



ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY

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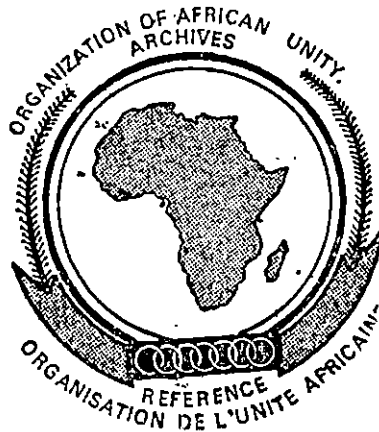
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COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
Twenty-Fifth Ordinary Session
Kampala - 18 - 25 July, 1975

NOTE FROM THE P.L.O. DELEGATION
TO
THE OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING
IN ITS TWENTY-FIFTH ORDINARY SESSION
IN KAMPALA FROM 18 - 25 JULY, 1975



NOTE FROM THE P.L.O. DELEGATION

TO

THE OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING IN ITS
TWENTY-FIFTH ORDINARY SESSION IN
KAMPALA FROM 18 - 25, JULY, 1975

The Palestine Liberation Organisation Delegation considers it a great pleasure to participate in the deliberations of this Session. We wish to congratulate you on your handling of the major tasks confronting you at this decisive stage in the history of Africa and we are confident that you will be able to take up all the challenges thrown down by the imperialist Zionist Camp. We are equally confident that your august Assembly will achieve great success in the best interests of the brotherly African peoples as well as all the militant peoples of the world, including those of Palestine. You will complete the series of decisive victories scored by the militant peoples of the Continent and the world the last of which being those scored by the peoples of Mozambique, Cape Verde, the Comoro Islands, Sao Tome & Principe as well as the heroic victory achieved by the peoples of Indo-China against world imperialism, in Vietnam and Cambodia. We are proud of these achievements which we regard as the victory of a single cause against the common enemy.

Throughout history, Palestine has influenced events in Africa and been affected by them - either positively or negatively. Besides its being the northern gate of the Continent, it borders two seas which form the Northern and Eastern boundaries of the Continent, and also lies East of the Suez Canal. All these factors seem to unify our struggle and reaffirm the common aspirations of our peoples to a life of freedom, peace, etc. from all forms of repression, racial discrimination, imperialist domination and exploitation.

Palestine has been exposed to, a colonial settlement invasion by racist Zionists who, in collaboration with imperialist powers, sought to dominate this sensitive and strategic part of the world.

The objectives of the Zionist movement were compatible with imperialist aspirations and desire to dominate the region. However, the designs of the Zionist movement included, and still include, both the people and land of Palestine. After the Zionist movement succeeded - with the aid and abetment of world imperialism - in establishing Israel by force in Palestine, it pursued its policy of genocide against the Palestinian people and resorted to all forms of repression in order to oust them from Palestine and pave the way to settle in their land after eliminating its rightful owners. The Palestinian people have been fighting successively for more than 50 years against the Zionist invasion and evil imperialist machinations thus preventing the Zionists from realizing their aims and settling down at the expense of the Palestinian people and land.

This was the same war of genocide waged by the racist imperialist regimes against the militant peoples of Africa, particularly in South Africa and Zimbabwe, and in which they were always aided and abetted by world imperialism represented by the United States of America which is trying to maintain its influence in the Arab world and Africa at the expense of the African and Arab peoples' rights.

The Arab Palestinian people who launched their armed revolution on First January, 1965, and who have pursued their revolutionary march under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, have foiled all the Zionist and imperialist plots aimed at obliterating their existence and undermining their cause.

The support of the African States, Third World countries, the Socialist Group and all freedom and justice-loving powers in the world has enabled other Palestinian people to enhance their revolutionary potential and score victories at both the political and

military levels. This support was crystallized by the recognition, extended by these sisterly and friendly countries to the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Recognition by the OAU, the Non-Aligned, the Islamic and Socialist Countries as well as the League of Arab States and the United Nations, has foiled the American-Zionist machinations aimed at distorting the image of the Palestinian people, imposing partial solutions, and disrupting Arab solidarity and Afro-Arab co-operation as a first step towards undermining the Palestinian revolution and negating the positive achievements of the October war; the sole aim of such measures is the consolidation of the Zionist occupation of Palestine and the Arab territories, and the perpetuation of the imperialist influence in the region.

PLO Chairman, brother Yasser Arafat, revealed in his address to the last Session of the UN General Assembly the true facts of the conspiracy against Palestine and its Arab people from its start. He reaffirmed the right of our people to struggle to wipe out the vestiges of the imperialist Zionist plots and end the usurpation and banishment it entailed; he also stressed our people's determination to liberate their land and return to it in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter and the **Universal Declaration on Human Rights**, and to appeal to the world to see to it that the olive branch is not withdrawn.

UN General Assembly Resolution 3236, which you all helped to draft, along with the Third World and all the justice, freedom and peace-loving countries of the world, reaffirmed the right of the Palestinian people to Palestine and to self-determination free from external interference, as well as their right to independence and national sovereignty. He also affirmed the full legitimate rights of the Palestinian people as one of the main parties concerned in the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

This resolution, however, like all other UN resolutions on Palestine since 1947, has been flouted by Israel, the racist State which was established on aggression, usurpation and expansion. It has ridden rough shod over these resolutions, in contempt of international law and world public opinion, and with utter disregard for international will as reflected in its/^{continued} defiance of UN resolutions thus giving eloquent proof of its aggressive, racist and expansionist nature. In fact what was the result of the various OAU resolutions? For many long years, the OAU was concerned over the Zionist aggression against Palestine and the Arab territories, as revealed by the resolutions adopted by the various OAU Summit meetings and by the activities of the OAU Committee of Ten. The Non-Aligned, the Socialist and the Islamic countries all endeavoured to put an end to the Zionist aggression, but to no avail because of Zionist arrogance and disregard of world public opinion and to international will. In stead, Israel has persisted in its aggressive and expansionist policies and has continued to establish settlements on the West Bank, the Golan Heights, the Gaza Strip and Sinai. It also practises all forms of repression, persecution, mass extermination, expulsion, usurpation of land, demolition of houses, wiping out of entire villages and mass arrests, besides the alteration of the historical and national features of Palestine, all in constant violation of the Geneva Conventions and successive UN resolutions.

The Third World which, after the victories scored by its people, has now become an established and effective entity on the international scene as proved by the expulsion of the South African racist minority regime from the UN General Assembly is called upon to take new measures to overthrow the colonial settlement regimes in occupied Palestine and South Africa. By this action it would be taking a further step towards the termination of imperialist domination over UN bodies, which has impeded the just application of Charter provisions.

The solidarity of Third World Countries in presenting the cases of their militant peoples to the UN General Assembly, now that they have become Members of the World Body and have filled their rightful place in it, will enable them to pursue their quest for the application of the provisions of Chapter VII of the UN Charter to colonial settlement regimes such as Israel and South Africa. .

During the Twenty-Ninth Session of the UN General Assembly the world was able to counter Israel's aggression and usurpation by adopting a resolution which, for the first time, touched on the very core of the problem. It constituted a major turning point in the efforts to curb the Zionist arrogance, underlying Israel's insolent rejection of the UN resolutions as well as the Charter and ^{the} principles it had pledged to respect when it was admitted in the Community of Nations.

However, this racist Zionist presence which resulted from the usurpation of the land of Palestine has been, and will continue to be a focal point of tension and wars in the Middle East as was the case in 1948, 1956 and 1967. It will continue to pose the threat of war and jeopardize world peace and security as revealed by the October 1973 war when the United States alerted all its military bases, and the world was threatened with a disaster of an incalculable magnitude.

Israel's repeated acts of aggression and its renunciation of, and disregard for the principles it had pledged to respect as well as its refusal to implement the various UN resolutions call for further deterrent international sanctions against it.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation is confident that your august Assembly will reaffirm its previous stands and reassert the right of the Palestinian people to freedom, repatriation and self-determination, and will agree to earnest action for the expulsion of Israel from

the United Nations and deprivation of membership which it has forfeited by its repeated denial and disregard of the principles she had pledged to respect. We also hope that action will be taken in world fora to accomplish this aim at the next Session of the UN General Assembly.

The PLO will always be proud of the effective role played by the OAU and affirms that it will pursue its struggle, enhance its military potential and intensify its heroic operations in the occupied territories so that military action can proceed alongside political action in the drive for liberation and victory. It will be supported by international good-will and justice-loving powers in building a Democratic Palestinian State in which all people enjoy equal rights and have equal duties in a progressive society, free from racism and exploitation, and which effectively and positively contributes to the construction of a new world in which justice, right and peace prevail.

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Note from the P.L.O. Delegation to the OAU Council of Ministers Meeting in its Twenty-Fifth Ordinary Session in Kampala from 18-25 July, 1975

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