between the Israeli and Palestinian sides towards a comprehensive resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict, on the basis of relevant Security Council resolutions and the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, in order to ensure a political solution, with two States — Israel and an independent, democratic, contiguous and viable Palestinian State — living side by side in peace and security,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[6]

Expressing grave concern about continuing violence against civilians,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his rapid response and efforts regarding assistance to the Palestinian people;

3. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority and of the steps taken under the auspices of the Secretary-General to ensure the achievement of a coordinated mechanism for United Nations activities throughout the occupied territories;

5. *Urges* Member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional and interregional organizations to extend, as rapidly and as generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people, in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and through official Palestinian institutions;

6. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the meetings of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians of 21 March and 23 September 2012 and the outcome of the International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Economy for the Reconstruction of Gaza, at which donors pledged approximately 4.5 billion United States dollars to support the needs of the Palestinian people;

7. *Recalls* the International Donors' Conference for the Palestinian State, the Berlin Conference in Support of Palestinian Civil Security and the Rule of Law, and the Palestine Investment Conferences;

8. *Stresses* the importance of following up on the results of the International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Economy for the Reconstruction of Gaza;

9. *Calls upon* donors that have not yet converted their budget support pledges into disbursements to transfer funds as soon as possible, encourages all donors to increase their direct assistance to the Palestinian Authority in accordance with its government programme in order to enable it to build a viable and prosperous Palestinian State, underlines the need for equitable burden-sharing by donors in this effort, and encourages donors to consider aligning funding cycles with the Palestinian Authority's national budget cycle;

10. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their assistance in response to the urgent needs of the Palestinian people in accordance with priorities set forth by the Palestinian side;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and recognizes the vital role of the Agency in providing humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people, particularly in the Gaza Strip;

12. *Calls upon* the international community to provide urgently needed assistance and services in an effort to alleviate the difficult humanitarian situation being faced by Palestinian women, children and their families and to help in the reconstruction and development of relevant Palestinian institutions;

13. *Stresses* the role that all funding instruments, including the European Commission's Palestinian-European Mechanism for the Management of Socio-Economic Aid and the World Bank trust fund, have been playing in directly assisting the Palestinian people;

14. *Urges* Member States to open their markets to exports of Palestinian products on the most favourable terms, consistent with appropriate trading rules, and to implement fully existing trade and cooperation agreements;

15. *Calls upon* the international donor community to expedite the delivery of pledged assistance to the Palestinian people to meet their urgent needs;

16. *Stresses*, in this context, the importance of ensuring free humanitarian access to the Palestinian people and the free movement of persons and goods;

17. *Also stresses* the need for the full implementation by both parties of the Agreement on Movement and Access and of the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, of 15 November 2005, to allow for the freedom of movement of the Palestinian civilian population, as well as for imports and exports, within and into and out of the Gaza Strip;

18. *Further stresses* the need to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, premises, facilities, equipment, vehicles and supplies, as well as the need to ensure safe and unhindered access by humanitarian personnel and delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow such personnel to efficiently perform their task of assisting affected civilian populations;

19. *Urges* the international donor community, United Nations agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to extend to the Palestinian people, as rapidly as possible, emergency economic assistance and humanitarian assistance, particularly in the Gaza Strip, to counter the impact of the current crisis;

20. *Stresses* the need for the continued implementation of the Paris Protocol on Economic Relations of 29 April 1994, fifth annex to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[7] including with regard to the full, prompt and regular transfer of Palestinian indirect tax revenues;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, containing:

(a) An assessment of the assistance actually received by the Palestinian people;

(b) An assessment of the needs still unmet and specific proposals for responding effectively to them;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", the sub-item entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".

Notes

[1]A/48/486-S/26560, annex.
[2]See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[3]United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.
[4]Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.
[5]S/2003/529, annex.
[6]A/67/84-E/2012/68.
[7]A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem (A/RES/67/121)

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1]

Recalling also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[2] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[3] and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Reaffirming its relevant resolutions, including resolution 66/79 of 9 December 2011 as well as those adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, and stressing the need for their implementation,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[4] and the report of the Secretary-General,[5]

Taking note of the recent reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967,[6] as well as of other relevant recent reports of the Human Rights Council,

Aware of the responsibility of the international community to promote human

rights and ensure respect for international law, and recalling in this regard its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice,[7] and recalling also General Assembly resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Noting in particular the Court's reply, including that the construction of the wall being built by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime are contrary to international law,

Reaffirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[8] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Reaffirming further the obligation of the States parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention[8] under articles 146, 147 and 148 with regard to penal sanctions, grave breaches and responsibilities of the High Contracting Parties,

Reaffirming that all States have the right and the duty to take actions in conformity with international law and international humanitarian law to counter deadly acts of violence against their civilian population in order to protect the lives of their citizens,

Stressing the need for full compliance with the Israeli-Palestinian agreements reached within the context of the Middle East peace process, including the Sharm el-Sheikh understandings, and the implementation of the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[9]

Stressing also the need for the full implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, both of 15 November 2005, to allow for the freedom of movement of the Palestinian civilian population within and into and out of the Gaza Strip,

Expressing grave concern about the continuing systematic violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people by Israel, the occupying Power, including that arising from the excessive use of force and military operations causing death and injury to Palestinian civilians, including children, women and non-violent, peaceful demonstrators; the arbitrary imprisonment and detention of Palestinians; the use of collective punishment; the closure of areas; the confiscation of land; the establishment and expansion of settlements; the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory in departure from the Armistice Line of 1949; the destruction of property and infrastructure; and all other actions by it designed to change the legal status, geographical nature and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Gravely concerned in particular about the critical humanitarian, socioeconomic and security situation in the Gaza Strip, including that resulting from the prolonged closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade and from the continuing negative repercussions of the military operations between December 2008 and January 2009, which caused extensive loss of life and

injury, particularly among Palestinian civilians, including children and women, widespread destruction and damage to Palestinian homes, properties, vital infrastructure and public institutions, including hospitals, schools and United Nations facilities, and the internal displacement of civilians, as well as about the firing of rockets into Israel,

Stressing the need for the full implementation by all parties of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009 and General Assembly resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009,

Gravely concerned by reports regarding serious human rights violations and grave breaches of international humanitarian law committed during the military operations in the Gaza Strip between December 2008 and January 2009, including the findings in the summary by the Secretary-General of the report of the Board of Inquiry[10] and in the report of the United Nations Fact-finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict,[11] and reiterating the necessity for serious follow-up by all parties of the recommendations addressed to them towards ensuring accountability and justice,

Expressing deep concern about the short- and long-term detrimental impact of such widespread destruction and the continued impeding of the reconstruction process by Israel, the occupying Power, on the human rights situation and on the socioeconomic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian civilian population,

Also expressing deep concern about the Israeli policy of closures and the imposition of severe restrictions, checkpoints, several of which have been transformed into structures akin to permanent border crossings, and a permit regime, all of which obstruct the freedom of movement of persons and goods, including medical and humanitarian goods, throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and impair the Territory's contiguity, consequently violating the human rights of the Palestinian people and negatively impacting their socioeconomic situation and the efforts aimed at rehabilitating and developing the Palestinian economy, which remains that of a critical humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, while taking note of recent developments with regard to the situation of access there,

Expressing grave concern that thousands of Palestinians, including many children and women, continue to be held in Israeli prisons or detention centres under harsh conditions, including, inter alia, unhygienic conditions, solitary confinement, the extensive use of administrative detention of excessive duration without charge and denial of due process, lack of proper medical care, denial of family visits and denial of due process, that impair their well-being, and expressing grave concern also about the ill-treatment and harassment of any Palestinian prisoners and all reports of torture,

Expressing deep concern about the recent hunger strikes by numerous Palestinian prisoners in protest of the harsh conditions of their imprisonment and detention by the occupying Power, while taking note of the agreement reached in May 2012 on conditions of detention in Israeli prisons and calling for its full and immediate implementation,

Expressing concern about the possible consequences of the enactment by Israel, the occupying Power, of military orders regarding the detention, imprisonment and deportation of Palestinian civilians from the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and recalling in this regard the prohibition under international

humanitarian law of the deportation of civilians from occupied territories,

Convinced of the need for an international presence to monitor the situation, to contribute to ending the violence and protecting the Palestinian civilian population and to help the parties implement the agreements reached, and in this regard recalling the positive contribution of the Temporary International Presence in Hebron,

Taking note of the continued efforts and tangible progress made in the security sector by the Palestinian Authority, calling upon the parties to continue cooperation that benefits both Palestinians and Israelis, in particular by promoting security and building confidence, and expressing the hope that such progress will be extended to all major population centres,

Emphasizing the right of all people in the region to the enjoyment of human rights as enshrined in the international human rights covenants,

1. *Reiterates* that all measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in violation of the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, [8] and contrary to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, are illegal and have no validity;

2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all practices and actions that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people, including the killing and injury of civilians, the arbitrary detention and imprisonment of civilians and the destruction and confiscation of civilian property, and that it fully respect human rights law and comply with its legal obligations in this regard, including in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions;

3. *Also demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply fully with the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 [8] and cease immediately all measures and actions taken in violation and in breach of the Convention;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to resume full cooperation with the Human Rights Council and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

5. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all of its settlement activities, the construction of the wall and any other measures aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, all of which, inter alia, gravely and detrimentally impact the human rights of the Palestinian people and the prospects for a peaceful settlement;

6. *Calls for* urgent attention to the plight of Palestinian prisoners and detainees in Israeli jails, and calls for efforts between the two sides for the further release of prisoners and detainees;

7. *Condemns* all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction, especially the excessive use of force by the Israeli occupying forces against Palestinian civilians, particularly in the Gaza Strip, which have caused extensive loss of life and vast numbers of injuries, including among children, massive damage and destruction to homes, properties, vital infrastructure and public institutions, including hospitals, schools and United Nations facilities, and agricultural lands, and internal displacement of civilians;

8. *Expresses grave concern* at the firing of rockets against Israeli civilian areas resulting in loss of life and injury;

9. *Reiterates its demand* for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009);

10. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations under international law, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice [7] and as demanded in General Assembly resolutions ES-10/15 and ES-10/13 of 21 October 2003, and that it immediately cease the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, dismantle forthwith the structure situated therein, repeal or render ineffective all legislative and regulatory acts relating thereto, and make reparation for all damage caused by the construction of the wall, which has gravely impacted the human rights and the socioeconomic living conditions of the Palestinian people;

11. *Reiterates* the need for respect for the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory and for guarantees of the freedom of movement of persons and goods within the Palestinian territory, including movement into and from East Jerusalem, into and from the Gaza Strip, between the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and to and from the outside world;

12. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cease its imposition of prolonged closures and economic and movement restrictions, including those amounting to a blockade on the Gaza Strip, and in this regard to fully implement the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, both of 15 November 2005, in order to allow for the sustained and regular movement of persons and goods and for the acceleration of long overdue reconstruction in the Gaza Strip;

13. *Urges* Member States to continue to provide emergency assistance to the Palestinian people to alleviate the financial crisis and the dire socioeconomic and humanitarian situation, particularly in the Gaza Strip;

14. *Emphasizes* the need to preserve and develop the Palestinian institutions and infrastructure for the provision of vital public services to the Palestinian civilian population and the promotion of human rights, including civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Notes

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).
[2] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.
[4] See A/67/550.
[5] A/67/372.
[6] A/HRC/20/32; see also A/67/379.
[7] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.
[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.
[9] S/2003/529, annex.
[10] See A/63/855-S/2009/250.
[11] A/HRC/12/48.

Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan (A/RES/67/120)

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolution 66/78 of 9 December 2011, as well as those resolutions adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 446 (1979) of 22 March 1979, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, 476 (1980) of 30 June 1980, 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981 and 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[1] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Affirming that the transfer by the occupying Power of parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies constitutes a breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention[1] and relevant provisions of customary law, including those codified in Additional Protocol I[2] to the four Geneva Conventions,[3]

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[4] and recalling also General Assembly resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Noting that the International Court of Justice concluded that "the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (including East Jerusalem) have been established in breach of international law",[5]

Taking note of the recent reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967,[6]

Recalling the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[7] and the subsequent implementation agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Recalling also the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[8] and emphasizing specifically its call for a freeze on all settlement activity, including so-called natural growth, and the dismantlement of all settlement outposts erected since March 2001, and the need for Israel to uphold its obligations and commitments in this regard,

Aware that Israeli settlement activities involve, inter alia, the transfer of nationals of the occupying Power into the occupied territories, the confiscation of land, the displacement of Palestinian families, the exploitation of natural resources and other actions against the Palestinian civilian population and the civilian population in the occupied Syrian Golan that are contrary to international law,

Bearing in mind the extremely detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities on the efforts to resume and advance the peace process, on the credibility of the peace process and on the prospects for the achievement of peace in the Middle East in accordance with the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, on the basis of the pre-1967 borders,

Expressing grave concern about the continuation by Israel, the occupying Power, of settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East

Jerusalem, in violation of international humanitarian law, relevant United Nations resolutions, the agreements reached between the parties and obligations under the Quartet road map, and in defiance of the calls by the international community to cease all settlement activities,

Expressing grave concern in particular about Israel's construction and expansion of settlements in and around occupied East Jerusalem, including its so-called E-1 plan that aims to connect its illegal settlements around and further isolate occupied East Jerusalem, the continuing demolition of Palestinian homes and eviction of Palestinian families from the city, the revocation of Palestinian residency rights in the city, and ongoing settlement activities in the Jordan Valley,

Expressing grave concern about the continuing unlawful construction by Israel of the wall inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and expressing its concern in particular about the route of the wall in departure from the Armistice Line of 1949, which is causing humanitarian hardship and a serious decline of socioeconomic conditions for the Palestinian people, is fragmenting the territorial contiguity of the Territory and undermining its viability, and could prejudge future negotiations and make the two-State solution physically impossible to implement,

Deeply concerned that the wall's route has been traced in such a way as to include the great majority of the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Deploring settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan and any activities involving the confiscation of land, the disruption of the livelihood of protected persons and the de facto annexation of land,

Recalling the need to end all acts of violence, including acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction,

Gravely concerned about the rising incidents of violence, destruction, harassment, provocation and incitement by illegal armed Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, against Palestinian civilians, including children, and their properties, including historic and religious sites, and agricultural lands,

Taking note of the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[9]

Noting the special meeting of the Security Council convened on 26 September 2008, as well as the meeting of the Council of 18 February 2011,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan are illegal and an obstacle to peace and economic and social development;

2. *Calls upon* Israel to accept the de jure applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, [1] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan and to abide scrupulously by the provisions of the Convention, in particular article 49, and to comply with all of its obligations under international law and cease immediately all actions causing the alteration of the character, status and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the occupied Syrian Golan;

3. *Reiterates its demand* for the immediate and complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and calls in this regard for the full implementation of all the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including, inter alia, resolutions 446 (1979), 452 (1979) of 20 July 1979, 465 (1980), 476 (1980) and 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003;

4. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice;[4]

5. *Reiterates its call* for the prevention of all acts of violence, destruction, harassment and provocation by Israeli settlers, especially against Palestinian civilians and their properties, including historic and religious sites, and agricultural lands, and stresses the need for the implementation of Security Council resolution 904 (1994), in which the Council called upon Israel, the occupying Power, to continue to take and implement measures, including confiscation of arms, aimed at preventing illegal acts of violence by Israeli settlers, and called for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians in the occupied territory;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Notes

[1]United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.
[2]Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.
[3] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.
[4] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.
[5] Ibid., advisory opinion para. 120.
[6]A/HRC/20/32; see also A/67/379.
[7] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.
[8]S/2003/529, annex.
[9]A/67/332, A.67.337, A/67/372, A/67/375 and A/67/511.

Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories (A/RES/67/119)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolution 66/77 of 9 December 2011,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Recalling the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention IV of 1907,[1] the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[2] and relevant provisions of customary law, including those codified in Additional Protocol I[3] to the four Geneva Conventions,[4]

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[5] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[6]

Considering that the promotion of respect for the obligations arising from the Charter of the United Nations and other instruments and rules of international law is among the basic purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice,[7] and also recalling General

Assembly resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

Noting in particular the Court's reply, including that the Fourth Geneva Convention [2] is applicable in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and that Israel is in breach of several of the provisions of the Convention,

Recalling the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, held on 15 July 1999, as well as the Declaration adopted by the reconvened Conference on 5 December 2001 and the need for the parties to follow up the implementation of the Declaration,

Welcoming and encouraging the initiatives by States parties to the Convention, both individually and collectively, according to article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions, aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention, as well as the continuing efforts of the depositary State of the Geneva Conventions in this regard,

Stressing that Israel, the occupying Power, should comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[2] is applicable to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Demands* that Israel accept the de jure applicability of the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and that it comply scrupulously with the provisions of the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* all High Contracting Parties to the Convention, in accordance with article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions[4] and as mentioned in the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 9 July 2004,[7] to continue to exert all efforts to ensure respect for its provisions by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

4. *Reiterates* the need for speedy implementation of the relevant recommendations contained in the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, including at its tenth emergency special session and including resolution ES-10/15, with regard to ensuring respect by Israel, the occupying Power, for the provisions of the Convention;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Notes

1 See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907 (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).
2 United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973.
3 Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.
4Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.
5See A/67/550.
6 A/67/332, A/67/338, A/67/372, A/67/375 and A/67/511.
7See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (A/RES/66/76)

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided also by international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[1] as well as international standards of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[2] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[3]

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968 and 66/76 of 9 December 2011, and the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council, including resolution S-12/1, adopted by the Council at its twelfth special session on 16 October 2009,[4]

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Taking into account the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[5] and recalling in this regard its resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

Recalling its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Convinced that occupation itself represents a gross and grave violation of human rights,

Gravely concerned about the continuing detrimental impact of ongoing unlawful Israeli practices and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including the excessive use of force by the Israeli occupying forces against Palestinian civilians, resulting in the death and injury of civilians, the widespread destruction of property and vital infrastructure, ongoing settlement activities and construction of the wall, the internal displacement of civilians, the imposition of collective punishment measures, particularly against the civilian population in the Gaza Strip, where continuing severe restrictions on movement amount to a blockade, and the detention and imprisonment of thousands of Palestinians,

Gravely concerned also about acts of violence, intimidation and provocation by Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians and properties, including homes, mosques, churches and agricultural lands,

Gravely concerned in particular by reports regarding serious human rights violations and grave breaches of international humanitarian law committed during the military operations in the Gaza Strip between December 2008 and January 2009, including the findings in the summary by the Secretary-General of the report of the Board of Inquiry[6] and in the report of the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict,[7] and reiterating the necessity for serious follow-up by all parties to the recommendations addressed to them towards ensuring accountability and justice,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories,[8] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[9]

Recalling the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[10] and the subsequent implementation agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Stressing the urgency of bringing a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and thus an end to the violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people, and of allowing for the realization of their inalienable human rights, including their right to self-determination and their independent State,

Taking note of the application of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 2011,[11]

1. *Commends* the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly and for its impartiality;

2. *Reiterates its demand* that Israel, the occupying Power, cooperate, in accordance with its obligations as a State Member of the United Nations, with the Special Committee in implementing its mandate;

3. *Deplores* those policies and practices of Israel that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories, as reflected in the report of the Special Committee covering the reporting period;[8]

4. *Expresses grave concern* about the critical situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly in the Gaza Strip, as a result of unlawful Israeli practices and measures, and especially condemns and calls for the immediate cessation of all illegal Israeli settlement activities and the construction of the wall, as well as the excessive and indiscriminate use of force against the civilian population, the destruction and confiscation of properties, all measures of collective punishment, and the detention and imprisonment of thousands of civilians;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee, pending complete termination of the Israeli occupation, to continue to investigate Israeli policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, especially Israeli violations of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[1] and to consult, as appropriate, with the International Committee of the Red Cross according to its regulations in order to ensure that the welfare and human rights of the peoples of the occupied territories are safeguarded and to report to the Secretary-General as soon as possible and whenever the need arises thereafter;

6. *Also requests* the Special Committee to submit regularly to the Secretary-General periodic reports on the current situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

7. *Further requests* the Special Committee to continue to investigate the treatment and status of the thousands of prisoners and detainees, including children and women, in Israeli prisons and detention centres in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and expresses grave concern about harsh conditions and ill-treatment of prisoners and recent hunger strikes, while taking note of the agreement reached on May 2012 concerning conditions of detention in Israeli prisons and calling for its full and immediate implementation;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To provide the Special Committee with all necessary facilities, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories, so that it may investigate the Israeli policies and practices referred to in the present resolution;

(*b*) To continue to make available such staff as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its tasks;

(*c*) To circulate regularly to Member States the periodic reports mentioned in paragraph 6 above;

(*d*) To ensure the widest circulation of the reports of the Special Committee and of information regarding its activities and findings, by all means available, through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and, where necessary, to reprint those reports of the Special Committee that are no longer available;

(*e*) To report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the tasks entrusted to him in the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories".

Notes

[1]United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.
[2] Resolution 217 A (III).
[3] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[4]See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/64/53/Add.1), chap. I.
[5]See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.
[6] See A/63/855-S/2009/250.
[7]A/HRC/12/48.
[8]A/67/550.
[9] A/67/332, A/67/338, A/67/372, A/67/375 and A/67/511.
[10]A/48/486-S/26560, annex.
[11]A/66/371-S/2011/592.

Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues (A/RES/67/117)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and 36/146 C of 16 December 1981 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to its resolution 66/75 of 9 December 2011,[1] as well as that of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine for the period from 1 September 2011 to 31 August 2012,[2]

Recalling that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[3] and the principles of international law uphold the principle that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his or her property,

Recalling in particular its resolution 394 (V) of 14 December 1950, in which it directed the Conciliation Commission, in consultation with the parties concerned, to prescribe measures for the protection of the rights, property and interests of the Palestine refugees,

Noting the completion of the programme of identification and evaluation of Arab property, as announced by the Conciliation Commission in its twenty-second progress report,[4] and the fact that the Land Office had a schedule of Arab owners and a file of documents defining the location, area and other particulars of Arab property,

Expressing its appreciation for the preservation and modernization of the existing records, including the land records, of the Conciliation Commission, and stressing the importance of such records for a just resolution of the plight of the Palestine

refugees in conformity with resolution 194 (III),

Recalling that, in the framework of the Middle East peace process, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Government of Israel agreed, in the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993,[5] to commence negotiations on permanent status issues, including the important issue of the refugees,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Palestine refugees are entitled to their property and to the income derived therefrom, in conformity with the principles of equity and justice;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all appropriate steps, in consultation with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, for the protection of Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel;

3. *Calls once again upon* Israel to render all facilities and assistance to the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned to provide the Secretary-General with any pertinent information in their possession concerning Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel that would assist him in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Urges* the Palestinian and Israeli sides, as agreed between them, to deal with the important issue of Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues within the framework of the final status negotiations of the Middle East peace process;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Notes

[1] A/67/334.
[2] A/67/343, annex.
[3] Resolution 217 A (III).
[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes*, Annex No. 11, document A/5700.
[5] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (A/RES/67/116)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 212 (III) of 19 November 1948, 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 and all subsequent related resolutions, including its resolution 66/74 of 9 December 2011,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Having considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2011,[1]

Taking note of the letter dated 19 June 2012 from the Chair of the Advisory Commission of the Agency to the Commissioner-General,[2]

Deeply concerned about the extremely critical financial situation of the Agency,

caused in part by the structural underfunding of the Agency, as well as its rising expenditures resulting from the deterioration of the socioeconomic and humanitarian conditions and the rising instability in the region and their significant negative impact on the provision of necessary Agency services to the Palestine refugees, including its emergency-related and development programmes in all fields of operation,

Recalling Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[3]

Recalling also the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[4]

Affirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[5] to the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem,

Aware of the continuing needs of the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation, namely, Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

Gravely concerned about the extremely difficult socioeconomic conditions being faced by the Palestine refugees in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly in the refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, as a result of the continuing prolonged Israeli closures, the construction of settlements and the wall, and the severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade, which have deepened unemployment and poverty rates among the refugees with potentially lasting, long-term negative effects,

Gravely concerned also about the continuing negative repercussions of the military operations in the Gaza Strip between December 2008 and January 2009, which caused extensive loss of life and injury, particularly among Palestinian civilians, including children and women; widespread destruction and damage to Palestinian homes, properties, vital infrastructure and public institutions, including hospitals, schools and United Nations facilities; and internal displacement of civilians, including refugees,

Commending the extraordinary efforts by the Agency to provide emergency relief, medical, food, shelter and other humanitarian assistance to needy and displaced families in the Gaza Strip,

Recalling, in this regard, its resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009 and Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009,

Expressing regret over the continued restrictions that impede the Agency's efforts to repair and rebuild thousands of damaged or destroyed refugee shelters, and calling upon Israel to ensure the unimpeded import of essential construction materials into the Gaza Strip, while taking note of recent developments regarding the situation of access there,

Expressing concern about the severe classroom shortage in the Gaza Strip and the consequent negative impact on the right to education of refugee children as a result of the constraints on the ability of the Agency to construct new schools due to Israel's ongoing restrictions impeding the entry of necessary construction materials into the Gaza Strip,

Stressing the urgent need for the advancement of reconstruction in the Gaza

Strip, including by ensuring the timely facilitation of construction projects as well as the swift entry of construction materials needed for projects managed by the Agency, and the need for the accelerated implementation of other urgent United Nations-led civilian reconstruction activities,

Urging the timely disbursement of remaining pledges made at the International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Economy for the Reconstruction of Gaza, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 2 March 2009, to accelerate the reconstruction process,

Noting with appreciation the completion of the first phase and near-completion of the second phase of the project to rebuild the Nahr el-Bared refugee camp, commending the Government of Lebanon, donors, the Agency and other concerned parties for the important progress made and for the continuing efforts to assist affected and displaced refugees, and emphasizing the need for additional funding to complete the reconstruction of the camp and end the displacement of its 27,000 residents without delay,

Expressing deep concern at the situation of Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic, and regretting profoundly the loss of life among refugees and the staff members of the Agency,

Emphasizing the need for increased assistance to Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic as well as those who have fled to neighbouring countries,

Aware of the valuable work done by the Agency in providing protection to the Palestinian people, in particular Palestine refugees,

Deploring the endangerment of the safety of the Agency's staff and the damage and destruction caused to the facilities and properties of the Agency during the period covered by the report of the Commissioner-General,

Deploring also, in particular, the extensive damage and destruction of Agency facilities in the Gaza Strip caused during the military operations between December 2008 and January 2009, including schools where civilians were sheltered and the Agency's main compound and warehouse, as reported in the summary by the Secretary-General of the report of the Board of Inquiry[6] and in the report of the United Nations Fact-finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict,[7]

Deploring further, in this regard, the breaches of the inviolability of United Nations premises, the failure to accord the property and assets of the Organization immunity from any form of interference and the failure to protect United Nations personnel, premises and property,

Deploring the killing and injury of Agency staff members by the Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory since September 2000,

Deploring also the killing and wounding of refugee children in the Agency schools by the Israeli occupying forces during the military operations between December 2008 and January 2009,

Deeply concerned about the continuing imposition of restrictions on the freedom of movement and access of the Agency's staff, vehicles and goods, and the injury, harassment and intimidation of the Agency's staff, which undermine and obstruct the work of the Agency, including its ability to provide essential basic and emergency services,

Aware of the agreement between the Agency and the Government of Israel,

Taking note of the agreement reached on 24 June 1994, embodied in an exchange of letters between the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[8]

1. *Reaffirms* that the effective functioning of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East remains essential in all fields of operation;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Commissioner-General of the Agency, as well as to all the staff of the Agency, for their tireless efforts and valuable work, particularly in the light of the difficult conditions, instability and crises faced during the past year;

3. *Expresses special commendation* to the Agency for the essential role that it has played for over 60 years since its establishment in providing vital services for the well-being, human development and protection of the Palestine refugees and the amelioration of their plight;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* for the important support and cooperation provided by the host Governments to the Agency in the discharge of its duties;

5. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Advisory Commission of the Agency, and requests it to continue its efforts and to keep the General Assembly informed of its activities;

6. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Working Group on the Financing of the Agency[9] and the efforts to assist in ensuring the financial security of the Agency, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and assistance to the Working Group for the conduct of its work;

7. *Commends* the Agency's six-year Medium-Term Strategy, which commenced in January 2010, and the continuing efforts of the Commissioner-General to increase the budgetary transparency and efficiency of the Agency, as reflected in the Agency's programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013;[10]

8. *Also commends* the Agency for sustaining its reform efforts, despite difficult operational circumstances, and urges it to continue to apply maximum efficiency procedures to reduce operational and administrative costs and to maximize the use of resources;

9. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the management capacity of the Agency,[11] and further urges all Member States to carefully consider its conclusions and recommendations, including the continued provision of financial resources from the regular budget of the United Nations;

10. *Endorses* the efforts of the Commissioner-General to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis, and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are internally displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of recent crises in the Agency's fields of operation;

11. *Encourages* the Agency to provide increased assistance, in accordance with its mandate, to affected Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic as well as those who have fled to neighbouring countries, as detailed in the consolidated humanitarian response plan for the Syrian Arab Republic,

and calls upon donors to urgently support the Agency in this regard;

12. *Welcomes* the progress made thus far by the Agency in rebuilding the Nahr el-Bared refugee camp in northern Lebanon, and calls for the expeditious completion of its reconstruction, for the continued provision of relief assistance to those displaced following its destruction in 2007 and for the alleviation of their ongoing suffering through the timely fulfilment of pledges made at the International Donor Conference for the Recovery and Reconstruction of the Nahr el-Bared Palestine Refugee Camp and Conflict-affected Areas of Northern Lebanon, held in Vienna on 23 June 2008;

13. *Encourages* the Agency, in close cooperation with other relevant United Nations entities, to continue making progress in addressing the needs and rights of children, women and persons with disabilities in its operations in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[12] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[13] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[14] respectively;

14. *Commends*, in this regard, the Agency's "Summer Games" initiative providing recreational, cultural and educational activities for children in the Gaza Strip and, recognizing its positive contribution, calls for full support of the initiative, expressing regret that financial constraints led to the cancellation of the Games in 2012;

15. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply fully with the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;[5]

16. *Also calls upon* Israel to abide by Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations[3] in order to ensure the safety of the personnel of the Agency, the protection of its institutions and the safeguarding of the security of its facilities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

17. *Urges* the Government of Israel to expeditiously reimburse the Agency for all transit charges incurred and other financial losses sustained as a result of delays and restrictions on movement and access imposed by Israel;

18. *Calls upon* Israel particularly to cease obstructing the movement and access of the staff, vehicles and supplies of the Agency and to cease the levying of taxes, extra fees and charges, which affect the Agency's operations detrimentally;

19. *Reiterates its call upon* Israel to fully lift the restrictions impeding or delaying the import of necessary construction materials and supplies for the reconstruction and repair of thousands of damaged or destroyed refugee shelters, and for the implementation of suspended civilian infrastructure projects in refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, while noting the commencement of several projects in this regard;

20. *Requests* the Commissioner-General to proceed with the issuance of identification cards for Palestine refugees and their descendants in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

21. *Notes with appreciation* the completion of the Palestine Refugee Records Project and its contribution to the modernization of the Agency's archives;

22. *Also notes with appreciation* the success of the Agency's microfinance programme,

and calls upon the Agency, in close cooperation with the relevant agencies, to continue to contribute to the development of the economic and social stability of the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation;

23. *Reiterates its appeals* to all States, the specialized agencies and non governmental organizations to continue and to augment the special allocations for grants and scholarships for higher education to Palestine refugees in addition to their contributions to the regular budget of the Agency and to contribute to the establishment of vocational training centres for Palestine refugees, and requests the Agency to act as the recipient and trustee for the special allocations for grants and scholarships;

24. *Urges* all States, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to urgently increase their contributions to the Agency in order to address the persistent, growing and serious financial constraints and underfunding, especially with respect to the Agency's regular budget deficit, noting that financial shortfalls have been exacerbated by the current humanitarian situation and instability on the ground that have resulted in rising expenditures, in particular with regard to emergency services, and to support the Agency's valuable and necessary work in assisting the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation.

Notes

[1]*Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/67/13).
[2]Ibid., pp. vi to viii.
[3]Resolution 22 A (I).
[4]United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2051, No. 35457.
[5]Ibid., vol. 75, No. 973.
[6]See A/63/855-S/2009/250.
[7]A/HRC/12/48.
[8]*Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/49/13), annex I.
[9]A/67/382.
[10]*Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 13A* (A/66/13/Add.1).
[11]A/65/705.
[12]United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.
[13]Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.
[14]Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities (A/RES/67/115)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967, 2341 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and all subsequent related resolutions,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967 and 259 (1968) of 27 September 1968,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolution 66/73 of 9 December 2011,[1]

Taking note also of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2011,[2]

Concerned about the continuing human suffering resulting from the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities,

Taking note of the relevant provisions of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[3] with regard to the modalities for the admission of persons displaced in 1967, and concerned that the process agreed upon has not yet been effected,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of all persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities to return to their

homes or former places of residence in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Stresses* the necessity for an accelerated return of displaced persons, and calls for compliance with the mechanism agreed upon by the parties in article XII of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[3] on the return of displaced persons;

3. *Endorses*, in the meantime, the efforts of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis, and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are currently displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities;

4. *Strongly appeals* to all Governments and to organizations and individuals to contribute generously to the Agency and to the other intergovernmental and non governmental organizations concerned for the above-mentioned purposes;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after consulting with the Commissioner-General, to report to the General Assembly before its sixty-eighth session on the progress made with regard to the implementation of the present resolution.

Notes

[1]A/67/331.
[2]*Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/67/13).
[3]A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

Assistance to Palestine refugees (A/RES/67/114)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question, including resolution 66/72 of 9 December 2011,

Recalling also its resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949, by which, inter alia, it established the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,

Recalling further the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Aware of the fact that, for more than six decades, the Palestine refugees have suffered from the loss of their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

Affirming the imperative of resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees for the achievement of justice and for the achievement of lasting peace in the region,

Acknowledging the essential role that the Agency has played for over 60 years since its establishment in ameliorating the plight of the Palestine refugees through the provision of education, health, relief and social services and ongoing work in the areas of camp infrastructure, microfinance, protection and emergency assistance,

Taking note of the report of the Commissioner-General of the Agency covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2011,[1]

Aware of the continuing needs of the Palestine refugees throughout all the fields of operation, namely, Jordan, Lebanon, the

Syrian Arab Republic and the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

Expressing grave concern at the especially difficult situation of the Palestine refugees under occupation, including with regard to their safety, well-being and socioeconomic living conditions,

Expressing grave concern in particular at the critical humanitarian situation and socioeconomic conditions of the Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip, and underlining the importance of emergency and humanitarian assistance and urgent reconstruction efforts,

Noting the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements on 13 September 1993,[2] by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization and the subsequent implementation agreements,

1. *Notes with regret* that repatriation or compensation of the refugees, as provided for in paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), has not yet been effected, and that, therefore, the situation of the Palestine refugees continues to be a matter of grave concern and the Palestine refugees continue to require assistance to meet basic health, education and living needs;

2. *Also notes with regret* that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine has been unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and reiterates its request to the Conciliation Commission to continue exerting efforts towards the implementation of that paragraph and to report to the Assembly on the efforts being exerted in this regard as appropriate, but no later than 1 September 2013;

3. *Affirms* the necessity for the continuation of the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and the importance of its unimpeded operation and its provision of services for the well-being and human development of the Palestine refugees and for the stability of the region, pending the just resolution of the question of the Palestine refugees;

4. *Calls upon* all donors to continue to strengthen their efforts to meet the anticipated needs of the Agency, including with regard to increased expenditures arising from the serious socioeconomic and humanitarian situation and instability in the region, particularly in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and those needs mentioned in recent emergency appeals and in the consolidated humanitarian response plan for the Syrian Arab Republic;

5. *Commends* the Agency for its provision of vital assistance to the Palestine refugees and its role as a stabilizing factor in the region and the tireless efforts of the staff of the Agency in carrying out its mandate.

Notes

1. Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/67/13).
2. A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

Jerusalem
(A/RES/67/24)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, in particular its provisions regarding the City of Jerusalem,

Recalling also its resolution 36/120 E of 10 December 1981 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including resolution

56/31 of 3 December 2001, in which it, inter alia, determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

Recalling further the Security Council resolutions relevant to Jerusalem, including resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, inter alia, decided not to recognize the "Basic Law" on Jerusalem,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[1] and recalling its resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

Expressing its grave concern about any action taken by any body, governmental or non-governmental, in violation of the above-mentioned resolutions,

Expressing its grave concern also, in particular, about the continuation by Israel, the occupying Power, of illegal settlement activities, including the so-called E-1 plan, its construction of the wall in and around East Jerusalem, its restrictions on Palestinian access to and residence in East Jerusalem and the further isolation of the city from the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which are having a detrimental effect on the lives of Palestinians and could prejudge a final status agreement on Jerusalem,

Expressing its grave concern further about the continuing Israeli demolition of Palestinian homes, the revocation of residency rights and the eviction and displacement of numerous Palestinian families from East Jerusalem neighbourhoods, as well as other acts of provocation and incitement, including by Israeli settlers, in the city, including desecration of mosques and churches,

Expressing its concern about the Israeli excavations undertaken in the Old City of Jerusalem, including in and around religious sites,

Reaffirming that the international community, through the United Nations, has a legitimate interest in the question of the City of Jerusalem and in the protection of the unique spiritual, religious and cultural dimensions of the city, as foreseen in relevant United Nations resolutions on this matter,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Middle East,[2]

1. *Reiterates its determination* that any actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem are illegal and therefore null and void and have no validity whatsoever, and calls upon Israel to immediately cease all such illegal and unilateral measures;

2. *Stresses* that a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the question of the City of Jerusalem should take into account the legitimate concerns of both the Palestinian and Israeli sides and should include internationally guaranteed provisions to ensure the freedom of religion and of conscience of its inhabitants, as well as permanent, free and unhindered access to the holy places by people of all religions and nationalities;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth

session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Notes

[1]See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.
[2]A/67/342.

Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine (A/RES/67/23)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Recalling further relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, 1544 (2004) of 19 May 2004 and 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008,

Recalling the affirmation by the Security Council of the vision of a region where two States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side within secure and recognized borders,

Noting with concern that it has been sixty-five years since the adoption of its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 and forty-five years since the occupation of Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, in 1967,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution 66/17 of 30 November 2011,[1]

Reaffirming the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in accordance with international law and relevant resolutions,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[2] and recalling also its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Convinced that achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of comprehensive and lasting peace and stability in the Middle East,

Stressing that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Reaffirming the illegality of the Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem,

Expressing grave concern about the extremely detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including on the contiguity, integrity and viability of the Territory and the efforts to resume and advance the peace process and to achieve peace in the Middle East,

Expressing grave concern also about acts of violence, intimidation and provocation by Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians and properties, including homes, mosques, churches and agricultural lands,

Reaffirming the illegality of Israeli actions aimed at changing the status of Jerusalem, including settlement construction and expansion, home demolitions, evictions of Palestinian residents, excavations in and around religious and historic sites, and all other unilateral measures aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the city and of the Territory as a whole,

Reaffirming also that the construction by Israel, the occupying Power, of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime are contrary to international law,

Expressing deep concern about the continuing Israeli policy of closures and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, including medical and humanitarian, via the imposition of prolonged closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade, as well as of checkpoints and a permit regime throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the consequent negative impact on the contiguity of the Territory and the serious socioeconomic and humanitarian situation of the Palestinian people, which is critical in the Gaza Strip, and on the efforts aimed at rehabilitating and developing the damaged Palestinian economy, while taking note of recent developments regarding the situation of access to the Gaza Strip and in the West Bank,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[3] and the need for full compliance with the agreements concluded between the two sides,

Recalling also the endorsement by the Security Council, in resolution 1515 (2003), of the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict[4] and the call in Council resolution 1850 (2008) for the parties to fulfil their obligations under the road map and to refrain from any steps that could undermine confidence or prejudice the outcome of negotiations, and recalling further in this regard the relevant Quartet statements, including that of 23 September 2011,[5]

Stressing the road map obligation upon Israel to freeze settlement activity, including so-called “natural growth”, and to dismantle all settlement outposts erected since March 2001,

Recalling the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002,[6]

Expressing support for the agreed principles for bilateral negotiations, as affirmed by the parties in the Israeli-Palestinian Joint Understanding reached at the international conference held in Annapolis, United States of America, on 27 November 2007,[7] aimed at concluding a peace treaty resolving all outstanding issues, including all core issues, without exception, for the achievement of a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and ultimately of the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole for the realization of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East,

Reiterating support for the convening of an international conference in Moscow, as

envisioned by the Security Council in resolution 1850 (2008) and the Quartet statement of 23 September 2011, for the advancement and acceleration of a resumed peace process towards the fulfilment of its stated objectives,

Noting the important contribution to the peace process of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, including within the framework of the activities of the Quartet,

Noting also the continuing efforts of the Quartet's Special Representative towards the resumption of the peace process, in particular the efforts to strengthen Palestinian institutions, promote Palestinian economic development and mobilize donor support,

Welcoming the ongoing efforts of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians, under the chairmanship of Norway, and noting its recent meeting at United Nations Headquarters on 23 September 2012, at which the donor countries reconfirmed the assessment that the institutions of the Palestinian Authority are above the threshold of a functioning State in the key sectors studied and reaffirmed the necessity of continued and increased donor support for the Palestinian Authority,

Recognizing the efforts being undertaken by the Palestinian Authority, with international support, to rebuild, reform and strengthen its damaged institutions, emphasizing the need to preserve and further develop Palestinian institutions and infrastructure and commending, in this regard, the implementation of the Palestinian Authority's August 2009 plan for constructing the institutions of an independent Palestinian State within a twenty-four-month period and the ongoing implementation of its National Development Plan, and the significant achievements made, as confirmed in recent reports by international institutions, including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations, while also expressing concern about the negative impact of the current financial crisis being faced by the Palestinian Authority,

Welcoming the continued efforts and tangible progress made in the security sector by the Palestinian Authority, calling upon the parties to continue cooperation that benefits both Palestinians and Israelis, in particular by promoting security and building confidence, and expressing the hope that such progress will be extended to all major population centres,

Reiterating its concern over the negative developments that have continued to occur in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including the large number of deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinian civilians, the construction and expansion of settlements and the wall, acts of violence, vandalism and brutality committed against Palestinian civilians by Israeli settlers in the West Bank, the widespread destruction of public and private Palestinian property, including religious sites, and infrastructure, the internal displacement of civilians and the serious deterioration of the socioeconomic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian people,

Expressing grave concern, in particular, over the crisis in the Gaza Strip as a result of the continuing prolonged Israeli closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade and the

continuing negative repercussions of the military operations in the Gaza Strip between December 2008 and January 2009, which caused extensive loss of life and injury, particularly among Palestinian civilians, including children and women, widespread damage and destruction to Palestinian homes, properties, vital infrastructure, public institutions, including hospitals and schools, and United Nations facilities, and internal displacement of civilians,

Stressing the need for the full implementation by all parties of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009 and General Assembly resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009,

Expressing concern over continuing military actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including raids and arrest campaigns, and the continued imposition of hundreds of checkpoints and obstacles to movement in and around Palestinian population centres by the Israeli occupying forces, and emphasizing in this regard the need for the implementation by both sides of the Sharm el-Sheikh understandings,

Expressing grave concern about the imprisonment by Israel of thousands of Palestinians, including children, under harsh conditions,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety, protection and well-being of all civilians in the whole Middle East region, and condemning all acts of violence and terror against civilians on both sides, including the firing of rockets,

Expressing the hope for speedy progress towards Palestinian reconciliation for the restoration of Palestinian unity, under the leadership of the President of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, and consistent with Palestine Liberation Organization commitments, and of the situation in the Gaza Strip to that which existed prior to June 2007, and calling for the continuation of the serious efforts being exerted by Egypt, the League of Arab States and other concerned parties towards the achievement of this aim,

Stressing the urgent need for sustained and active international involvement, including by the Quartet, to support both parties in resuming, advancing and accelerating the peace process negotiations for the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement, on the basis of United Nations resolutions, the road map and the Arab Peace Initiative,

Noting the Quartet's efforts, and calling upon the parties to resume negotiations with the aim of resolving all final status issues within one year and implementing an agreement between the two sides that ends the occupation which began in 1967 and results in the independence of a democratic, contiguous and viable Palestinian State living side by side in peace and security with Israel and its other neighbours,

Taking note of the application of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 2011,[8]

Acknowledging the efforts being undertaken by civil society to promote a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,

Recalling the findings by the International Court of Justice, in its advisory opinion, including on the urgent necessity for the United Nations as a whole to redouble its efforts to bring the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which continues to pose a threat to international peace and security, to a speedy conclusion, thereby establishing a just and lasting peace in the region,[9]

Affirming once again the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in all its aspects, and of intensifying all efforts towards that end, and stresses in this regard the urgency of salvaging the prospects for realizing the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders;

2. *Also reaffirms* its full support for the Middle East peace process, based on the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session,[6] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[4] and for the existing agreements between the Israeli and Palestinian sides;

3. *Stresses* the necessity for the establishment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, and welcomes in this regard the ongoing efforts of the Quartet and of the League of Arab States;

4. *Encourages* continued serious regional and international efforts to follow up and promote the Arab Peace Initiative, including by the Ministerial Committee formed at the Riyadh summit in March 2007;

5. *Urges* the parties to undertake, with the support of the Quartet and the international community, immediate and concrete steps in follow-up to the Israeli-Palestinian Joint Understanding reached at the international conference held in Annapolis.[7] including through the resumption of active and serious bilateral negotiations;

6. *Calls for*, in this regard, the timely convening of an international conference in Moscow, as envisioned by the Security Council in its resolution 1850 (2008), for the advancement and acceleration of a resumed peace process;

7. *Calls upon* both parties to act on the basis of international law and their previous agreements and obligations, in particular adherence to the road map, irrespective of reciprocity, in order to create the conditions necessary for the resumption and accelerated advancement of negotiations in the near term;

8. *Calls upon* the parties themselves, with the support of the Quartet and other interested parties, to exert all efforts necessary to halt the deterioration of the situation and to reverse all unilateral and unlawful measures taken on the ground since 28 September 2000;

9. *Calls upon* the parties to observe calm and restraint and to refrain from provocative actions, incitement and inflammatory rhetoric, especially in areas of religious and cultural sensitivity;

10. *Underscores* the need for the parties to take confidence-building measures aimed at improving the situation on the ground, promoting stability and fostering the peace process, including the need for the further release of prisoners following the exchange of prisoners in October and December 2011;

11. *Stresses* the need for the removal of checkpoints and other obstructions to the movement of persons and goods throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the need for respect and preservation of the territorial unity,

contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

12. *Also stresses* the need for an immediate and complete cessation of all acts of violence, including military attacks, destruction and acts of terror;

13. *Reiterates its demand* for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009);

14. *Reiterates* the need for the full implementation by both parties of the Agreement on Movement and Access and of the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, of 15 November 2005, and the need, specifically, to allow for the sustained opening of all crossings into and out of the Gaza Strip for humanitarian supplies, movement and access, as well as for commercial flows and all necessary construction materials, which are essential for alleviating the humanitarian crisis, improving the living conditions of the Palestinian people and promoting the recovery of the Palestinian economy;

15. *Stresses*, in this regard, the urgent necessity for the advancement of reconstruction in the Gaza Strip, including through the completion of numerous suspended projects managed by the United Nations and the accelerated implementation of United Nations-led civilian reconstruction activities;

16. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, and to cease all of its measures that are contrary to international law and unilateral actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, that are aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the Territory, including via the confiscation and de facto annexation of land, and thus at prejudging the final outcome of peace negotiations;

17. *Reiterates its demand* for the complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and calls for the full implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

18. *Stresses*, in this regard, the need for Israel forthwith to abide by its road map obligation to freeze all settlement activity, including so-called “natural growth”, and to dismantle settlement outposts erected since March 2001;

19. *Calls for* the cessation of all provocations, including by Israeli settlers, in East Jerusalem, including in and around religious sites;

20. *Demands*, accordingly, that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations under international law, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice [2] and as demanded in General Assembly resolutions ES-10/13 of 21 October 2003 and ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004, and, inter alia, that it immediately cease its construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and calls upon all States Members of the United Nations to comply with their legal obligations, as mentioned in the advisory opinion;

21. *Reaffirms its commitment*, in accordance with international law, to the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders;

22. *Stresses* the need for:

(a) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem;

(b) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to their independent State;

23. *Also stresses* the need for a just resolution of the problem of Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

24. *Calls upon* the parties to resume and accelerate direct peace negotiations towards the conclusion of a final peaceful settlement on the basis of relevant United Nations resolutions, especially of the Security Council, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, the road map and the Arab Peace Initiative;

25. *Urges* Member States to expedite the provision of economic, humanitarian and technical assistance to the Palestinian people and the Palestinian Authority during this critical period in order to help to alleviate the serious humanitarian situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which is critical in the Gaza Strip, to rehabilitate the Palestinian economy and infrastructure and to support the development and strengthening of Palestinian institutions and Palestinian State-building efforts in preparation for independence;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, towards the attainment of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and the promotion of peace in the region and to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on these efforts and on developments on this matter.

Notes

[1]A/67/364-S/2012/701.
[2]See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.
[3] See A/48/486-S/26560, annex.
[4] S/2003/529, annex.
[5] Available from www.unsco.org.
[6] A/56/1026-S/2003/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.
[7]Available from http://unispal.un.org.
[8] A/66/371-S/2011/592, annex I.
[9]See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1, advisory opinion, para. 161; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.

Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat A/RES/67/22

The General Assembly,

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

Taking note, in particular, of the information contained in chapter VI of that report,

Recalling its resolution 66/16 of 30 November 2011,

Convinced that the worldwide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of civil society organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination and independence, and for the efforts to achieve a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the

Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides,

Affirming its support for the Middle East peace process on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session,[2] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, endorsed by the Security Council in resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003,[3]

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[4]

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in compliance with resolution 66/16;

2. *Considers* that the special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department is very useful in raising the awareness of the international community concerning the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East and that the programme is contributing effectively to an atmosphere conducive to dialogue and supportive of the peace process and should receive the necessary support for the fulfilment of its tasks;

3. *Requests* the Department, in full cooperation and coordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to continue, with the necessary flexibility as may be required by developments affecting the question of Palestine, its special information programme for 2012-2013, in particular:

(a) To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine and the peace process, including reports on the work carried out by the relevant United Nations organizations, as well as on the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy vis-à-vis the peace process;

(b) To continue to issue, update and modernize publications and audiovisual materials on the various aspects of the question of Palestine in all fields, including materials concerning the relevant recent developments in that regard, in particular the efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine;

(c) To expand its collection of audiovisual material on the question of Palestine, to continue the production and preservation of such material and to update, on a periodic basis, the public exhibit on the question of Palestine displayed in the General Assembly Building as well as at United Nations headquarters in Geneva and Vienna;

(d) To organize and promote fact-finding news missions for journalists to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel;

(e) To organize international, regional and national seminars or encounters for journalists aimed in particular at sensitizing public opinion to the question of Palestine and the peace process and at enhancing

dialogue and understanding between Palestinians and Israelis for the promotion of a peaceful settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including by fostering and encouraging the contribution of the media in support of peace between the two sides;

(f) To continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people in the field of media development, in particular to strengthen the annual training programme for Palestinian broadcasters and journalists;

4. *Encourages* the Department to formulate ways for the media and representatives of civil society to engage in open and positive discussions to explore means for encouraging people-to-people dialogue and promoting peace and mutual understanding in the region.

Notes

[1]*Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/67/35).
[2]A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.
[3]S/2003/529, annex.
[4]See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.

Division for Palestinian Rights (A/RES/67/21)

The General Assembly,

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

Taking note, in particular, of the action taken by the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat in accordance with their mandates,

Recalling its resolution 32/40 B of 2 December 1977 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including its resolution 66/15 of 30 November 2011,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with its resolution 66/15;

2. *Considers* that, by providing substantive support to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People in the implementation of its mandate, the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to make a most useful and constructive contribution to raising international awareness of the question of Palestine and of the urgency of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine in all its aspects on the basis of international law and United Nations resolutions and the efforts being exerted in this regard, and to generating international support for the rights of the Palestinian people;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division with the necessary resources and to ensure that it continues to carry out its programme of work as detailed in relevant earlier resolutions, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and under its guidance;

4. *Requests* the Division, in particular, to continue to monitor developments relevant to the question of Palestine, organize international meetings and conferences in various regions with the participation of all sectors of the international community, liaise and cooperate with civil society and parliamentarians, develop and expand the "Question of Palestine" website and the documents collection of the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine, prepare and widely disseminate

publications and information materials on various aspects of the question of Palestine and develop and enhance the annual training programme for staff of the Palestinian Authority in contribution to Palestinian capacity-building efforts;

5. *Also requests* the Division, as part of the observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on 29 November, to continue to organize, under the guidance of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights or a cultural event in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations, and encourages Member States to continue to give the widest support and publicity to the observance of the Day of Solidarity;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation with the Division of the United Nations system entities with programme components addressing various aspects of the question of Palestine and the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

7. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Division in the performance of its tasks.

Note

[1]*Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/67/35).

Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (A/RES/67/20)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its emergency special sessions and its resolution 66/14 of 30 November 2011,

Recalling also its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

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

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides and the need for full compliance with those agreements,

Affirming its support for the Middle East peace process on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session[2] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, endorsed by the Security Council in resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003,[3]

Expressing grave concern about the impasse in the peace process and the serious deterioration of the situation on the ground, and calling for an urgent resumption of the peace process,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[4] and recalling also its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Taking note of the application of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 2011,[5]

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

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, and takes note of its annual report,[1] including the conclusions and valuable recommendations contained in chapter VII thereof;

2. *Requests* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, to support the Middle East peace process for the achievement of the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders and the just resolution of all final status issues and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people, and in this regard authorizes the Committee to make such adjustments in its approved programme of work as it may consider appropriate and necessary in the light of developments and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session and thereafter;

3. *Also requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly, the Security Council or the Secretary-General, as appropriate;

4. *Further requests* the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation and support to Palestinian and other civil society organizations and to continue to involve additional civil society organizations and parliamentarians in its work in order to mobilize international solidarity and support for the Palestinian people, particularly during this critical period of political instability, humanitarian hardship and financial crisis, with the overall aim of promoting the achievement by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights and a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[2] and the Quartet road map;[3]

5. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation which they have at their disposal;

6. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Committee in the performance of its tasks;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General 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;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks.

Notes

[1]*Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/67/35).
[2]A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.
[3]S/2003/529, annex.
[4]See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.
[5]A/66/371-S/2011/592, annex I.

Status of Palestine in the United Nations (A/RES/67/19)

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and stressing in this regard the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,[1] by which it affirmed, inter alia, the duty of every State to promote, through joint and separate action, realization of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

Stressing the importance of maintaining and strengthening international peace founded upon freedom, equality, justice and respect for fundamental human rights,

Recalling its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947,

Reaffirming the principle, set out in the Charter, of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Reaffirming also relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 446 (1979) of 22 March 1979, 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003 and 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008,

Reaffirming further the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[2] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including with regard to the matter of prisoners,

Reaffirming its resolution 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974 and all relevant resolutions, including resolution 66/146 of 19 December 2011, reaffirming the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine,

Reaffirming also its resolutions 43/176 of 15 December 1988 and 66/17 of 30 November 2011 and all relevant resolutions regarding the peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, which, inter alia, stress the need for the withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to their independent State, a just resolution of the problem of the Palestine refugees in conformity with resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and the complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Reaffirming further its resolution 66/18 of 30 November 2011 and all relevant resolutions regarding the status of Jerusalem, bearing in mind that the annexation of East Jerusalem is not recognized by the international community, and emphasizing the need for a way to be found through negotiations to resolve the status of Jerusalem as the capital of two States,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 9 July 2004,[3]

Reaffirming its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004 affirming, inter alia, that the status of the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, remains one of military occupation and that, in accordance with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, the Palestinian people have the right to self-determination and to sovereignty over their territory,

Recalling its resolutions 3210 (XXIX) of 14 October 1974 and 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, by which, respectively, the Palestine Liberation Organization was invited to participate in the deliberations of the General Assembly as the representative of the Palestinian people and was granted observer status,

Recalling also its resolution 43/177 of 15 December 1988, by which it, inter alia, acknowledged the proclamation of the State of Palestine by the Palestine National Council on 15 November 1988 and decided that the designation "Palestine" should be used in place of the designation "Palestine Liberation Organization" in the United Nations system, without prejudice to the observer status and functions of the Palestine Liberation Organization within the United Nations system,

Taking into consideration that the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, in accordance with a decision by the Palestine National Council, is entrusted with the powers and responsibilities of the Provisional Government of the State of Palestine,[4]

Recalling its resolution 52/250 of 7 July 1998, by which additional rights and privileges were accorded to Palestine in its capacity as observer,

Recalling also the Arab Peace Initiative adopted in March 2002 by the Council of the League of Arab States,[5]

Reaffirming its commitment, in accordance with international law, to the two-State solution of an independent, sovereign, democratic, viable and contiguous State of Palestine living side by side with Israel in peace and security on the basis of the pre-1967 borders,

Bearing in mind the mutual recognition of 9 September 1993 between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,

Affirming the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

Commending the Palestinian National Authority's 2009 plan for constructing the institutions of an independent Palestinian State within a two-year period, and welcoming the positive assessments in this regard about readiness for statehood by the World Bank, the United Nations and the International Monetary Fund and as reflected in the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee Chair conclusions of April 2011 and subsequent Chair conclusions, which determined that the Palestinian Authority is above the threshold for a functioning State in key sectors studied,

Recognizing that full membership is enjoyed by Palestine in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the Group of Asia-Pacific States and that Palestine is also a full member of the League

of Arab States, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Group of 77 and China,

Recognizing also that, to date, 132 States Members of the United Nations have accorded recognition to the State of Palestine,

Taking note of the 11 November 2011 report of the Security Council Committee on the Admission of New Members,[6]

Stressing the permanent responsibility of the United Nations towards the question of Palestine until it is satisfactorily resolved in all its aspects,

Reaffirming the principle of universality of membership of the United Nations,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to independence in their State of Palestine on the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967;

2. *Decides* to accord to Palestine non-member observer State status in the United Nations, without prejudice to the acquired rights, privileges and role of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the United Nations as the representative of the Palestinian people, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and practice;

3. *Expresses the hope* that the Security Council will consider favourably the application submitted on 23 September 2011 by the State of Palestine for admission to full membership in the United Nations;[7]

4. *Affirms its determination* to contribute to the achievement of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the attainment of a peaceful settlement in the Middle East that ends the occupation that began in 1967 and fulfils the vision of two States: an independent, sovereign, democratic, contiguous and viable State of Palestine living side by side in peace and security with Israel on the basis of the pre-1967 borders;

5. *Expresses the urgent need* for the resumption and acceleration of negotiations within the Middle East peace process based on the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[5] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict[8] for the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides that resolves all outstanding core issues, namely the Palestine refugees, Jerusalem, settlements, borders, security and water;

6. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their right to self-determination, independence and freedom;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to implement the present resolution and to report to the General Assembly within three months on progress made in this regard.

Notes

[1]Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.
[2]United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.
[3]See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.
[4]See A/43/928, annex.
[5]A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.
[6]S/2011/705.
[7]A/66/371-S/2011/592, annex I.
[8]S/2003/529, annex.

Table 1: Voting Record by Country & Resolution

	Resolution Title	Natural Resources	Self Determination	Assistance to Palestinians	Israeli Practices	Settlements	Applicability Geneva	Special Committee	Refugees' Properties	UNRWA Operations	Displaced persons 1967	UNRWA Assistance	Jerusalem	Peaceful Settlement	DPI Info. Program	DPR	CEIRPP	Status of Palestine	Session Voting Trend			
	Resolution Symbol	A/RES/67/229	A/RES/67/158	A/RES/67/86	A/RES/67/121	A/RES/67/120	A/RES/67/119	A/RES/67/118	A/RES/67/117	A/RES/67/116	A/RES/67/115	A/RES/67/114	A/RES/67/24	A/RES/67/23	A/RES/67/22	A/RES/67/21	A/RES/67/20	A/RES/67/19				
	Member State	Y:Yes N:No A:Abstain X:Absent																	Y	N	A	X
1	AFGHANISTAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
2	ALBANIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
3	ALGERIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
4	ANDORRA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
5	ANGOLA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
6	ANTIGUA & BARBUDA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
7	ARGENTINA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	0	1	0
8	ARMENIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	16	0	1	0
9	AUSTRALIA	A	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	N	N	N	A	9	5	3	0
10	AUSTRIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
11	AZERBAIJAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
12	BAHAMAS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	15	0	2	0
13	BAHRAIN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
14	BANGLADESH	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
15	BARBADOS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	16	0	1	0
16	BELARUS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	X	Y	15	0	0	2
17	BELGIUM	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
18	BELIZE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
19	BENIN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
20	BHUTAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
21	BOLIVIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
22	BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
23	BOTSWANA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	0	1	0
24	BRAZIL	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
25	BRUNEI DARUSSALAM	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
26	BULGARIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
27	BURKINA FASO	Y	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	15	0	0	2
28	BURUNDI	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	15	0	2	0
29	CAMBODIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
30	CAMEROON	A	A	Y	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	1	0	16	0
31	CANADA	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	A	N	N	N	N	N	N	1	15	1	0
32	CAPE VERDE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
33	CENTRAL AFRICAN REP.	X	Y	Y	X	X	X	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	X	X	X	X	X	Y	7	0	0	10
34	CHAD	Y	Y	Y	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Y	4	0	0	13
35	CHILE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
36	CHINA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
37	COLOMBIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
38	COMOROS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
39	CONGO	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
40	COSTA RICA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	0	1	0
41	COTE D'IVOIRE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
42	CROATIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
43	CUBA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
44	CYPRUS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	0	1	0
45	CZECH REPUBLIC	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	N	13	1	3	0
46	D P R KOREA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
47	D R CONGO	X	Y	Y	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	A	2	0	1	14
48	DENMARK	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
49	DJIBOUTI	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
50	DOMINICA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	0	0	1
51	DOMINICAN R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
52	ECUADOR	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
53	EGYPT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
54	EL SALVADOR	A	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	Y	11	0	6	0
55	EQUATORIAL GUINEA	X	X	Y	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	1	0	0	16
56	ERITREA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	0	0	1
57	ESTONIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
58	ETHIOPIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	0	1	0
59	FIJI	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	A	14	0	3	0
60	FINLAND	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0

	Resolution Title Resolution Symbol	Natural Resources	Self Determination	Assistance to Palestinians	Israeli Practices	Settlements	Applicability Geneva	Special Committee	Refugees' Properties	UNRWA Operations	Displaced persons 1967	UNRWA Assistance	Jerusalem	Peaceful Settlement	DPI Info. Program	DPR	CEIRPP	Status of Palestine	Session Voting Trend			
		A/RES/67/229	A/RES/67/158	A/RES/67/86	A/RES/67/121	A/RES/67/120	A/RES/67/119	A/RES/67/118	A/RES/67/117	A/RES/67/116	A/RES/67/115	A/RES/67/114	A/RES/67/24	A/RES/67/23	A/RES/67/22	A/RES/67/21	A/RES/67/20	A/RES/67/19				
61	FRANCE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
62	GABON	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	X	X	X	X	Y	12	0	0	5
63	GAMBIA	Y	Y	Y	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	9	0	0	8
64	GEORGIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
65	GERMANY	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
66	GHANA	Y	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Y	8	0	0	9
67	GREECE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
68	GRENADA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
69	GUATEMALA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
70	GUINEA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
71	GUINEA-BISSAU	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	X	X	X	X	Y	12	0	0	5
72	GUYANA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
73	HAITI	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	16	0	1	0
74	HONDURAS	A	A	Y	A	A	Y	A	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	A	A	A	A	Y	7	0	10	0
75	HUNGARY	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
76	ICELAND	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	15	0	2	0
77	INDIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
78	INDONESIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
79	IRAN (ISLAMIC REP)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
80	IRAQ	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
81	IRELAND	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
82	ISRAEL	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	1	16	0	0
83	ITALY	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
84	JAMAICA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
85	JAPAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
86	JORDAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
87	KAZAKHSTAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
88	KENYA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
89	KIRIBATI	X	X	Y	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	1	0	0	16
90	KUWAIT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
91	KYRGYZSTAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
92	LAO P.D.R.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
93	LATVIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
94	LEBANON	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
95	LESOTHO	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
96	LIBERIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	X	14	0	2	1
97	LIBYA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
98	LIECHTENSTEIN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
99	LITHUANIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
100	LUXEMBOURG	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
101	MADAGASCAR	Y	Y	Y	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	3	0	0	14
102	MALAWI	A	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	X	X	X	X	A	8	0	2	7
103	MALAYSIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
104	MALDIVES	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
105	MALI	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
106	MALTA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	0	1	0
107	MARSHALL ISLANDS	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	A	N	N	N	N	N	N	1	15	1	0
108	MAURITANIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
109	MAURITIUS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
110	MEXICO	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	0	1	0
111	MICRONESIA (F.S.)	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	A	N	N	N	N	N	N	1	15	1	0
112	MONACO	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
113	MONGOLIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	X	A	13	0	2	2
114	MONTENEGRO	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
115	MOROCCO	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
116	MOZAMBIQUE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
117	MYANMAR	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	X	X	X	X	Y	12	0	0	5
118	NAMIBIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
119	NAURU	N	N	Y	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	N	X	X	X	X	N	1	4	0	12
120	NEPAL	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
121	NETHERLANDS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
122	NEW ZEALAND	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
123	NICARAGUA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
124	NIGER	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	Y	16	0	0	1
125	NIGERIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
126	NORWAY	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0

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		A/RES/67/229	A/RES/67/158	A/RES/67/86	A/RES/67/121	A/RES/67/120	A/RES/67/119	A/RES/67/118	A/RES/67/117	A/RES/67/116	A/RES/67/115	A/RES/67/114	A/RES/67/24	A/RES/67/23	A/RES/67/22	A/RES/67/21	A/RES/67/20	A/RES/67/19				
127	OMAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
128	PAKISTAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
129	PALAU	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	A	N	N	N	N	N	N	1	15	1	0
130	PANAMA	A	Y	Y	N	A	Y	N	Y	Y	A	Y	A	Y	Y	A	A	N	8	3	6	0
131	PAPUA NEW GUINEA	A	Y	Y	A	A	A	A	A	Y	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	3	0	14	0
132	PARAGUAY	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	15	0	2	0
133	PERU	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
134	PHILIPPINES	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	0	1	0
135	POLAND	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
136	PORTUGAL	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
137	QATAR	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
138	Rep. of KOREA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
139	Rep. of MOLDOVA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
140	ROMANIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
141	RUSSIAN FED.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
142	RWANDA	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	A	X	X	X	X	X	A	8	0	4	5
143	SAINT KITTS & NEVIS	Y	Y	Y	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Y	4	0	0	13
144	SAINT LUCIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
145	SAINT VINCENT & THE GRENADINES	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
146	SAMOA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
147	SAN MARINO	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
148	SAO TOME & PRINCIPE	X	X	Y	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Y	2	0	0	15
149	SAUDI ARABIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
150	SENEGAL	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
151	SERBIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
152	SEYCHELLES	Y	Y	Y	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Y	4	0	0	13
153	SIERRA LEONE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Y	7	0	0	10
154	SINGAPORE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	16	0	1	0
155	SLOVAKIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
156	SLOVENIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
157	SOLOMON ISLANDS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
158	SOMALIA	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	0	0	1
159	SOUTH AFRICA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
160	SOUTH SUDAN	X	Y	Y	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Y	3	0	0	14
161	SPAIN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
162	SRI LANKA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
163	SUDAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
164	SURINAME	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
165	SWAZILAND	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	X	X	X	X	Y	12	0	0	5
166	SWEDEN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
167	SWITZERLAND	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	Y	14	0	3	0
168	SYRIAN ARAB REP.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
169	TAJIKISTAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
170	THAILAND	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	0	1	0
171	TFYR MACEDONIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
172	TIMOR-LESTE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	X	Y	14	0	1	2
173	TOGO	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	A	A	Y	A	13	0	4	0
174	TONGA	A	A	Y	X	X	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	A	A	A	6	0	9	2
175	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
176	TUNISIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
177	TURKEY	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
178	TURKMENISTAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
179	TUVALU	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
180	UGANDA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
181	UKRAINE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	X	13	0	3	1
182	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
183	UNITED KINGDOM	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	13	0	4	0
184	U R OF TANZANIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	0	0	1
185	UNITED STATES	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	A	N	N	N	N	N	N	1	15	1	0
186	URUGUAY	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	0	1	0
187	UZBEKISTAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
188	VANUATU	A	Y	Y	A	A	A	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	A	A	A	6	0	11	0
189	VENEZUELA (B.R.)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
190	VIET NAM	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
191	YEMEN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0

	Resolution Title Resolution Symbol	Natural Resources A/RES/67/229	Self Determination A/RES/67/158	Assistance to Palestinians A/RES/67/86	Israeli Practices A/RES/67/121	Settlements A/RES/67/120	Applicability Geneva A/RES/67/119	Special Committee A/RES/67/118	Refugees' Properties A/RES/67/117	UNRWA Operations A/RES/67/116	Displaced persons 1967 A/RES/67/115	UNRWA Assistance A/RES/67/114	Jerusalem A/RES/67/24	Peaceful Settlement A/RES/67/23	DPI Info. Program A/RES/67/22	DPR A/RES/67/21	CEIRPP A/RES/67/20	Status of Palestine A/RES/67/19	Session Voting Trend			
192	ZAMBIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	Y	16	0	0	1
193	ZIMBABWE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	17	0	0	0
	Yes	170	179	193	164	169	171	98	173	172	170	170	162	162	160	103	106	138				
	No	7	7	0	8	6	6	8	6	6	6	1	7	6	7	7	7	9				
	Abstain	9	3	0	6	5	3	72	2	1	4	8	6	6	7	61	56	41				
	Absent	7	4	0	15	13	13	15	12	14	13	14	18	19	19	22	24	5				

Table 4: Comparison between voting on resolutions during the 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th and 67th sessions of the UNGA

Resolutions			General Assembly Sessions																		
			63rd	64th	65th	66th	67th	63rd	64th	65th	66th	67th	63rd	64th	65th	66th	67th	63rd	64th	65th	66th	67th
			Yes					No					Abstain					Absent				
1		CEIRPP	107	110	112	115	106	8	8	8	8	7	57	55	55	53	56	20	19	17	17	24
2		DPR	106	112	110	114	103	8	9	9	9	7	57	54	56	54	61	21	17	17	16	22
3		DPI	162	162	167	168	160	8	8	8	8	7	4	5	2	3	7	18	17	15	14	19
4		Peaceful Settlement	164	164	165	165	162	7	7	7	7	6	3	4	4	4	6	18	17	16	17	19
5		Jerusalem	163	163	165	164	162	6	7	7	7	7	6	5	4	5	6	17	17	16	17	18
6		UNRWA Assistance	173	168	169	163	170	1	1	1	1	1	6	7	6	8	8	12	16	16	21	14
7		UNRWA - Displaced	172	166	167	163	170	6	7	6	7	6	2	4	4	3	4	12	15	15	20	13
8		UNRWA Operations	172	167	169	165	172	6	6	6	7	6	1	4	2	2	1	13	15	15	19	14
9		UNRWA - Property	173	168	169	165	173	6	6	6	7	6	2	3	2	2	2	11	15	15	19	12
10		Work of Special Comm.	94	92	94	86	98	8	9	9	9	8	73	74	72	75	72	17	17	17	23	15
11		4th Geneva Conven.	173	168	169	164	171	6	6	6	7	6	1	4	2	2	3	12	14	15	20	13
12		Israeli settlements	171	167	169	162	169	6	7	6	7	6	2	3	3	4	5	13	15	14	20	13
13		Israeli practices	165	162	165	159	164	8	9	9	9	8	4	5	2	4	6	15	16	16	21	15
14		Assistance to Pal. People	192	192	192	193	193	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15		Self-determination	173	176	177	182	179	5	6	6	7	7	7	3	4	3	3	7	7	5	1	4
16		Natural Resources	164	165	167	167	170	8	8	8	7	7	5	7	5	6	9	15	12	12	13	7

Highest number of yes votes in last 5 years

Lowest number of yes votes in last 5 years

Statement by H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Abbas
President of the State of Palestine
67th General Debate of the United Nations General Assembly,
New York, 27 September 2012

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, and the Merciful

President of the United Nations General Assembly, Mr. Vuk Jeremic
Excellencies Heads of Delegations,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, I wish to affirm our appreciation to all Member States that, in their statements to this Assembly, have stressed the urgency for progress towards the realization of a just peace in our region that allows for the fulfillment by the Palestinian people of their inalienable national rights.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Developments over the past year have confirmed what we have persistently drawn attention to and warned of: the catastrophic danger of the racist Israeli settler colonization of our country.

During the past months, attacks by terrorist militias of Israeli settlers have become a daily reality, with at least 535 attacks perpetrated since the beginning of this year. We are facing relentless waves of attacks against our people, our mosques, churches and monasteries, and our homes and schools; they are unleashing their venom against our trees, fields, crops and properties, and our people have become fixed targets for acts of killing and abuse with the complete collusion of the occupying forces and the Israeli Government.

The escalation of settler attacks should not surprise anyone, for it is the inherent byproduct of the continuation of occupation and a government policy that deliberately fosters the settlements and settlers and deems their satisfaction to be an absolute priority. And, it is the inherent byproduct of the racist climate fueled by a culture of incitement in the Israeli curriculum and extremist declarations, which are rife with hatred and are rooted in a series of discriminatory laws created and enacted over the years against the Palestinian people, as well as by the security apparatus and courts, which provide excuse after excuse for the settlers' crimes and for their accelerated release should one of them happen to be arrested, and by official and military commissions of inquiry, which fabricate justifications for soldiers who have committed what are clearly considered to be war crimes and perpetrated acts of murder, torture and abuse of peaceful civilians.

Over the past year, since the convening of the General Assembly's previous session, Israel, the occupying Power, has persisted with its settlement campaign, focusing on Jerusalem and its environs. It is a campaign clearly and deliberately aimed at altering the City's historic character and the glorious image of the Holy City etched in the minds of humankind. It is a

campaign of ethnic cleansing against the Palestinian people via the demolition of their homes and prevention of their construction; the revocation of residency rights; the denial of basic services, especially with regard to construction of school; the closure of institutions; and the impoverishment of Jerusalem's community via a siege of walls and checkpoints that are choking the City and preventing millions of Palestinians from freely accessing its mosques, churches, schools, hospitals and markets.

The occupying Power has also continued its construction and expansion of settlements in different areas throughout the West Bank and continued its suffocating blockade as well as raids and attacks against our people in the Gaza Strip, who to this day continue to suffer from the disastrous impact of the destructive war of aggression committed against them years ago. Nearly five thousand Palestinians also remain captive as prisoners and detainees in Israel's jails. We call on the international community to compel the Government of Israel to respect the Geneva Conventions, and to investigate the conditions of detention of Palestinian prisoners and detainees, stressing the need for their release; they are soldiers in their people's struggle for freedom, independence and peace.

At the same time, the occupying Power continues to tighten the siege and impose severe restrictions on movement, preventing the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) from implementing vital infrastructure projects and providing services to its citizens, who are also being prevented from cultivating their land and deprived of water for irrigation. It is also obstructing the establishment of agricultural, industrial, tourism and housing projects by the private sector in vast areas of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which are classified as areas subject to the absolute control of the occupation, which encompasses approximately 60% of the West Bank. The occupying Power continues to deliberately demolish what the PNA is building, projects funded by donor brethren and friends, and destroying PNA projects involving the building of roads, simple homes for its citizens and agricultural facilities. In fact, over the past 12 months, the Israeli occupying forces demolished 510 Palestinian structures in these areas and displaced 770 Palestinians from their homes. These measures have caused great damage to our economy and impeded our development programs and private sector activity, compounding the socio-economic difficulties being endured by our people under occupation, a fact confirmed by international financial institutions.

Israel's overall policy is ultimately leading to the weakening of the Palestinian National Authority, undermining its ability to carry out its functions and to implement its obligations, which threatens to undermine its very existence and threatens its collapse.

All of this is taking place in the context of an Israeli political discourse that does not hesitate to brandish aggressive, extremist positions, which in many aspects and its practical application on the ground is inciting religious conflict. This is something we firmly reject based on our principles and convictions and our understanding what it means to fuel such fires in this very sensitive area full of explosive flashpoints and how it can fuel the action of extremists from various quarters, especially those trying to use tolerant, monotheistic religions as an ideological justification for their terrorism.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

We, on our part, and as proof our seriousness and our sincere intention to create an opening in this impasse, conducted exploratory talks with the Israeli Government at the beginning of this year upon the initiative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. We have also encouraged the expressed desires of several countries to contribute to efforts to break the cycle of deadlock and have also ourselves undertaken initiatives to create favorable conditions for the resumption of negotiations. Unfortunately, however, the result of all these initiatives has been very negative.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

There can only be one reading of the Israeli Government's actions in our homeland and of the positions it has presented to us regarding the substance of a permanent status agreement to end the conflict and achieve peace. That one reading leads to one conclusion: that the Israeli Government rejects the two-State solution.

The two-State solution, i.e. the State of Palestine coexisting alongside the State of Israel, represents the spirit and essence of the historic compromise embodied in the Oslo Declaration of Principles, the agreement signed 19 years ago between the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and the Government of Israel under the auspices of the United States of America on the White House Lawn, a compromise by which the Palestinian people accepted to establish their State on only 22% of the territory of historic Palestine for the sake of making peace.

The recent years have actually witnessed the systematic acceleration and intensification of Israeli measures aimed at emptying that agreement, the Oslo Accords, of their meaning, while simultaneously building facts on the ground in the Occupied Palestinian Territory that are making the implementation of the Accords extremely difficult if not completely impossible.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Israel aims to continue its occupation of East Jerusalem, to *de facto* annex large areas of the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory and to continue occupying a large portion of the Territory under different pretexts. It refuses to engage in any serious discussion of the issue of the Palestine refugees. It wants to continue its occupation of Palestinian water aquifers and its control over the most fertile agricultural areas in our land as well as over our air, skies, borders and our life in its entirely.

The final map and borders that can be drawn in accordance with Israel's official positions reveal to us the following: small Palestinian enclaves surrounded by large Israeli settlement blocs and walls, checkpoints and vast security zones and roads devoted to the settlers. Thus, the enclaves would remain subject to the full dominance of military, colonial occupation, only packaged under new names, such as the unilateral plan for the establishment of a so-called State

with provisional borders – a State with provisional borders, this is a project that we categorically reject because it will not bring about peace.

Mr. President,

Israel refuses to end the occupation and refuses to allow the Palestinian people to attain their rights and freedom and rejects the establishment of the State of Palestine.

Mr. President,

Israel is promising the Palestinian people a new catastrophe, a new Nakba, promising the Palestinian people a new Nakba.

I speak on behalf of an angry people, a people that feels that, at the same time that they continue with their calls for their right to freedom and their adoption of a culture of peace and adherence to the principles and rules of international law and resolutions of international legitimacy, rewards continue to be illogically bestowed upon Israel, whose Government pursues a policy of war, occupation and settlement colonization. And Israel continues to be permitted to enjoy impunity and some continue to obstruct the undertaking of decisive positions regarding its violations of international law and covenants. This, in fact, represents a license for the occupation to continue its policy of dispossession and ethnic cleansing and encourages it to entrench its system of Apartheid against the Palestinian people.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Despite our genuine feelings of anger, we, in the name of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people – the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, which will not accept to be divided into two, and we shall not allowed it to be divided into two, we are the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. I reaffirm, without hesitation that we as committed to peace and international legitimacy and its covenants and its resolutions as we are adherent to our inalienable national rights and aspirations, and we reaffirm that we are committed to non-violence and reject terrorism in all its forms, particularly State terrorism.

Despite our feelings of disappointment and our despair, we continue to sincerely extend our hands to the Israeli people to make peace. We realize that ultimately the two peoples must live and coexist, each in their respective State, in the Holy Land. Further, we realize that progress towards making peace is through negotiations between the PLO and Israel.

Despite all the complexities of the prevailing reality and all the frustrations that abound, we say before the international community: there is still a chance - maybe the last - to save the two-State solution and to salvage peace.

However, this urgent task must be pursued via a new approach. Whoever rushes to advise us to repeat an experience that has proven to be futile - negotiations with the Israeli Government without clear terms of reference - must understand that this will result in

reproduction of failure and again provide a cover for entrenchment of the occupation and will finish off an already-dying peace process. And, whoever who advises us to wait, must realize that the festering situation in our country and our region has its own timing and can neither withstand further procrastination or delay nor its placement at the bottom of the global agenda.

The approach required for saving the chance for peace must first and foremost be predicated on the understanding that racial settler colonization must be condemned, punished and boycotted in order for it to be completely halted and eliminated. This approach also requires reaffirmation of and adherence to the terms of reference and foundations of the solution to the conflict, which have been endorsed by all of you.

The core components of a just solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict do not require effort to discover, but rather what is needed is the will to implement them. Marathon negotiations are not required to determine them, but rather what is needed is the sincere intention reach peace. And those components are by no means a mysterious puzzle or intractable riddle, but rather are the clearest and most logical in the world. This includes the establishment of the independence of the State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, over the entire territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and the realization of a just, agreed solution to the Palestine refugee issue in accordance with resolution 194 (III), as prescribed in the Arab Peace Initiative.

Indeed, the fundamental components of the solution to the conflict exist in the documents and resolutions of the United Nations, you have it, and in the resolutions of regional organizations, starting from the League of Arab States, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and the African Union (AU), as well as in the statements of the European Union (EU) and the international Quartet. However, what is the use of all those terms of reference if Israeli continues to and is encouraged to ignore all those terms of reference.

The international community, embodied in the United Nations, is required now more than ever to uphold its responsibilities. The Security Council is called upon to urgently adopt a resolution comprising the basis and foundations for a solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict that would serve as a binding reference and guide for all if the vision of two-States, Israel and Palestine, is to survive and if peace is to prevail in the land of peace, the birthplace of Jesus (Peace be upon Him), and ascension of the Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon Him), and the final resting place of Abraham (Peace be upon Him), the land of the three monotheistic religions.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

All things considered, the establishment of a free, independent State of Palestine is a sacred right of the Palestinian people and a due entitlement that must be realized for it has been long overdue for too many decades. It is not a grant bestowed upon us by anyone it is a right, and the Palestinian people are entitled to this right.

At the same time, the Palestinian National Authority has affirmed, through implementation of its State institution-building program, the ability to create an advanced model

for an effective, modern State through the development of the performance of its institutions, public finance management through the adoption of transparency, accountability and rules of good governance. These achievements have been considered by the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee (AHLC), the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to constitute an impressive undertaking and success story, one that was again commended in the latest report just a few days ago, confirming full Palestinian readiness for the transition to an independent State, while at the same time stressing that the Israeli occupation remains the only obstacle to the realization of the State of Palestine.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

When, a year ago during the previous session of the General Assembly, we submitted our application for consideration by the Security Council to allow the State of Palestine to assume its rightful place among the nations of the world as a full member in the United Nations, a major and hostile uproar was raised by some against this political, diplomatic, peaceful step aimed at saving the peace process by asserting its basis and foundation. However, our endeavor was aborted, despite the fact that the overwhelming majority of the countries of the world supported, and continues to support, our application. I see not a single reason for opposing this request.

Yet, last autumn, when the countries of the world had the opportunity to declare their stance without any restrictions or "veto", they voted, despite enormous pressures, in strong support of the acceptance of Palestine as a Member State of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). A year has passed and Palestine, the homeland of Mahmoud Darwish and Edward Said, is playing its role in UNESCO with high responsibility and professionalism, and is committed to international conventions, cooperating with all Member States in order to advance the objectives of the organization, and providing a model of what its positive, constructive contribution in international organizations would be.

In order to enhance the chances for peace, Ladies and Gentlemen, we will continue our efforts to obtain full membership for Palestine at the United Nations. And, for the same purpose, we have begun intensive consultations with various regional organizations and Member States aimed at having the General Assembly adopt a resolution considering the State of Palestine as a non-Member State of the United Nations during this session. We are confident that the vast majority of the countries of the world support our endeavor aimed at salvaging the chances for a just peace.

In our endeavor, we do not seek to delegitimize an existing State - that is Israel; but rather to assert the State that must be realized - that is Palestine. We are not attempting to delegitimize them, they are delegitimizing us.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

More than 64 years have passed since Al-Nakba and a large portion of those who were its direct victims and witnessed its horrors have died with their memories preserved in their minds

and hearts about their beautiful world that was devastated, their warm homes that were demolished, and their peaceful villages that were erased from existence, and about their renaissance that was undermined, and their loved ones, dear men, women and children, who were killed in wars, massacres, attacks, raids and incursions, and about their beautiful country that was a beacon of coexistence, tolerance, progress and a crossroads of civilization. They died in the camps of displacement and refuge to which they were expelled following their uprooting from their homeland as they awaited the moment in which they would resume their suspended lives and complete their journey that was interrupted and repair their shattered dreams. They died while they clung to their legitimate human right to justice and freedom and to redress for the historic unprecedented injustice inflicted upon them. Hasn't the time come to undue this injustice?

At present, 77% of the Palestinian people are under the age of 35 years. Although they did not experience the horrors of Al-Nakba, they know very well the details of its horrendous facts from the accounts told to them by their parents and grandparents who endured it. And, they are suffering its ongoing effects until today and every day as a result of the practices of the occupation and the settlers on a land that is diminishing and a horizon before them that is blocked against their simple, ordinary dreams. They see their homeland and, their present and future vulnerable to continued usurpation and they say firmly: we will not allow a new Nakba to happen.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I say to you that the brave Palestinian people will not allow themselves to be the victim of a new Nakba. We will not allow that to happen we will stay in our land, my people will continue their epic steadfastness and eternal survival in their beloved land, every inch of which carries the evidence and landmarks affirming their roots and unique connection throughout ancient history. There is no homeland for us except Palestine, and there is no land for us but Palestine. We shall not accept an alternative homeland nor an alternative land, Palestine is our homeland and shall remain our homeland. Our people will continue to build the institutions of their State and will continue to strive to achieve national reconciliation to restore the unity of our nation, people and institutions via resorting to the ballot boxes, which will confirm our people's pluralistic democratic choice. Our people are also determined to continue peaceful popular resistance – peaceful popular resistance, consistent with international humanitarian law, against the occupation and the settlements and for the sake of freedom, independence and peace.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Prevent the occurrence of a new Nakba in the Holy Land.

Prevent the occurrence of a new Nakba in the Holy Land.

Support the realization of a free, independent State of Palestine now.

Let peace be victorious before it is too late. Peace be upon you.

President of the United Nations General Assembly,
Mr. Secretary-General,
Excellencies Heads of Delegations,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to begin by extending congratulations to the President of the 67th session of the United Nations General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Vuk Jeremic, wishing him all success. I express appreciation as well to H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser for his leadership of the previous General Assembly session, and also to the United Nations Secretary-General, H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, for his tireless efforts at the helm of this organization.

Also, from the outset, I wish to affirm our appreciation to all Member States that, in their statements to this Assembly, have stressed the urgency for progress towards the realization of a just peace in our region that allows for the fulfillment by the Palestinian people of their inalienable national rights.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Developments over the past year have confirmed what we have persistently drawn attention to and warned of: the catastrophic danger of the racist Israeli settlement of our country, Palestine.

During the past months, attacks by terrorist militias of Israeli settlers have become a daily reality, with at least 535 attacks perpetrated since the beginning of this year. We are facing relentless waves of attacks against our people, our mosques, churches and monasteries, and our homes and schools; they are unleashing their venom against our trees, fields, crops and properties, and our people have become fixed targets for acts of killing and abuse with the complete collusion of the occupying forces and the Israeli Government.

The escalation of settler attacks should not surprise anyone, for it is the inherent byproduct of the continuation of occupation and a government policy that deliberately fosters the settlements and settlers and deems their satisfaction to be an absolute priority. And, it is the inherent byproduct of the racist climate fueled by a culture of incitement in the Israeli curriculum and extremist declarations, which are rife with hatred and are rooted in a series of discriminatory laws created and enacted over the years against the Palestinian people, as well as by the security apparatus and courts, which provide excuse after excuse for the settlers' crimes and for their accelerated release should one of them happen to be arrested, and by official and military commissions of inquiry, which fabricate justifications for soldiers who have committed what are clearly considered to be war crimes and perpetrated acts of murder, torture and abuse of peaceful civilians.

Over the past year, since the convening of the General Assembly's previous session, Israel, the occupying Power, has persisted with its settlement campaign, focusing on Jerusalem and its environs. It is a campaign clearly and deliberately aimed at altering the City's historic character and the glorious image of the Holy City etched in the minds of humankind. It is a campaign of ethnic cleansing against the Palestinian people via the demolition of their homes

and prevention of their construction; the revocation of residency rights; the denial of basic services, especially with regard to construction of school; the closure of institutions; and the impoverishment of Jerusalem's community via a siege of walls and checkpoints that are choking the City and preventing millions of Palestinians from freely accessing its mosques, churches, schools, hospitals and markets.

The occupying Power has also continued its construction and expansion of settlements in different areas throughout the West Bank and continued its suffocating blockade as well as raids and attacks against our people in the Gaza Strip, who to this day continue to suffer from the disastrous impact of the destructive war of aggression committed against them years ago. Nearly five thousand Palestinians also remain captive as prisoners and detainees in Israel's jails. We call on the international community to compel the Government of Israel to respect the Geneva Conventions, to lift the blockade of Gaza and to investigate the conditions of detention of Palestinian prisoners and detainees, stressing the need for their release; they are soldiers in their people's struggle for freedom, independence and peace.

At the same time, the occupying Power continues to tighten the siege and impose severe restrictions on movement, preventing the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) from implementing vital infrastructure projects and providing services to its citizens, who are also being prevented from cultivating their land and deprived of water for irrigation. It is also obstructing the establishment of agricultural, industrial, tourism and housing projects by the private sector in vast areas of the Occupied Palestinian Authority, which are classified as areas subject to the absolute control of the occupation, which encompasses approximately 60% of the West Bank. The occupying Power continues to deliberately demolish what the PNA is building, projects funded by donor brethren and friends, and destroying PNA projects involving the building of roads, simple homes for its citizens and agricultural facilities. In fact, over the past 12 months, the Israeli occupying forces demolished 510 Palestinian structures in these areas and displaced 770 Palestinians from their homes. These illegal measures have caused great damage to our economy and impeded our development programs and private sector activity, compounding the socio-economic difficulties being endured by our people under occupation, a fact confirmed by international institutions.

Israel's overall policy is ultimately leading to the weakening of the Palestinian National Authority, undermining its ability to carry out its functions and to implement its obligations, which threatens to undermine its very existence and threatens its collapse.

All of this is taking place in the context of an Israeli political discourse that does not hesitate to brandish aggressive, extremist positions, which in many aspects and its practical application on the ground is inciting religious conflict. This is something we firmly reject based on our principles and convictions and our understanding what it means to fuel such fires in this very sensitive area full of explosive flashpoints and how it can fuel the action of extremists from various quarters, especially those trying to use tolerant, monotheistic religions as an ideological justification for their terrorism.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

We, on our part, and as proof our seriousness and our sincere intention to create an opening in this impasse, conducted exploratory talks with the Israeli Government at the beginning of this year upon the initiative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. We have also encouraged the expressed desires of several countries to contribute to efforts to break the cycle of deadlock and have also ourselves undertaken initiatives to create favorable conditions for the resumption of negotiations. Unfortunately, however, the result of all these initiatives has been very negative.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

There can only be one understanding of the Israeli Government's actions in our homeland and of the positions it has presented to us regarding the substance of a permanent status agreement to end the conflict and achieve peace. That one understanding leads to one conclusion: that the Israeli Government rejects the two-State solution.

The two-State solution, i.e. the State of Palestine coexisting alongside the State of Israel, represents the spirit and essence of the historic compromise embodied in the Oslo Declaration of Principles, the agreement signed 19 years ago between the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and the Government of Israel under the auspices of the United States of America on the White House Lawn, a compromise by which the Palestinian people accepted to establish their State on only 22% of the territory of historic Palestine for the sake of making peace.

The recent years have actually witnessed the systematic acceleration and intensification of Israeli measures aimed at emptying the Oslo Accords of their meaning, while simultaneously building facts on the ground in the Occupied Palestinian Territory that are making the implementation of the Accords extremely difficult if not completely impossible.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Israel aims to continue its occupation of East Jerusalem, to de facto annex large areas of the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory and to continue occupying a large portion of the Territory under different pretexts. It refuses to engage in any serious discussion of the issue of the Palestine refugees. It wants to continue its occupation of Palestinian water basins and its control over the most fertile agricultural areas in our land as well as over our air, skies and borders.

The final map and borders that can be drawn in accordance with Israel's official positions reveal to us the following: small Palestinian enclaves surrounded by large Israeli settlement blocs and walls, checkpoints and vast security zones and roads devoted to the settlers. Thus, the enclaves would remain subject to the full dominance of military, colonial occupation, only

packaged under new names, such as the unilateral plan for a so-called State with provisional borders.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Israel refuses to end the occupation and refuses to allow the Palestinian people to attain their rights and freedom and rejects the independence of the State of Palestine.

Israel is promising the Palestinian people a new catastrophe, a new Nakba.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I speak on behalf of an angry people, a people that feels that, at the same time that they continue with their calls for their right to freedom and their adoption of a culture of peace and adherence to the principles and rules of international law and resolutions of international legitimacy, rewards continue to be illogically bestowed upon Israel, whose Government pursues a policy of war, occupation and settlement colonization. And Israel continues to be permitted to evade accountability and punishment and some continue to obstruct the undertaking of decisive positions regarding its violations of international law and covenants. This, in fact, represents a license for the occupation to continue its policy of dispossession and ethnic cleansing and encourages it to entrench its system of apartheid against the Palestinian people.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Despite our real feelings of anger, we, in the name of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, reaffirm, without hesitation, that we as committed to peace and international legitimacy and its covenants and its resolutions as we are adherent to our inalienable national rights and aspirations, and we reaffirm that we are committed to non-violence and reject terrorism in all its forms, particularly State terrorism.

Despite our feelings of disappointment and loss of hope, we continue to sincerely extend our hands to the Israeli people to make peace. We realize that ultimately the two peoples must live and coexist, each in their respective State, in the Holy Land. Further, we realize that progress towards making peace is through negotiations between the PLO and Israel.

Despite all the complexities of the prevailing reality and all the frustrations that abound, we say before the international community: there is still a chance - maybe the last - to save the two-State solution and to salvage peace.

However, this urgent task must be pursued via a new approach. Whoever rushes to advise us to repeat an experience that has proven to be fruitless - negotiations with the Israeli Government without clear terms of reference - must understand that this will result in reproduction of failure and again provide a cover for entrenchment of the occupation and will

finish off an already-dying peace process. And, whoever who advises us to wait, must realize that the festering situation in our country and our region has its own timing and can neither withstand further procrastination and delay nor its placement at the bottom of the global agenda.

The approach required for saving the chance for peace must first and foremost be predicated on the understanding that racial settler colonization must be condemned, punished and boycotted in order for it to be completely halted. This approach also requires reaffirmation of and adherence to the terms of reference and foundations of the solution to the conflict, which have been endorsed by all of you.

The core components of a just solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict do not require effort to discover, but rather what is needed is the will to implement them. And marathon negotiations are not required to determine them, but rather what is needed is the sincere intention reach peace. And those components are by no means a mysterious puzzle or intractable riddle, but rather are the clearest and most logical in the world. This includes the realization of the independence of the State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, over the entire territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and the realization of a just, agreed solution to the Palestine refugee issue in accordance with resolution 194 (III), as prescribed in the Arab Peace Initiative.

Indeed, the fundamental components of the solution to the conflict exist in the documents and resolutions of the United Nations and in the resolutions of regional organizations, starting from the League of Arab States, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and the African Union (AU), as well as in the statements of the European Union (EU) and the international Quartet.

The international community, embodied in the United Nations, is required now more than ever to uphold its responsibilities. The Security Council is called upon to urgently adopt a resolution comprising the basis and foundations for a solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict that would serve as a binding reference and guide for all if the vision of two-States, Israel and Palestine, is to survive and if peace is to prevail in the land of peace, the birthplace of Jesus (peace be upon him), and ascension of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), and the final resting place of Abraham (peace be upon him), the land of the three monotheistic religions.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The independence and freedom of the State of Palestine is above all and ultimately a sacred right of the Palestinian people and an entitlement that must be realized for it has been long overdue for too many decades.

At the same time, the Palestinian National Authority has affirmed, through implementation of its State institution-building program, the ability to create an advanced model for an effective, modern State through the development of the performance of its institutions, public finance management through the adoption of transparency, accountability and rules of good governance. These achievements have been considered by the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee (AHLC), the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to constitute an impressive

undertaking and success story, one that was again commended in the latest report just a few days ago, confirming full Palestinian readiness for the transition to an independent State, while at the same time stressing that the Israeli occupation remains the only obstacle to the realization of the State of Palestine.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

When, a year ago during the previous session of the General Assembly, we submitted our application for consideration by the Security Council to allow the State of Palestine to assume its rightful place among the nations of the world as a full member in the United Nations, a major and hostile uproar was raised by some against this political, diplomatic, peaceful step aimed at saving the peace process by asserting its basis and foundation. However, our endeavor was aborted, despite the fact that the overwhelming majority of the countries of the world supported, and continues to support, our application.

Yet, last autumn, when the countries of the world had the opportunity to declare their stance without any restrictions or "veto", they voted, despite enormous pressures, in strong support of the acceptance of Palestine as a Member State of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). A year has passed and Palestine, the homeland of Mahmoud Darwish and Edward Said, is playing its role in UNESCO with high responsibility and professionalism, and is committed to international conventions, cooperating with all Member States in order to advance the objectives of the organization, and providing a model of what its positive, constructive contribution in international organizations would be.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

In order to enhance the chances for peace, we will continue our efforts to obtain full membership for Palestine at the United Nations. And, for the same purpose, we have begun intensive consultations with various regional organizations and Member States aimed at having the General Assembly adopt a resolution considering the State of Palestine as a non-Member State of the United Nations during this session. We are confident that the vast majority of the countries of the world support our endeavor aimed at salvaging the chances for a just peace.

In our endeavor, we do not seek to delegitimize an existing State - that is Israel; but rather to assert the State that must be realized - that is Palestine.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

More than 64 years have passed since Al-Nakba and a large portion of those who were its direct victims and witnessed its horrors have died with their memories preserved in their minds and hearts about their beautiful world that was devastated, their warm homes that were demolished, and their peaceful villages that were erased from existence, and about their renaissance that was undermined, and their loved ones, dear men, women and children, who

were killed in wars, massacres, attacks, raids and incursions, and about their beautiful country that was a beacon of coexistence, tolerance, progress and a crossroads of civilization. They died in the camps of displacement and refuge to which they were expelled following their uprooting from their homeland as they awaited the moment in which they would resume their suspended lives and complete their journey that was interrupted and repair their shattered dreams. They died while they clung to their legitimate human right to justice and freedom and to redress for the historic unprecedented injustice inflicted upon them.

At present, 77% of the Palestinian people are under the age of 35 years. Although they did not experience the horrors of Al-Nakba, they know very well the details of its horrendous facts from the accounts told to them by their parents and grandparents who endured it. And, they are suffering its ongoing effects until today and every day as a result of the practices of the occupation and the settlers on a land that is diminishing and a horizon before them that is blocked against their simple, ordinary dreams. They see their homeland and, their present and future vulnerable to continued usurpation and they say firmly: we will not allow a new Nakba to happen.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I say to you that the brave Palestinian people will not allow themselves to be the victim of a new Nakba. My people will continue their epic steadfastness and eternal survival in their beloved land, every inch of which carries the evidence and landmarks affirming their roots and unique connection throughout ancient history. There is no homeland for us except Palestine, and there is no land for us but Palestine. Our people will continue to build the institutions of their State and will continue to strive to achieve national reconciliation to restore the unity of our nation, people and institutions via resorting to the ballot boxes, which will confirm our people's pluralistic democratic choice. Our people are also determined to continue peaceful popular resistance, consistent with international humanitarian law, against the occupation and the settlements and for the sake of freedom, independence and peace.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Prevent the occurrence of a new Nakba in the Holy Land.

Support the realization of a free, independent State of Palestine now.

Let peace be victorious before it is too late.

Statement by H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Abbas
President of the State of Palestine
on the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People,
New York, 29 November 2012

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon,
Secretary-General of the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Vuk Jeremic,
President of the General Assembly of the United Nations

H.E. Ambassador Hardeep Singh Puri,
President of the Security Council

H.E. Ambassador Abdou Salam Diallo,
Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights
of the Palestinian People

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Palestinian people and the Palestinian leadership, it is my honor to address the international community on this International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. As we gather again commemorate this day, we do so with pride - proud of the resilience of our people, in spite of the many long decades of injustice, oppression, and hardship, and proud of the strong support for the just cause of Palestine emanating from all corners of the globe.

I reaffirm our deepest gratitude to all Member States, civil society, and ordinary people from around the world who are standing in solidarity with the Palestinian people and whose unwavering support for the legitimate national aspirations of the Palestinian people, has been vital in maintaining our conviction that peace and justice are possible and will one day soon prevail.

We are humbled by this historic support and say on this day: your support is more vital than ever at this critical, decisive moment in time. We appeal to you to stand firm for peace, for the rule of law, and for right over might. The time has come for Member States to uphold the principles and words they have committed themselves to over and over. It is high time to find the political will to act resolutely in line with the longstanding positions in support of the inalienable rights of our people, including to self-determination in their independent State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, and in support of a peaceful, just, comprehensive and lasting settlement to the conflict, for which there is clearly no military solution.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We recognize the noble efforts of the United Nations - by the major organs and specialized agencies, including in particular UNRWA - vis-à-vis the question of Palestine, consistent with the permanent responsibility of the United Nations until the question is justly resolved in all aspects. We express appreciation for the goodwill efforts of H.E. Secretary-

General Ban Ki-moon and the serious efforts of the *Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People* in support of the realization of the rights of the Palestinian people and a peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

We are grateful for the strong resolutions adopted in the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Human Rights Council and other organs and bodies of the United Nations, which are firmly rooted in international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, which have safeguarded the rights of the Palestinian people over the decades, and which address all facets of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict - including, *inter alia*, the core issues of the Palestine refugees, the right to self-determination, the status of Jerusalem, the illegal Israeli settlement campaign, and the unjust blockade against our people in the Gaza Strip - and which repeatedly call for an end to Israel's military occupation of the Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, consistent with the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force and the principle of land for peace.

On this 65th anniversary of the General Assembly's adoption of resolution 181 (II) (1947), which partitioned Mandate Palestine into two States - Israel and Palestine, we continue to look to the United Nations and appeal to the international community to uphold this covenant to our people to allow them to live in freedom and dignity in their homeland and to act in the interest of peace and security in our region.

We underscore, in this regard, the call in resolution 181 for sympathetic consideration to be given to the application for membership in the United Nations by either State, and recall further that Israel's admission to the United Nations in 1949 was accompanied by two conditions: Israel's commitment to the Partition resolution and the establishment of the Palestinian State, as well as to resolution 194 (III), calling, *inter alia*, for the return of Palestine refugees to their homes and just compensation.

And, this year, which marked the passage of 45 years since the June 1967 war in which Israel forcibly occupied the remaining territory of historical Palestine - the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip - we reiterate that this unjust situation must end. We thus reiterate our urgent calls to the international community to compel compliance by Israel, the occupying Power, with its legal obligations, relevant resolutions and international commitments. Israel cannot continue to be permitted to act as if it is a State above the law without consequence. Serious collective action is required to send a clear message to Israel that it must abide by the law; that it is time to for this prolonged, illegitimate occupation to come to an end; and that it is time for realization of the two-State solution of an independent, sovereign, democratic, viable and contiguous State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, living side by side with Israel in peace and security on the basis of the pre-1967 borders, ushering in an era of genuine peace and coexistence between our peoples and in our region.

Ladies and Gentlemen, dear Friends,

This is a matter of urgency because, in the midst of turbulent crises throughout the region, the critical situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, is totally unsustainable and risks further destabilization, taking us farther away from our shared goal of peace. In this regard, we condemn the recent Israeli aggression against our people in the Gaza Strip and call for protection for our people to ensure these crimes are not repeated by the

occupying Power. We reaffirm our appreciation to all those who contributed to bringing an end to the onslaught, especially Egypt.

The Palestinian leadership continues to act with utmost responsibility to serve its people and uphold its legal obligations and commitments. It has consistently acted in good will for the sake of peace, repeatedly reaffirming its adherence to the longstanding parameters of the peace process - embodied in Security Council resolutions, the Madrid principles, the Arab Peace Initiative and the Quartet Roadmap - and its adherence to the two-State solution.

We have expressed our readiness for many years to reach a solution to the conflict with Israel that ensures relative justice, and conforms with international resolutions and initiatives through the establishment of our Palestinian State on only 22 percent of the territory of historical Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, and to reach a just and agreed upon solution to the plight of Palestine refugees in accordance with General Assembly resolution 194(III).

We reaffirm these commitments and that readiness once again today. Despite diminishing hopes and the decline of the situation on the ground due to Israel violations, we remain committed to the two-State solution and our hand remains extended in peace.

This is why we have embarked on the multilateral, peaceful, political initiative that will be considered by the General Assembly this afternoon to accord Non-member Observer State status to Palestine in the United Nations. Our preference remains full membership in the United Nations, which is our legitimate, legal and historic right, and we hope that the Security Council will one day soon positively recommend our application to the General Assembly. In the interim, we appeal to Member States for their principled support of the draft resolution today in support of the Palestinian people, in recognition of their State and as an investment in peace. This is indeed a positive, constructive effort aimed at preserving the two-State solution.

On this day, the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, we affirm that we are a people clinging to our land and we will remain in it. And we have faith that every person with conscience in the world, and every State respecting the United Nations Charter, will support and contribute to enabling our people to exercise their right to self-determination and to achieve independence in their State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

With best regards, profound gratitude and appreciation.

May peace and God’s mercy and blessings be upon you.

Mahmoud Abbas
President of the State of Palestine
Chairman of the Executive Committee of
the Palestine Liberation Organization
President of the Palestinian National Authority

Statement by H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Abbas
President of the State of Palestine
on agenda item #37, Question of Palestine,
New York, 29 November 2012

Mr. President of the General Assembly,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Palestine comes today to the United Nations General Assembly at a time when it is still tending to its wounds and still burying its beloved martyrs of children, women and men who have fallen victim to the latest Israeli aggression, still searching for remnants of life amid the ruins of homes destroyed by Israeli bombs on the Gaza Strip, wiping out entire families, their men, women and children murdered along with their dreams, their hopes, their future and their longing to live an ordinary life and to live in freedom and peace.

Palestine comes today to the General Assembly because it believes in peace and because its people, as proven in past days, are in desperate need of it.

Palestine comes today to this prestigious international forum, representative and protector of international legitimacy, reaffirming our conviction that the international community now stands before the last chance to save the two-State solution.

Palestine comes to you today at a defining moment regionally and internationally, in order to reaffirm its presence and to try to protect the possibilities and the foundations of a just peace that is deeply hoped for in our region.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Israeli aggression against our people in the Gaza Strip has confirmed once again the urgent and pressing need to end the Israeli occupation and for our people to gain their freedom and independence. This aggression also confirms the Israeli Government's adherence to the policy of occupation, brute force and war, which in turn obliges the international community to shoulder its responsibilities towards the Palestinian people and towards peace.

This is why we are here today.

I say with great pain and sorrow… there was certainly no one in the world that required that tens of Palestinian children lose their lives in order to reaffirm the above-mentioned facts. There was no need for thousands of deadly raids and tons of explosives for the world to be reminded that there is an occupation that must come to an end and that there are a people that must be liberated. And, there was no need for a new, devastating war in order for us to be aware of the absence of peace.

This is why we are here today.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Palestinian people, who miraculously recovered from the ashes of Al-Nakba of 1948, which was intended to extinguish their being and to expel them in order to uproot and erase their presence, which was rooted in the depths of their land and depths of history. In those dark days, when hundreds of thousands of Palestinians were torn from their homes and displaced within and outside of their homeland, thrown from their beautiful, embracing, prosperous country to refugee camps in one of the most dreadful campaigns of ethnic cleansing and dispossession in modern history. In those dark days, our people had looked to the United Nations as a beacon of hope and appealed for ending the injustice and for achieving justice and peace, the realization of our rights, and our people still believe in this and continue to wait.

This is why we are here today.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the course of our long national struggle, our people have always strived to ensure harmony and conformity between the goals and means of their struggle and international law and spirit of the era in accordance with prevailing realities and changes. And, our people always have strived not to lose their humanity, their highest, deeply-held moral values and their innovative abilities for survival, steadfastness, creativity and hope, despite the horrors that befell them and continue befall them today as a consequence of Al-Nakba and its horrors.

Despite the enormity and weight of this task, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and the constant leader of their revolution and struggle, has consistently strived to achieve this harmony and conformity.

When the Palestine National Council decided in 1988 to pursue the Palestinian peace initiative and adopted the Declaration of Independence, which was based on resolution 181 (II) (29 November 1947), adopted by your august body, it was in fact undertaking, under the leadership of the late President Yasser Arafat, a historic, difficult and courageous decision that defined the requirements for a historic reconciliation that would turn the page on war, aggression and occupation.

This was not an easy matter. Yet, we had the courage and sense of high responsibility to make the right decision to protect the higher national interests of our people and to confirm our adherence to international legitimacy, and it was a decision which in that same year was welcomed, supported and blessed by this high body that is meeting today.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have heard and you too have heard specifically over the past months the incessant flood of Israeli threats in response to our peaceful, political and diplomatic endeavor for Palestine to acquire non-member observer State in the United Nations. And, you have surely

witnessed how some of these threats have been carried out in a barbaric and horrific manner just days ago in the Gaza Strip.

We have not heard one word from any Israeli official expressing any sincere concern to save the peace process. On the contrary, our people have witnessed, and continue to witness, an unprecedented intensification of military assaults, the blockade, settlement activities and ethnic cleansing, particularly in Occupied East Jerusalem, and mass arrests, attacks by settlers and other practices by which this Israeli occupation is becoming synonymous with an apartheid system of colonial occupation, which institutionalizes the plague of racism and entrenches hatred and incitement.

What permits the Israeli Government to blatantly continue with its aggressive policies and the perpetration of war crimes stems from its conviction that it is above the law and that it has immunity from accountability and consequences. This belief is bolstered by the failure by some to condemn and demand the cessation of its violations and crimes and by position that equate the victim and the executioner.

The moment has arrived for the world to say clearly: Enough of aggression, settlements and occupation.

This is why we are here now.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We did not come here seeking to delegitimize a State established years ago, and that is Israel; rather we came to affirm the legitimacy of the State that must now achieve its independence, and that is Palestine. We did not come here to add further complications to the peace process, which Israel's policies have thrown into the intensive care unit; rather we came to launch a final serious attempt to achieve peace. Our endeavor is not aimed at terminating what remains of the negotiations process, which has lost its objective and credibility, but rather aimed at trying to breathe new life into the negotiations and at setting a solid foundation for it based on the terms of reference of the relevant international resolutions in order for the negotiations to succeed.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Palestine Liberation Organization, I say: We will not give up, we will not tire, and our determination will not wane and we will continue to strive to achieve a just peace.

However, above all and after all, I affirm that our people will not relinquish their inalienable national rights, as defined by United Nations resolutions. And our people cling to the right to defend themselves against aggression and occupation and they will continue their popular, peaceful resistance and their epic steadfastness and will continue to build on their land. And, they will end the division and strengthen their national unity. We will accept no less than the independence of the State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, on all the

Palestinian territory occupied in 1967, to live in peace and security alongside the State of Israel, and a solution for the refugee issue on the basis of resolution 194 (III), as per the operative part of the Arab Peace Initiative.

Yet, we must repeat here once again our warning: the window of opportunity is narrowing and time is quickly running out. The rope of patience is shortening and hope is withering. The innocent lives that have been taken by Israeli bombs - more than 168 martyrs, mostly children and women, including 12 members of one family, the Dalou family, in Gaza - are a painful reminder to the world that this racist, colonial occupation is making the two-State solution and the prospect for realizing peace a very difficult choice, if not impossible.

It is time for action and the moment to move forward.

This is why we are here today.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentleman,

The world is being asked today to undertake a significant step in the process of rectifying the unprecedented historical injustice inflicted on the Palestinian people since Al-Nakba of 1948.

Every voice supporting our endeavor today is a most valuable voice of courage, and every State that grants support today to Palestine's request for non-member observer State status is affirming its principled and moral support for freedom and the rights of peoples and international law and peace.

Your support for our endeavor today will send a promising message - to millions of Palestinians on the land of Palestine, in the refugee camps both in the homeland and the Diaspora, and to the prisoners struggling for freedom in Israel's prisons - that justice is possible and that there is a reason to be hopeful and that the peoples of the world do not accept the continuation of the occupation.

This is why we are here today.

Your support for our endeavor today will give a reason for hope to a people besieged by a racist, colonial occupation. Your support will confirm to our people that they are not alone and their adherence to international law is never going to be a losing proposition.

In our endeavor today to acquire non-member State status for Palestine in the United Nations, we reaffirm that Palestine will always adhere to and respect the Charter and resolutions of the United Nations and international humanitarian law, uphold equality, guarantee civil liberties, uphold the rule of law, promote democracy and pluralism, and uphold and protect the rights of women.

As we promised our friends and our brothers and sisters, we will continue to consult with them upon the approval of your esteemed body our request to upgrade Palestine's status. We

will act responsibly and positively in our next steps, and we will to work to strengthen cooperation with the countries and peoples of the world for the sake of a just peace.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Sixty-five years ago on this day, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 181 (II), which partitioned the land of historic Palestine into two States and became the birth certificate for Israel.

Sixty-five years later and on the same day, which your esteemed body has designated as the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, the General Assembly stands before a moral duty, which it must not hesitate to undertake, and stands before a historic duty, which cannot endure further delay, and before a practical duty to salvage the chances for peace, which is urgent and cannot be postponed.

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The General Assembly is called upon today to issue a birth certificate of the reality of the State of Palestine.

This is why in specific we are here today.

Thank you.

MESSAGES RECEIVED BY
THE COMMITTEE ON THE EXERCISE OF THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

ON THE OCCASION OF

THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

29 November 2012

Heads of State

President of Afghanistan

President of Argentina

King of Bahrain

President of Belarus

President of Brazil

President of Burkina Faso

Sultan and Yang Di Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam

President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

President of Indonesia

President of the Islamic Republic of Iran

President of Maldives

King of Morocco

President of Namibia

President of Pakistan

President of the Russian Federation

President of Senegal

President of Sri Lanka

President of Turkey

President of Viet Nam

President of the United Arab Emirates

eads of Government

Prime Minister of India

Prime Minister of Malaysia

Premier of the State Council of China

Prime Minister of Thailand

Ministers for Foreign Affairs

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Algeria

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cuba

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Madagascar

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia

Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mexico

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Philippines

Governments

Oman

South Africa

Venezuela

Intergovernmental organizations

Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

European Union

Civil society organizations

International Progress Organization in Vienna

Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations

NGO Working Group on Peace in Geneva

Mennonite Central Committee in New York

The NGO Working Group on Israel-Palestine in New York

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United Nations Nations Unies

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM MEMORANDUM INTERIEUR

TO: Please see attached distribution list DATE: 21 December 2012

A:

FROM: Patricia O'Brien
DE: Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs
The Legal Counsel

SUBJECT: **Issues related to General Assembly resolution 67/19 on the status of Palestine in the**
OBJET: **United Nations**

Please be advised that this memorandum is for internal use only and is not for distribution to Member States or the media.

Introduction

1. Prior to the adoption of resolution 67/19, Palestine was treated as an entity for United Nations purposes. Palestine was not identified as a State or a country nor could its authorities be identified as a government. Pursuant to resolution 43/177 of 15 December 1998, the designation "Palestine" was used in place of the designation "Palestinian Liberation Organization" in the United Nations.

2. On 29 November 2012, the General Assembly passed resolution 67/19. Pursuant to operative paragraph 2 of that resolution, the General Assembly decided to:

> "...accord to Palestine non-member observer State status in the United Nations, without prejudice to the acquired rights, privileges and role of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the United Nations as the representative of the Palestinian people, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and practice".

Now that Palestine has been accorded the status of a non-Member observer State by the General Assembly, this change in status will need to be reflected in the way that the United Nations deals with Palestine.

We have identified the following issues to be addressed in this regard.

(i) Terminology

3. For United Nations purposes, Palestine may now generally be referred to as a State or country; and its authorities may generally be identified as the Government of Palestine.

4. The precise name to be used when referring to Palestine and the formal titles to be used for its government officials should be determined by Palestine itself. Accordingly, it would be up to Palestine to identify the following:

a. What is the formal ("long form") name of Palestine and its "short form" name for the purposes of the United Nations;

b. Who is the "Government" of Palestine, and in particular, who are the Head of State, Head of Government and Minister of Foreign Affairs and what are their exact titles.

5. On 12 December 2012, Palestine informed the Secretary-General that the designation "State of Palestine" should be used in all official documents and for its nameplate in all United Nations meetings. It further informed the Secretary-General that the Head of State is His Excellency, Mr. Mahmoud Abbas, President of the State of Palestine and that other changes to the composition of the Government of the State of Palestine would be communicated in due course.

6. As noted above, in resolution 43/177 of 15 December 1988, the General Assembly decided that the designation "Palestine" should be used in place of the designation "Palestine Liberation Organization" in the United Nations system, without prejudice to the observer status and functions of the Palestine Liberation Organization within the United Nations system. Resolution 43/177 is not an impediment for Palestine to change its name to "State of Palestine" because as general rule, States are free to choose their own names in the United Nations. Moreover, in resolution 43/177 the designation by the Assembly was in relation to the representatives of Palestine as an observer entity.

7. Accordingly, per its request, Palestine should be referred to as "State of Palestine" in all official documents of the United Nations and on nameplates to be used in all United Nations meetings and Mr. Abbas should be addressed as the President of the State of Palestine. With respect to Mr. Abbas, it should be noted that in some cases, depending on the context, it may still be appropriate to refer to him as "Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestinian Liberation Organization and President of the Palestinian Authority". In the same vein, in some cases, depending on the context, it may be appropriate to refer to the Palestinian Liberation Organization or the Palestinian Authority. When referring to Palestine in its capacity as an observer State to the United Nations, it may also be appropriate to refer to it as the "Observer State of Palestine to the United Nations" or the "Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine".

8. This does not preclude the use of the term "Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem" since the General Assembly, after the adoption of resolution 67/19, has continued to use the term "Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem" to refer as a whole to the geographical area of the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967. The Secretariat should be guided by this practice and should not create its own new terminology, such as "Occupied State of Palestine" or "Occupied Palestinian State". Should the General Assembly use other terminology to refer to the geographical area of the State of Palestine, then the Secretariat will be guided by this. However, following resolution 67/19, there is no legal impediment to using the designation "Palestine" to refer to the geographical area of the Palestinian territory.

(ii) Palestine's Status in the Security Council

9. Under Articles 32 and 50 of the Charter, Palestine as a non-Member State of the United Nations enjoys the right to participate, without vote, in discussions relating to a dispute under consideration by the Security Council to which it is a party as well as to engage in consultations with the Security Council on preventive or enforcement measures if Palestine finds itself confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of those measures. As a practical matter, Palestine has already been participating in discussions on the Middle East in the Security Council based on its previous enhanced observer status.

10. With the change in status of Palestine, under Article 35, paragraph 2 of the Charter Palestine now has the right to place items on the provisional agenda of the Security Council and the General Assembly.

(iii) Palestine's Status in the General Assembly

11. Palestine continues to enjoy the rights and privileges of participation acquired by it previous to the adoption of resolution 67/19. In this regard, by General Assembly resolution 43/160 A of 9 December 1988, the General Assembly decided that the Palestinian Liberation Organization was entitled to have its communications issued and circulated as official documents of the United Nations. Thereafter, by General Assembly resolution 52/250 of 13 July 1998, Palestine was accorded additional rights and privileges of participation in the sessions and work of the General Assembly and international conferences convened under the auspices of the Assembly or other organs of the United Nations, as well as in United Nations conferences.

12. As noted above in paragraph 9, one additional right that Palestine has attained pursuant to resolution 67/19 is the right to place items on the provisional agenda of the General Assembly.

(iv) Treaty Participation

13. Each multilateral treaty deposited with the Secretary-General has its own provisions concerning the entities that are eligible to participate in that treaty. As a general matter most treaties will be open to all States Members of the United Nations or of the Specialized Agencies (the "Vienna" formula) or to "any State" or "all States" (the "all States" formula). Others may be limited to a particular membership.

14. As Palestine is a Member State of UNESCO, the Secretary-General would accept instruments of accession from Palestine for treaties that follow the Vienna formula.

15. With respect to treaties that use the "all States" formula, as outlined in the Summary of Practice of the Secretary-General as Depositary of Multilateral Treaties (ST/LEG/7/Rev.1), "the Secretary-General, in discharging his functions as a depositary of a convention with an 'all States' clause, will follow the practice of the Assembly in implementing such a clause and, whenever advisable, will request the opinion of the Assembly before receiving a signature or an instrument of ratification or accession". The "practice of the General Assembly" is to be found

in unequivocal indications from the Assembly that it considers a particular entity to be a State. Since the General Assembly has accepted Palestine as a non-Member observer State in the United Nations, the Secretary-General will be guided by this determination in discharging his functions as depositary of treaties containing an "all States" clause. Therefore, Palestine would be able to become party to any treaties that are open to "any State" or "all States" ("all States" formula treaties) deposited with the Secretary-General.

16. Many multilateral treaties are deposited with the Governments of Member States, rather than with the Secretary-General. It would be up to those States to determine their own depository practice with respect to Palestine.

(v) Participation in United Nations Conferences and other Meetings

17. Similar to the situation of treaties, the Secretary-General will look to the General Assembly and follow its practice on whether Palestine may participate in United Nations conferences.

18. As Palestine is a Member State of UNESCO and is now a non-Member observer State for the purposes of the United Nations, Palestine may participate fully and on an equal basis with other States in United Nations Conferences, whether they are convened under the so-called "Vienna" formula or whether they are convened under the "all States" formula. It would therefore have the right to propose draft texts, as well as to participate in voting.

(vi) Concluding Agreements with Palestine

19. Having been recognized as a State within the United Nations, the Organization and its funds and programmes may enter into agreements with Palestine as a State on the international plane, including treaties, which are necessary to carry out their respective mandates in Palestine.

20. We understand that currently many funds and programmes may be operating in Palestine without any formal agreements, but with the consent of the local Palestinian (and Israeli) authorities.

21. As a practical matter, there is no apparent immediate need to conclude formal agreements with the Palestinian authorities since the funds and programmes can continue to operate under the arrangements already in place, unless Palestine indicates otherwise or the funds and programmes are having operational difficulties on the ground without such formal arrangements.

22. Since Israel continues to occupy the territory of the State of Palestine, it remains necessary for the Organization and its offices, programmes and funds to make arrangements with Israel as the effective authority in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

23. This Office remains available to discuss the necessity of any additional formal arrangements on a case-by-case basis with the funds and programmes.

cc: The Deputy Secretary-General
The Chef de Cabinet
Mr. Feltman
Mr. Serry

Distribution List:

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General Assembly

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Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 37
Question of Palestine

Status of Palestine in the United Nations

Report of the Secretary-General

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 67/19. In that resolution, the Assembly accorded to Palestine non-member observer State status in the United Nations, without prejudice to the acquired rights, privileges and role of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the United Nations as the representative of the Palestinian people, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and practice. It also reaffirmed the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and expressed hope that the Security Council would consider favourably the application submitted on 23 September 2011 by the State of Palestine for admission to full membership in the United Nations. The Assembly also affirmed its determination to contribute to the attainment of a peaceful settlement in the Middle East that ends the occupation that began in 1967 and fulfils the vision of two States: an independent, sovereign, democratic, contiguous and viable State of Palestine, living side by side in peace and security with Israel on the basis of the pre-1967 borders. It expressed the urgent need for the resumption and acceleration of negotiations within the Middle East peace process, and urged all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their right to self-determination, independence and freedom. This present report provides information on the steps taken regarding the change of Palestine's status in the United Nations, which does not apply to organizations and bodies outside of the United Nations, as well as the progress made, or lack thereof, in resuming the Middle East peace process. The Permanent Mission of Israel and the Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine to the United Nations have been consulted in the preparation of the present report.

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II. Non-member observer status in the United Nations

A. Name and status of Palestine

2. In accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 67/19, Palestine has been treated as a non-member observer State by the Secretariat since the adoption of the resolution. Accordingly, the publication on permanent missions prepared by the Protocol and Liaison Service entitled “Permanent Missions to the United Nations” (the Blue Book) now lists Palestine under category II as a “Non-member State having received a standing invitation to participate as observer in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly and maintaining permanent observer mission at Headquarters”.

3. On 12 December 2012, Palestine informed the Secretary-General that the designation “State of Palestine” should be used in all documents and for its nameplate in all United Nations meetings. It further informed the Secretary-General that the Head of State was Mahmoud Abbas, President of the State of Palestine. On 8 January 2013, Palestine informed the Secretary-General that the Head of Government was Salam Fayyad, Prime Minister of the State of Palestine, and that the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Palestine was Riad Malki. In accordance with its request, the designation “State of Palestine” is now used in all documents of the United Nations and on nameplates to be used in United Nations meetings. Mr. Abbas is now addressed as the President of the State of Palestine, Mr. Fayyad as the Prime Minister of the State of Palestine and Mr. Malki as the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Palestine.

B. Participation in work of the General Assembly and other organs of the United Nations, as well as in United Nations conferences

4. The State of Palestine continues to enjoy the right of participation in the sessions and work of the General Assembly and the international conferences convened under the auspices of the Assembly or other organs of the United Nations, as well as in United Nations conferences, pursuant to resolutions 43/160 and 52/250 and as set out in the note by the Secretary-General on participation of Palestine in the work of the United Nations of 4 August 1998 (A/52/1002). Those rights are not affected by resolution 67/19.

5. As a general matter, the State of Palestine does not enjoy the right to vote, including in elections. Nor may the State of Palestine submit its own candidacy for any election or appointment or, submit the names of candidates for any election or appointment, with one exception. Pursuant to the Statute of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, non-member States maintaining permanent observer missions at United Nations Headquarters have the right to submit nominations for and to vote in the elections for the permanent and ad litem judges of the Residual Mechanism.

6. Pursuant to Article 35, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations, the State of Palestine may also place items on the provisional agenda of the Security Council and the General Assembly.

7. With respect to conferences convened under the auspices of the General Assembly and other United Nations conferences, as a non-member observer State of the United Nations and a member of UNESCO, the State of Palestine may participate fully and on an equal basis with other States in conferences that are open to members of specialized agencies or that are open to all States. Arrangements are being made to ensure the full participation of the State of Palestine in conferences convened on that basis.

III. Middle East peace process

8. Following the adoption of resolution 67/19, I reiterated my position that the Palestinians have a legitimate right to their own independent State and that Israel has the right to live in peace and security with its neighbours. I also stressed that there was no substitute for negotiations to that end, and the vote underscored the urgency of a resumption of meaningful talks. I thus appealed to all concerned to act responsibly.

9. Both parties have repeated their commitment to the two-State solution. In his speech to the General Assembly and in other statements he has made since, President Abbas proclaimed his willingness to engage with Israel after the formation of a new Government following its parliamentary elections of 22 January. Addressing the Security Council on 23 January 2013, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Palestine reiterated the Palestinian commitment to peace and the two-State solution and observed that the overwhelming support for resolution 67/19 clearly demonstrated the international community's commitment, including that of the Arab and Muslim world, to the two-State solution. While sharply criticizing settlement activity of Israel, the Minister for Foreign Affairs reaffirmed the need to establish clear parameters and a time frame for peace. At the same meeting, an overwhelming majority of Member States urged a credible return to peace negotiations, and many highlighted the historic nature of the 29 November vote of the General Assembly.

10. The Prime Minister of Israel reiterated his commitment to peace and a two-State solution in press conferences held on 5 December 2012 and 19 February 2013. However, on 29 November 2012 in the Assembly and on 23 January 2013 in the Security Council open debate on the situation in the Middle East, the Permanent Representative of Israel stated the position of Israel that in their view General Assembly resolution 67/19 could not serve as acceptable terms of reference for future peace negotiations and that it did not confer Palestinian statehood or constitute recognition of a Palestinian State. The Permanent Representative of Israel also objected to any attempt to alter the status of Palestinians, outside the agreed negotiating framework. At the same meetings, the United States of America and Canada echoed these positions.

11. In spite of reiterated calls for negotiated peace, actions on the ground have further undermined mutual trust. Following the adoption of the resolution, the Government of Israel announced plans for construction of thousands of housing units in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and, most alarmingly, several thousand housing units in the "E-1" area east of Jerusalem. In statements on 2 December 2012 and 14 January 2013, I expressed my grave concern at this development, which risked cutting off East Jerusalem from the rest of the West

Bank and, if constructed, would represent an almost fatal blow to remaining chances of securing a two-State solution, and called for any settlement plan in the E-1 area to be rescinded. Overall, approximately 11,500 housing units of Israeli settlements have been advanced or approved since 29 November 2012, including approximately 3,500 in the E-1 area, 5,000 in East Jerusalem, and the rest in various other West Bank settlements. I have repeatedly stressed that all settlement activity in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, is illegal under international law.

12. The Government of Israel also initially withheld approximately $115 million of Palestinian customs revenue collected in December and January. The funds for December were released to the Palestinian Authority in January in line with the obligation that Israel accepted as part of the 1994 Paris Protocol, which remains in force. The funds for January are expected to be transferred at the end of February.

13. The backdrop to these events has been a worsening security situation in the West Bank and a tenuous calm in Gaza following the truce announced on 21 November 2012 after an intensive diplomatic effort, including my own visit to the region.

14. In the West Bank, Israeli security forces, citing security concerns, conducted 969 operations and made 1,101 arrests from 29 November 2012 to 26 February 2013. A total of 7 Palestinians were killed and 1,065 were injured. Confrontations between Palestinians and Israeli settlers have occurred on an almost daily basis. Occupation measures have continued to impede Palestinian movement, while demolitions in Area C have intensified, leading to further displacements. In a worrying development, on 23 February 2013, a Palestinian man died in detention after his arrest by the Israeli Defense Forces days earlier in the West Bank. His death sparked a series of popular demonstrations and clashes with the Israeli Defense Forces. Earlier popular demonstrations in solidarity with prisoners on hunger strike had resulted in clashes with Israeli security forces. Hundreds of Palestinians were injured as a result, including by tear gas inhalation.

15. In Gaza, following the ceasefire understanding reached on 21 November 2012 under the auspices of Egypt, the calm largely held, but there was a significant disruption on 26 February 2013, when a rocket fired from Gaza landed on a street near the industrial area in the southern part of the city of Ashkelon. In total, two rockets have been fired and eight Israeli incursions have taken place since the ceasefire understanding was reached. Renewed shooting incidents have claimed the lives of two Palestinian civilians, mostly while they were attempting to approach the border fence. Efforts to consolidate the ceasefire have continued, in line with resolution 1860 (2009). The full implementation of the resolution includes the important step of overcoming the Palestinian political divide in ways that can advance the prospects for the realization of the two-State solution. In this regard, Egypt continued to facilitate progress in the implementation of previous reconciliation agreements among Palestinian factions. Elections are a central element of reconciliation, and the Central Elections Commission undertook a registration process in February 2013 in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

16. The Hamas leader Khaled Meshaal visited Gaza for the first time from 7 to 10 December 2012. In a speech celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of Hamas he denied Israel any legitimacy, stressing that the Palestinian State will come from resistance not negotiations, in a clear rejection of a negotiated

two-State solution. Those inflammatory statements prompted condemnation by several members of the international community and the United Nations.

17. Since the adoption of the resolution, and as illustrated by the statements made during the open debate on the situation in the Middle East held by the Security Council on 23 January 2013, regional and international partners have voiced their alarm at the increasing risk the prolonged impasse in the peace process and facts on the ground, in particular Israeli settlement activity, pose to the viability of the two-State solution. Everyone has recognized the urgent need for action. At its meeting in Doha on 9 December 2012, the League of Arab States expressed doubt about the international architecture for the peace process and announced future consultations with the relevant players in the international community. In conclusions adopted on 10 December 2012, the Foreign Affairs Council of the European Union underlined the urgency of renewed, structured and substantial peace efforts in 2013 and reaffirmed its position that clear parameters outlining the basis for negotiations are key to a successful outcome. On 23 January 2013, the Permanent Representative of the United States to the United Nations stated that the United States remained fully committed to direct negotiations and continued to work vigorously towards that end.

18. Quartet envoys met in Brussels on 12 December 2012, and again on 10 January 2013 in Amman. They discussed ways to help the parties to avoid escalation diplomatically and on the ground in the short term, while also finding a way back to negotiations. I have also continued to engage with the parties, as well as with key international and regional leaders, both in New York and on the margins of international conferences and events, in order to encourage concerted efforts to forge a way forward.

19. The application for full United Nations membership remains pending before the Security Council.

IV. Support to Palestinian institutions and the right to self-determination

20. In spite of the fundamental challenges that remain, the Government of the State of Palestine remains committed to the advancement of the State-building agenda on which it has made notable progress in the past two years. This has been widely recognized by the international community, in particular at the successive meetings of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians in 2011 and 2012. Following the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 67/19 on 29 November 2012, President Abbas constituted a committee of Palestinian officials to examine a range of issues relating to statehood. Civil society has also contributed to the continued advancement, with women's groups convening an important conference in December, which culminated in the presentation of a list of vital demands, including the incorporation of a women's bill of rights in the constitution of the State of Palestine, ensuring that legislation adheres to international standards with respect to discrimination against women and implementing quotas for female participation in public institutions.

21. The United Nations has continued to provide support in the six areas that were highlighted in the report entitled "Palestinian State-building: a decisive period" presented by the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle

East Peace Process to the meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee on 13 April 2011 (governance, rule of law and human rights; livelihoods and productive sectors; education and culture; health; social protection; and infrastructure and water). In each of these sectors, governmental functions were deemed sufficient for a functioning Government of a State. The United Nations has continued to align its activities to the priorities of the Palestinian National Plan and is currently developing its new United Nations Development Assistance Framework for the period 2014-2016 in collaboration with Palestinian authorities.

22. The Palestinian fiscal situation represents a core challenge. The full, timely and predictable transfer of Palestinian tax and customs revenues by Israel in accordance with the provisions of the Paris Protocol on Economic Relations is essential in order for the Government of the State of Palestine to be able to meet its financial obligations. Key among these is the payment of salaries to civil servants, who have launched strikes in protest against non-payment. Prime Minister Fayyad continues to call on Arab donors for contributions, emphasizing that there is unprecedented financial distress and potential for negative consequences. Ultimately, private-sector-led economic growth will enable the growth of a vibrant economy, which will benefit Palestinians and provide the tax base necessary to end the cycles of fiscal crisis.

23. International contributions amounted to $600 million in support of the recurrent budget last year, but further timely disbursement of assistance is essential. At its meeting in Doha on 9 December 2012, the League of Arab States voted to contribute $100 million per month in aid to the Palestinian Authority as a “financial safety net” to compensate for lost revenue incurred after Israel announced it would withhold clearance revenues. In January 2013, Saudi Arabia announced that it would disburse a further $20 million per month and Prime Minister Fayyad and the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States approached a select number of countries during the Arab Economic and Social Development Summit, held in Riyadh on 21 January, to bridge the funding gap. At its first meeting, held in Tokyo on 13 and 14 February 2013, the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development discussed support for the State-building efforts of Palestine.

V. Observations

24. The adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 67/19 on 29 November 2012 by a majority of 138 votes in favour, following a period of prolonged stalemate in the political process, symbolized the growing international impatience with the long-standing occupation and clearly endorsed Palestinian aspirations to live in freedom and dignity in an independent State of their own, side by side with Israel in peace and security. The end to the occupation and to the conflict and the achievement of the two-State solution on the ground is long overdue. This can only be achieved, however, through negotiations to solve all final status issues.

25. The year 2013 will be decisive in the peace process. As I outlined in my address to the General Assembly on 22 January 2013, I identified five priorities in this regard: first, we must renew collective international engagement; second, we must resume meaningful negotiations; third, we must preserve stability in Gaza; fourth, we must make progress on Palestinian reconciliation under the leadership of

President Abbas within the framework of the commitments of the Palestinian Liberation Organization and the positions of the Quartet; and fifth, we must prevent the financial collapse of the Palestinian Authority. Concerted action is essential if we are to salvage the realization on the ground of the two-State solution.

26. The situation on the ground remains a cause for serious concern. Continued settlement activity in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, is illegal under international law and runs contrary to Israel's obligations under the road map. It also undermines the viability of the two-State solution and the prospects for peace. Israel should heed the repeated calls of the international community and stop such activity.

27. Both sides have a common interest and responsibility in preventing an escalation of tensions. Recent spates of violence over the death of a Palestinian detainee and prisoners on prolonged hunger strikes are potentially eroding the calm necessary for the resumption of peace talks. I have expressed my deep concern and urged that a solution be reached without delay in order to end the prisoners' plight and preserve calm. International human rights obligations towards all Palestinian detainees and prisoners under Israeli custody must be fully respected.

28. Solidifying the ceasefire agreement in Gaza that was brokered by Egypt remains a pressing priority. The 26 February rocket attack from Gaza into Israel was unacceptable. I will continue to condemn any indiscriminate rocket fire from Gaza.

29. The parties need our collective support to create an environment conducive to a resumption of talks, as on both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict there is too much pain and anguish, disillusionment and dismay, for the parties to be able to overcome their genuine fears and dispel tensions on their own. It is incumbent upon the international community to foster synergy among the various ideas and initiatives being discussed to permit decisive progress towards a return to negotiations. The Arab Peace Initiative remains an important basis for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict and achieving regional peace. It should be encouraged and nurtured.

30. However, no international effort alone is sufficient for progress absent the requisite will from the parties themselves. Israeli and Palestinian leaders have stated that they are convinced the two-State solution is the only path towards a durable peace. They should realize that without serious engagement, the consequences for inaction could be dire for everyone. The parties must not only remain open to new initiatives to overcome the current impasse, but must now demonstrate their seriousness and refrain from actions and negative steps that undermine the situation on the ground and complicate a return to meaningful negotiations in the critical period ahead.

31. As Secretary-General, I will continue to do my utmost to achieve a negotiated two-State solution, in accordance with Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 1397 (2002), 1515 (2003) and 1860 (2009), that will resolve the core issues — territory, security, Jerusalem, refugees, settlements, water — and constitute the end of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and all claims related to it. I call on the parties and all stakeholders to act with determination, responsibility and vision. None of the steps to that end are easy, but we cannot afford another year without courageous action for the purpose of achieving the two-State solution reaffirmed by resolution 67/19.

Permanent Observer Mission
of the State of Palestine
to the United Nations

البعثة المراقبة الدائمة
لدولة فلسطين
لدى الأمم المتحدة

January 2013

The State of Palestine: A New Legal Status

On 29 November 2012, the United Nations General Assembly accorded to Palestine non-member Observer State status within the United Nations. Previously Palestine had observer "entity" status stemming from a series of General Assembly resolutions from 1974, 1988, and 1998 regarding the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization, then in 1998 the designation was changed to Palestine. General Assembly resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012 marked the first time that the General Assembly considered Palestine to be a State.

The legal importance of this resolution is historic as the new status of Palestine in the United Nations affects how the Secretary-General of the United Nations treats the State of Palestine in issues under his competence, including inviting States to international conferences under the auspicious of the United Nations and in the Secretary-General's capacity as depository of multilateral treaties, to invite States to participate in multilateral treaties.

Legal Framework

There are three main formulas used in the international community to identify which States are invited to participate in various conferences and multilateral treaties.

Member States Formula

"Member States of the United Nations"

This formula is used so that only States Members of the United Nations are invited to participate fully. When this formula is used the conference ceases to be one of an international nature, it becomes a General Assembly conference, where States with granted Observer status can participate as observers. When this formula is used in a multilateral treaty, non-member States cannot participate.

Vienna Formula

"States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency and States parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice"

This formula is used to ensure participation wider than Member States of the United Nations, but not the widest possible.

All States Formula

"It is the understanding of the General Assembly that the Secretary-General, in discharging his functions as a depositary of a convention with an 'all States' clause, will follow the practice of the General Assembly in implementing such a clause and, whenever advisable, will request the opinion of the General Assembly before receiving a signature or an instrument of ratification or accession." – Decision of the General Assembly at its 2202nd plenary meeting on 14 December 1973, upon recommendation from the Sixth Committee, adopted without objection.

This formula is used to ensure the widest possible participation of States. It was on 14 December 1973, that the above decision was adopted after the Secretary-General pleaded with the United Nations Membership for nearly a decade to define the "all States" formula.

Palestine's UNESCO Curve Ball

From 22 November 1974, when the Palestine became an observer "entity" until 23 November 2011, for exactly 38 years, Palestine did not fulfill any of the three criteria above until it became a State Member of UNESCO. It was at this point that Palestine began to fulfill the Vienna formula although Palestine remained an observer "entity" in the General Assembly. Now Palestine became a special case within the United Nations all over again. In international conferences convened under the Vienna formula, the United Nations Secretariat and Office for Legal Affairs allowed Palestine to participate fully, as a participating State.

That did not stop the banter that came from Israel, United States and Canada, which opposed Palestine participating as a State. Nevertheless, Palestine participated as an Observer State in the June 2012 Meeting of States Parties of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, ironically alongside Israel and the United States, which also are not parties to the Convention, the rules of procedure of the States Parties Meeting used the Vienna Formula for Observer States.

The State of Palestine participated fully in the United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, in April 2012 and in two working groups established by the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly in October 2012 on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism and Criminal Accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission. The State of Palestine also participated as an Observer State in the Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 18) in December 2012.

There were also three international conferences that were supposed to be under the "all States" formula where there were arguments for and against Palestine's full participation, but because of political wrangling, the conferences were held in somewhat ambiguous formats.

Argument for Palestine's partaking in All States formula before Observer State Status

It was argued that the previous practice of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General of the United Nations that States members of at least one specialized agency were considered to also fulfill the "all States" formula. While all this was true indeed, none of the States in question in this argument were also considered an "entity" as was Palestine. The UNESO curve ball gave Palestine two identities, as a State and as an "entity", depending on the participation formula.

Argument against Palestine's partaking in All States formula before Observer State Status

It was argued that Palestine could not be considered under the "all States" formula since the General Assembly only viewed Palestine as an "entity" in accordance with the 14 December 1973 decision of the General Assembly. Although this counter-argument made sense, Palestine did not accept to be seated as an observer "entity" in an international conference while its diplomats engaged with all stakeholders to agree to compromises which would allow Palestine to sit in the front of the conference room, before Afghanistan, rather than the back, after Zimbabwe.

At the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012 , the negotiation conference on an Arms Trade Treaty in July 2012, and the Conference on Small Arms and Light Weapons in August 2012, creative and ambiguous compromises were reached.

Recognition of the State of Palestine

International Conferences

The State of Palestine's new status in the United Nations, as of 29 November 2012, allows, without objection, for it to participate in all international conferences. The banter of Israel, United States, and Canada has come to an end, evidenced in the one day Meeting of States Parties of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on 19 December 2012. In the June Meetings, the three openly objected Palestine's participation as an Observer State, but since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 67/19, the three were tight-lipped.

The Arms Trade Treaty will hold its final meeting in March 2013, where the State of Palestine is expected to participate fully and equally among all States.

Multilateral Treaties

The new status has also opened doors for the State of Palestine to participate in multilateral treaties to be able to protect its interests, personnel and citizens' rights. Among the most discussed are the Geneva Conventions and the Rome Statute for the International Criminal Court.

While the depository of the Geneva Conventions is the Swiss Federal Council, it adopts similar positions as the Secretary-General to ensure a universal system of which entities are considered States. An interesting point is that since Palestine is under foreign occupation, entry in force will take an immediate effect in accordance with the Conventions.

Regarding the Rome Statute, Palestine has a few options before it. Palestine can accede to the Rome Statute, revive its existing declaration or even submit a new declaration accepting the jurisdiction of the Court.

While Palestine is not a State party of the International Court of Justice, it may take cases to the Court should there be a mutual agreement with the other State or an obligatory dispute resolution mechanism within a treaty that both Palestine and the other State are party.

Conclusion

Following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012, any ambiguities that may have existed regarding the status of Palestine, as a State, have been eliminated.

It is now for the State of Palestine to decide its own course of action in acceding to various multi-lateral treaties to protect the Palestinian people and the interests of the State with regard to diplomatic and consular affairs, as well as development and the environment.

The State of Palestine will have to study responsibly all reservations, objections and declarations of States in every multi-lateral treaty in order to formulate its own as it enters this new phase of legal responsibility.

The new legal status can be used to ensure stability, equality and an end to impunity as a new era of justice can be ushered into the region.

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