



UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN SUPPORT OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

United Nations Headquarters, New York
4 and 5 September 2003

Theme: End the Occupation!

Programme

Thursday, 4 September
10.00 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.

OPENING SESSION

Statements by:

Mr. Kieran Prendergast
Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs
Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Papa Louis Fall
Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise
of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

H.E. Mr. Nasser Al-Kidwa
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations
Representative of Palestine

Mr. Finn Martin Vallersnes
Chairman of the Committee on Middle East Questions
Inter-Parliamentary Union

Mr. Thomas Neu
Chairperson, Association of International Development Agencies
Middle East Representative, American Near East Refugee Aid

4 September 2003

11.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

PLENARY I

The situation on the ground: Obstacles to peace

Settlements and the separation wall

Closures and curfews

Economic and humanitarian crisis

Presentations by experts:

Mr. Jamal Juma
Coordinator, Palestinian Environment NGO Network
Jerusalem

Mr. John Reese
Coordinator, US Campaign to Stop the Wall
Seattle

Ms. Naomi Chazan
Former Member of Knesset
Jerusalem

Mrs. Claudette Habesh
Secretary-General, Caritas Jerusalem
Jerusalem

Ms. Maha Abu Dayyeh Shamas
Director, Women's Center for Legal Aid and Counseling
Jerusalem

Discussion

1.15 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.

Film screening of recent documentaries

3.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.

PLENARY II
Civil society under siege

Grassroots activism in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,
including East Jerusalem: Modalities and constraints

Provision of emergency relief and humanitarian assistance

Coordination and cooperation on the ground

Presentations by experts:

Mr. Thomas Neu
Chairperson, Association of International Development Agencies
Middle East Representative, American Near East Refugee Aid
Jerusalem

Ms. Cindy Corrie
Member, Peace and Justice Studies Association
Olympia, WA

Mr. Allam Jarrar
Member of Steering Committee of the Palestinian NGO Network
Nablus

Ms. Avia Pasternak
Representative of Ta'ayush
Tel Aviv

Mr. Ahmed Bouzid
Founder, Palestine Media Watch
Philadelphia

Discussion

6.30 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.

**Reception hosted by the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise
of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People**

Viennese Café area
General Assembly Building – 1B

Friday, 5 September
10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

PLENARY III
**The international community, civil society and the political process
to end the occupation**

The Road Map and the role of the Quartet

The United Nations and civil society

The challenges of rebuilding trust between Israelis and Palestinians –
the power of civil society

Presentations by experts:

Mr. Naim Ashhab
Member, Joint Action Group for Israeli-Palestinian Peace
Jerusalem

Mr. Lev Grinberg
Professor, Ben-Gurion University
Negev

Ms. Mary Rose Oakar
President, American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee
Washington, D.C.

Mr. Jeff Halper
Coordinator, Israeli Committee against House Demolitions
Jerusalem

Ms. Naomi Braine
Member, Jews against Occupation
Washington, D.C.

Ms. Phyllis Bennis
Fellow, Institute for Policy Studies
Washington, D.C.

Mr. Gabi Baramki
President, Palestinian Council for Justice and Peace
Ramallah

Discussion

3.00 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.

PLENARY IV
Civil society initiatives to end the occupation

Mobilizing national and international public opinion

Legislative and political advocacy — reaching decision-makers and politicians

Realizing the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people

Presentations by experts:

Mr. Pierre Galand
Senator, Belgian Parliament
Chairman, European Coordinating Committee for NGOs
on the Question of Palestine
Brussels

Mr. Joshua Ruebner
Grassroots Advocacy Coordinator, US Campaign to End
the Israeli Occupation
Washington, D.C.

Ms. Gretta Duisenberg
Chairperson, Stop the Occupation
Amsterdam

Mr. Na'eem Jeenah
Spokesperson, Palestine Solidarity Committee
Johannesburg

Ms. Lourdes Cervantes Vázquez
Head of Political Department, Organization of Solidarity among
the Peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America (OSPAAAL)
Havana

Mr. Silas Cerqueira
Representative of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO)
Representative of the International Secretariat in Solidarity with
the Arab People and their Central Cause, Palestine
Lisbon

Discussion

5.30 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.

Presentation of the Plan of Action

**Closing remarks by the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise
of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People**

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