



**ORGANIZATION OF
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**ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON PALESTINIAN
QUESTION



REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON PALESTINIAN QUESTION

1. Pursuant to Resolution CM/Res.725(XXXIII) on Palestinian question adopted by the OAU Council of Ministers held in Monrovia, Liberia, in July last, the General Secretariat followed the development of events in the region.
2. Since the Thirty-third Ordinary Session of the Council held in Monrovia the question of Palestine continues to be one of the major concerns of the OAU which, always supports peace and freedom loving peoples who are struggling for the recovery of their rights and sovereignty.
3. In this context, OAU continued to support the Palestinian people in their struggle under the aegis of the Palestine Liberation Organization for the recovery of their inalienable rights to regain their territory and establish an independent state. OAU therefore recognised the right of the Palestine Liberation Organization as the only legitimate representative of the people of Palestine to participate on equal footing with other parties in deliberations on the problem concerning it, in accordance with the Resolutions 3236(XXIX) and 3375 (XXX) of the UN General Assembly.
4. As a proof of OAU's support, the General Secretariat together with Member States observe the 29 November of each year as the International Day of Solidarity with the People of Palestine in accordance with the decision taken by the United Nations in 1978.
5. Last year, the General Secretariat published on the occasion of that day a press release in which it once again reaffirmed its support for the people of Palestine and for other Arab countries

in their legitimate struggle. It condemned the expansionist and segregationist machinations aimed at persecuting the true sons of Palestine. It finally, emphasised that a lasting peace could only be achieved between the Arab countries and Israel through the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Arab territories occupied since 1967, the recognition of the inalienable right of the Palestinian Arab People to self-determination, including their right to establish an independent and sovereign Palestinian state and the recognition of the right to the existence of all States in the region.

6. The Palestinian question which, as we all know, remains the core of the Middle East problem, was examined in international meetings attended by the OAU General Secretariat, meetings of the Non-Aligned countries in Colombo and in Havana. It was also discussed at the Thirty-Fourth Session of the UN General Assembly.

7. At its Thirty-Fourth session, the General Assembly set up a special committee to prepare inter alia recommendations on the application of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian People. This committee made recommendations which were approved by the United Nations General Assembly, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, the OAU and the Islamic Conference. The National Council of Palestine endorsed the committee's recommendations.

8. In March, 1980, following Israeli attacks and vexations against the people of Palestine, the Security Council was compelled to open fresh debates on the Palestinian question referred to it by the UN Committee on the exercise of the inalienable rights of the people of Palestine.

9. During negotiations between Egypt and Israel on Palestinian autonomy, it was reported that the territorial expansionism of Israel, its intransigence towards the Palestinians remained the major obstacles to peace in the Middle East.
10. The implementation of the peace treaty did not prevent the continued establishment of forces in Jewish settlement area in the occupied territories and the development of a systematic policy of aggression against the neighbouring sovereign states of Lebanon.
11. The Palestinian question remains a highly controversial question: while contacts are still in progress between Egypt and Israel especially on Palestinian autonomy, the Arab countries of the Steadfastness Front meeting at their Fourth Summit from 12 to 15 April, 1980 in Tripoli, once again strongly condemned the Camp David accords and decided among other things to create a military command of the Pan-Arab Front.
12. At the end of the deliberations held in April, 1980, between President Carter and President Sadat, and between President Carter and Prime Minister Begin; it was announced that the new stage in the negotiations would continue up to 26 May, 1980. The deadline was not respected and an end was put temporarily to the discussions. Considering the rate at which things are going, there are little chances that these negotiations will produce any results since the Israeli side is not ready to make major concessions.
13. The General Secretariat is following the development of the question and will submit a report according to the Council.



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