



**XVI Ministerial Conference and  
Commemorative Meeting  
of the Non-Aligned Movement**  
Bali – Indonesia  
23 – 27 May 2011

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**Declaration on Palestine**

1. The Ministers of the Non-Aligned Movement Committee on Palestine *considered with urgency* the question of Palestine. They *expressed deep regret* that the question remains unresolved after the passage of more than sixty-three years since the 1948 *Al-Nakba*, by which the majority of the Palestinian people were expelled or fled from their homeland, becoming a stateless, dispossessed people, nearly five million of whom continue to tragically live in exile in refugee camps throughout the region, constituting the largest refugee population and most protracted refugee problem in the world. They *also expressed deep regret* that since 1967, for forty-four years, the Palestinian people have suffered under the brutal Israeli military occupation of their land and continue to be denied their fundamental human rights, including to self-determination and freedom, enduring constant hardship and affronts to their human dignity.
2. The Ministers *expressed grave concern* about the critical political, socio-economic, human rights, humanitarian, and security situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as a result of Israel's continuing military occupation and illegal actions and provocations against the Palestinian people and their land. They *expressed grave concern at and strongly condemned in particular* Israel's unlawful and aggressive use of military force against the defenseless Palestinian civilian population, including non-violent, peaceful protesters; settlement colonization campaign in the West Bank; blockade of the Gaza Strip; detention and imprisonment of thousands of Palestinians; and all other measures of collective punishment against the Palestinian people, constituting grave breaches of international humanitarian law and violations of human rights law and United Nations (UN) resolutions, for which the occupying Power must be held accountable.
3. The Ministers *expressed deep concern* at the lack of progress in the Middle East peace process, stressing that the current dangerous impasse is the result of impunity and intransigence by Israel, the occupying Power, which continues to obstruct the achievement of a just, lasting, comprehensive and

peaceful solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole. They *underscored* the grave impact of the continuation of this conflict on the prospects for realizing regional and international peace and security.

4. In light of this disturbing situation, the Ministers *stressed* the importance of adhering to and upholding the principled positions and strategies adopted by the Movement and upholding the relevant UN resolutions regarding the question of Palestine. They *reaffirmed* their long-standing support and solidarity with the just cause of Palestine and their strong commitment to supporting the Palestinian people and their leadership. They *underscored* the need to continue providing political, economic and humanitarian support to assist the Palestinian people and to bolster their resilience towards the achievement of their national aspirations and inalienable human rights.
5. The Ministers *stressed* the urgency of undertaking efforts to help advance a fair and credible peace process that is firmly based on the relevant UN resolutions, including Security Council resolutions 242, 338, 425, 1397, 1515 and 1850, the Madrid terms of reference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative and the Quartet Roadmap, bearing in mind the objective of achieving a peace settlement by September 2011. They *stressed* that the peace process must ensure an end to the occupation of the Palestinian Territory and the other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including East Jerusalem; the exercise by the Palestinian people of their right to self-determination in an independent, sovereign and viable State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital; and a just solution for the plight of the Palestinian refugees based on General Assembly resolution 194 (III).
6. The Ministers *recalled* the historic role and obligations of the international community, in particular the UN Security Council and General Assembly, in this regard. They *called on* the Security Council, considering its Charter authority for the maintenance of international peace and security, to uphold its responsibilities and to act forthwith to promote a just, lasting and comprehensive resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the Arab-Israeli conflict. They *expressed appreciation* to the members of the NAM Caucus of the Council for their efforts concerning Palestine, and *urged* them to continue to be actively involved in order to enhance the role played by the Movement in the drive for peace. They *called for* the intensification of international and regional efforts, including by the Quartet, the League of Arab States and all other concerned Member States, with a view to realizing this year the achievement of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine in all its aspects.
7. Turning to full consideration of the situation on the ground, the Ministers *condemned* all of Israel's illegal policies and practices in the Occupied

Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, by which the occupying Power continues to commit human rights violations and war crimes and inflict immense suffering on the Palestinian people. They *demand* that Israel immediately and fully cease all these violations of international law.

8. The Ministers *reiterated their strong condemnation* of Israel's unlawful campaign of settlement colonization in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around Occupied East Jerusalem, which continues in flagrant defiance of international law and the unanimous international calls for cessation. They *reiterated* the demand for the immediate, complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities, which constitute grave breaches of international humanitarian law and flagrant defiance of UN resolutions, the 9 July 2004 International Court of Justice Advisory Opinion, and obligations under the Quartet Roadmap. They *stressed* the incompatibility of the peace process with colonization activities deliberately aimed at illegal acquisition and *de facto* annexation of more Palestinian land.
9. The Ministers *condemned* Israel's intensifying land confiscations; construction and expansion of settlements, settlement "outposts" and related infrastructure; transfer of more Israeli settlers; construction of the Wall; home demolitions; excavations; and imposition of arbitrary, racist residency and movement restrictions via a permit regime and hundreds of checkpoints. They *condemned* escalating violence and terror by radical, extremist Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians and properties. They *deplored* the physical, economic and social devastation being caused by the Israeli settlements and settlers, the Wall and the checkpoints, which are fragmenting the Palestinian Territory into isolated, walled cantons; severing East Jerusalem from the rest of the Territory; displacing thousands of Palestinians; damaging the fabric of the Palestinian society; and destroying some communities in their entirety. They *cautioned* that Israel's illegal colonization campaign is undermining the contiguity, integrity, viability and unity of the Occupied Palestinian Territory and gravely jeopardizing the prospects for physically achieving the two-State solution for peace on the basis of the pre-1967 borders.
10. The Ministers *expressed grave concern at* the situation in Occupied East Jerusalem, where the Israeli colonization campaign is most intense, aimed at illegally altering the City's demographic composition, character and legal status. They *called for* an immediate end to the construction of settlements and the Wall, home demolitions, evictions and excavations in and around the City, including near Al-Haram Al-Sharif (Noble Sanctuary); the closure of Palestinian institutions; the revocation of Palestinian residency rights, including military orders regarding deportations; settler violence; and all other measures aimed at de-populating the City of its Palestinian inhabitants and entrenching Israel's illegal annexation of East Jerusalem, which is completely rejected and not recognized by the international community.

11. The Ministers *reaffirmed* the validity of the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions demanding the complete cessation of these illegal Israeli policies and practices. They *called for* full respect and implementation of those resolutions to bring an end to the Israeli settlement campaign in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which remains the major obstacle to peace. They *stressed* the urgency of ending settlement activities also for promoting an environment conducive for the conduct of credible negotiations aimed at realizing the two-State solution on the basis of the 1967 borders. In this regard, they *deplored* the recent failure of the Security Council to uphold its responsibilities due to a veto by a permanent member, and *reiterated the call* for serious Council action to ensure compliance by Israel with relevant resolutions and all of its legal obligations.
12. In this connection, the Ministers *reiterated their call on* the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention to uphold their obligations to respect and ensure respect of the Convention in all circumstances. They *called upon* Member States and the UN to uphold their obligations in accordance with the ICJ Advisory Opinion and the demands made in General Assembly resolution ES-10/15, including not to recognize the illegal situation resulting from the construction of the Wall or render aid or assistance in maintaining the situation created by such construction. They *called upon* the Security Council and General Assembly to consider further action to bring an end to the illegal situation resulting from the construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. They *called again* for the expeditious operation of the “United Nations Register of Damage” and the speedy fulfillment of its mandate. Moreover, they *reiterated the call* for specific actions to be taken, including legislative measures, collectively, regionally and individually by States, to prevent any products of Israeli settlements from entering their markets, consistent with obligations under international treaties; to decline entry to Israeli settlers; and to impose sanctions on companies and entities involved in the illegal construction of settlements and the Wall and other colonization activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem.
13. Turning to the grave situation in the Gaza Strip, the Ministers *reiterated their strong condemnation* of Israel’s military aggression of December 2008-January 2009, which caused death and injury to thousands of Palestinian civilians; vast destruction to tens of thousands of homes, economic and agricultural properties, vital civilian infrastructure, and UN facilities; and severe trauma among the civilian population. They *reiterated the need to ensure accountability* for the crimes committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people in Gaza. They *called on* the international community, including the Security Council, to pursue serious efforts to end Israel’s impunity and to realize justice for the victims. They

*called for follow-up of the findings and recommendations of the UN Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict. They also reaffirmed the obligations of the High Contracting Parties to the Geneva Conventions regarding penal sanctions, grave breaches and responsibilities, and called for the speedy reconvening of 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, and to ensure its respect in accordance with common article 1, as called for by relevant General Assembly and Human Rights Council resolutions.*

14. The Ministers *reiterated their condemnation* of Israel's unlawful blockade of the Gaza Strip, by which it continues to collectively punish the Palestinian people and to obstruct the freedom of movement of the civilian population, humanitarian access, entry of essential goods, and the reconstruction of Gaza. They *expressed deep concern* about the dire humanitarian and socio-economic conditions caused by the blockade, including poverty, unemployment, declining health conditions, and decay of infrastructure and institutions in all sectors. They *stressed* the importance of the work of non-governmental organizations, civil society and peace groups, particularly on the Palestinian and Israeli sides, and encouraged them to continue to provide relief and assistance in Gaza.
15. In this connection, the Ministers *reiterated their condemnation* of the Israeli military attack on 31 May 2010 in international waters on the maritime convoy of humanitarian aid destined for the Gaza Strip, "Gaza Freedom Flotilla", in which nine Turkish civilians were killed. They *stressed* the need for an independent, impartial, credible and transparent international investigation of the Israeli attack in accordance with international standards on the basis of the call made by the Security Council on 1 June 2010. They *welcomed* the UN Secretary-General's establishment of a Panel of Inquiry and the Human Rights Council's Fact-Finding Mission and called for immediate follow-up action on the findings towards ensuring accountability for this deplorable attack.
16. The Ministers *reiterated the demand* that Israel immediately and fully end its illegal blockade of Gaza in accordance with international humanitarian law, UN resolutions and the November 2005 Agreement on Movement and Access. They *stressed the need* to ensure the sustained and regular movement of persons and goods, including commercial flows, between Gaza and the outside world and to restore the link, unity and movement between Gaza and the West Bank, stressing that the Gaza Strip remains an integral part of the Occupied Palestinian Territory. In this connection, the Ministers welcomed the decision of the Egyptian Government to open the Rafah border crossing point, effective Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> May 2011. They also *stressed* the urgency of serious international efforts to compel Israel, the occupying Power, to allow for the entry of all necessary construction materials for reconstruction of destroyed Palestinian properties and infrastructure and

UN facilities, including United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) schools. In this regard, they *stressed the need* for full support of the Agency to fulfil its mandate to provide assistance to the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation.

17. The Ministers *condemned* the continuing arrests, arbitrary detentions and forced interrogations being carried out by Israel, the occupying Power. They *expressed grave concern* about the inhumane conditions under which Palestinian political prisoners are being held, including physical and mental ill-treatment, reported torture and denial of access to proper medical care and family visits. They *reiterated the call* for the immediate release of all the Palestinians illegally detained and imprisoned by Israel, including children, women and elected officials, and *called for* international access to them and proper inspection of their conditions. They *welcomed* the segment of the Ministerial Conference for examining the issue of the Palestinian political prisoners and raising international awareness and action on this critical issue.
18. The Ministers *reaffirmed* their support for the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and the Palestinian Authority under the leadership of President Mahmoud Abbas, and *emphasized* the importance of protecting and strengthening the national and democratic institutions of the Palestinian Authority, including the Palestinian Legislative Council, which shall constitute a vital foundation for the future independent Palestinian State. They *reiterated* the importance of Palestinian unity for the realization of the just, legitimate national rights and aspirations of the Palestinian people. In this connection, they *welcomed* the signing of the Reconciliation Agreement by all Palestinian political factions in Cairo, on 4 May 2011, aimed at ending the division since June 2007. They *commended* the serious efforts undertaken in this regard by the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the League of Arab States and all other concerned regional parties. They called on the international community to respect and support the Palestinian reconciliation, and *stressed* the importance of the implementation of the provisions of the Reconciliation Agreement as soon as possible. They *further stressed* the need for mobilization of all Palestinian capabilities to preserve the unity and integrity of the Palestinian Territory, end the occupation and achieve the independence.
19. The Ministers *stressed the need* to support the rehabilitation and development of Palestinian national institutions. They *called for* the Movement to strongly support the efforts of Prime Minister Salam Fayyad to implement the plan launched in August 2009, "*Palestine: Ending the Occupation, Establishing the State*", and looked forward to its completion in August 2011 with the implementation of the second phase, "*Homestretch to Freedom*", paving the way for the independence of the State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital. In this regard, the Ministers *strongly*

*welcomed* the important step recently taken by several States extending recognition to the State of Palestine on the basis of the 1967 borders. They *urged* the Members of the Movement that have not yet extended recognition to the State of Palestine to do so as soon as possible, consistent with the State-building efforts being undertaken on the ground and as a positive contribution towards making a reality Palestine's independence on the basis of international law and UN resolutions.

20. The Ministers *called upon* the Members of the Movement to remain at the forefront of support for the historic march of the Palestinian people to freedom and peace. They *reaffirmed* the long-standing international consensus recognizing the Palestinian people as a nation and recognizing their inalienable right to self-determination and independence in their State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital. They *reaffirmed* the permanent responsibility of the UN towards the question of Palestine until it is justly resolved in all its aspects on the basis of international law and called for the redoubling of international efforts to this end. They *called once again on* the UN, including the Security Council, to assume its responsibilities and act on the basis of its own resolutions to compel Israel to cease its illegal policies, respect international law and bring an end to its unlawful forty-four year occupation of the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967. They *stressed* the importance of regular contacts and dialogue by the Movement at the Ministerial level with the members of the Security Council, the Quartet, and other relevant parties in the peace process in order to convey the Movement's principled positions, uphold international law and UN resolutions, and promote the realization of a just, lasting, comprehensive and peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole.
21. The Ministers in this context, *stressed* the importance of charting and implementing an action plan by the NAM Committee on Palestine, in coordination with other groupings, to intensify efforts towards universal recognition of the State of Palestine on the basis of the 1967 border with East Jerusalem as its capital, by members and non members of the Movement, and intensifying efforts with the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Secretary General of the United Nations, as well as the Quartet and other relevant parties towards the establishment of the Palestinian independent state with East Jerusalem as its capital, its recognition as a state and its admission as a Member of the United Nations as soon as possible. The Ministers stand ready to support the implementation of this action plan, including through convening a special meeting of the Committee, if needed, to continue engaging on this important issue.