

**DECISION ON PALESTINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST**  
**DOC.EX.CL/321 (X)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **RECALLS** all relevant resolutions and Decisions adopted by the OAU/AU on the situation in Palestine and the Middle East;
2. **REITERATES** its continued full support to and solidarity with the Palestinian people in their just and legitimate struggle, under the leadership of PLO, their sole and legitimate representative in the exercise of their inalienable national rights, including their right to self-determination, return to their land and recover their properties, and the establishment of an independent state on their national soil, with Al-Quds as its capital, in accordance with the principles of international law, the UN Resolution 194 and other pertinent resolutions of the OAU/AU and all UN Resolutions;
3. **REAFFIRMS ITS SUPPORT** for the peaceful solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in accordance with the principles of international law, all UN Security Council and General Assembly Resolutions, pertinent resolutions of the OAU/AU, the Arab peace initiative, and the Quartet Committee's Road Map, to end the Israel occupation that began in 1967 with the achievement of the vision of two States, Israel and an independent, sovereign and territorially contiguous Palestine, living side by side, in peace and security;
4. **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the Israeli repressive measures, inhumane aggressions and all State Terrorism acts perpetrated against defenseless Palestinian civilians, such as the policy of targeted assassinations, ongoing invasions to the majority of the Palestinian territories, as well as the heinous crimes and massacres, especially the latest atrocious assault committed by the Israeli forces on 10 November on Beit Hanoun, which resulted in the death and injury of hundreds of innocent lives and people as well as the latest attack perpetrated by Israeli Forces against Ramallah town on 5 January 2007; and **URGES** the Israeli Government to immediately halt all these indiscriminate measures and retaliatory actions that violate the International Law and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949;

5. **AFFIRMS** also the importance of the United Nations to take concrete measures to protect the people of Palestine by providing international protection forces to the Occupied Palestinian Territories, and to compel Israel to allow the UN fact-finding missions charged with establishing investigation about war crimes and atrocities perpetrated against Palestinian Peoples to handle its tasks inside the Occupied Territories in perfect means;
6. **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the Israeli ongoing construction of the Separation Wall and the expansion of the Colonial Settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, around and inside Al-Quds town, especially the recent Israeli decision to build a new Jewish settlement in the West Bank (Jordanian Valley), which constitutes an Israeli brutal breach of its legal obligations under International Law, International Humanitarian Law and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, and **URGES** Israel to comply with the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice and General Assembly resolution ES-10/15;
7. **EXPRESSES ITS GRAVE CONCERN** over the deterioration of living conditions of Palestinian People in the economic, social and health fields, as a result of the continued Israeli occupation of their land, its ongoing policy of deliberate destruction of infrastructure, as well as imposing strict siege and restriction on the movement of goods and persons, and its unilateral measures including expansion of the settlements and the construction of the Separation Wall;
8. **CONDEMNS** the continuous Israeli Policy of imprisonment and detention against Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, especially its ongoing detention of juveniles, women and old men prisoners and kidnapping of Palestinian Ministers and Parliamentary Officials, which constitute a grave violation of the principles of International Law and Human Rights;
9. **FURTHER CONDEMNS** the ruling of the Israeli Supreme Court issued on 13 Dec. 2006 that approves the assassinations and grants the Israeli military forces a green light to continue its extra-judicial killings of Palestinian activists and politicians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and **URGES** the International Community to stand facing this Israeli Judicial Authority and its indiscriminate rulings that are contrary with the principles of the International Humanitarian Law;

10. **CALLS UPON** the International Community and the Members of the Quartet Committee to continue exerting its utmost efforts in the quest for reinvigorating the negotiations and to salvage the peace process, and **EXPRESSES** the AU support for the organization of an International Peace Conference on the Middle East conflict;
11. **INVITES** the Palestinian Parties to redouble their efforts to accelerate the establishment of a National Union Government, symbol of their unity in the face of Israeli occupation;
12. **WELCOMES** the International Conference on Lebanon held in Paris on 25 January 2007 and **URGES** the International Community to pursue efforts aimed at the reconstruction of Lebanon;
13. **URGES** the Government of Israel, to put an end to its occupation to the Syrian Golan Heights and all Arab Territories occupied, in accordance with the UN Security Council relevant resolutions including Resolutions 242 and 338, the Madrid Declaration, the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative and the Road Map in order to reach a just, comprehensive and peaceful solution of the Arab Israeli Conflict;
14. **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** of the initial efforts deployed by the Committee of 10 Member States on Palestine established by Decision AHG/Dec.182 (XXXVIII), in July 2002; furthermore, **ASKS** the Chairperson of the AU Commission to follow up and submit a report thereon about the efforts of the esteemed committee in this regard to the next session of the executive council of the AU.

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