



PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

10 December 2023

Excellency,

I have the honour to inform you that I have received the attached letter dated 8 December 2023 from H.E. Mr. Osama Mahmoud Abdelkhalek Mahmoud, Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt and H.E. Mr. Sidi Mohamed Laghdaf, Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, in their respective capacities as Chair of the Arab Group and Chair of the Organization for Islamic Cooperation, requesting the resumption of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly as rapidly as possible.

In this regard, I have further the honour to inform you that, in accordance with resolution ES-10/21 of 27 October 2023, I will convene the 45<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of the **tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly on Tuesday, 12 December 2023 at 3 p.m.**, at the General Assembly Hall, UN Headquarters, New York. Delegations wishing to deliver statements are invited to inscribe through e-deleGATE.

For additional information, your Office may contact Ms. Katri Lõhmus, Senior Adviser at the Political Affairs, Peace and Security Team at my Office by e-mail: [katri.lohmus@un.org](mailto:katri.lohmus@un.org).

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Francis".

Dennis Francis

All Permanent Representatives and  
Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York



Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic  
of Mauritania to the United Nations-New York



Permanent Mission of the  
Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations - New York

8 December 2023

**Excellency, President of the General Assembly,**

The Arab Republic of Egypt and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, in our respective capacities as Chair of the Arab Group and Organization for Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Group at the United Nations in New York, and pursuant to the decisions made by the extraordinary Islamic-Arab Summit, convened on 11 November 2023 in Riyadh, and with reference to the 6 December 2023 letter by the United Nations Secretary-General to the Security Council invoking Article 99 of the Charter of the United Nations, make the present request for the resumption of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly following the veto cast on 8 December 2023 by a Permanent Member of the Security Council on a draft resolution concerning the grave situation of the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip and demanding an immediate humanitarian ceasefire.

In the absence of a ceasefire and in light of the ongoing grave breaches of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, and violations of the relevant United Nations resolutions, including resolution ES-10/21, the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly in the Gaza Strip, has continued to dramatically deteriorate. As Israel, the occupying Power, persists in its military aggression and siege against the Palestinian civilian population, killing and wounding thousands more Palestinian children, women and men, causing more wanton destruction of homes and civilian infrastructure, forcibly displacing more than 1.9 million people, undermining the access and ability of humanitarian agencies, including UNRWA, to deliver on their mandates, and impeding desperately-needed humanitarian assistance, it is endangering more civilian lives, risking further deterioration of this already-catastrophic situation, and threatening regional and international peace and security, making it urgent that the General Assembly convene to address this crisis, in accordance with resolution 377 (V) (1950), “Uniting for Peace” as rapidly as possible.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

H.E. Mr. Osama Mahmoud Abdelkhalek Mahmoud  
Chair of the Arab Group  
Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations

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H.E. Mr. Sidi Mohamed Laghdaf  
Chair of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Group  
Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania



**H.E. Mr. Dennis Francis**  
**The President of the United Nations General Assembly**  
**The United Nations, New York**