

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

PEACE INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRACY UNITY PROSPERITY

New York, 08 November 2018

Excellency,

I have the honour to enclose herewith the message from His Excellency Mr. Bounnhang VORACHITH, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.

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

Dr. Khiane PHANSOURIVONG Ambassador, Permanent Representative

H.E. Mr. Cheikh Niang

Chairman,

Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

Fax: 212 963 4199

New York

MESSAGE FROM H.E. MR. BOUNNHANG VORACHITH PRESIDENT OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC ON THE OCCASION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

On the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (29th November), I would like, on behalf of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, to extend to Your Excellency Mahmoud Abbas, President of the State of Palestine and through Your Excellency to the Government and Palestinian People, our warmest greetings of friendship and solidarity, and reaffirm our unwavering support to the Palestinian people in their legitimate quest for dignity, justice and their inalienable right to self-determination in their independent State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, living side by side in peace and security with the State of Israel, within the internationally recognized borders.

The commemoration of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People emphasizes the importance and urgency of seeking a lasting solution to the question of Palestine and to the plight of the Palestinian people who live through the protracted turmoil for more than half of century. The Lao PDR strongly supports the engagement of many world leaders and calls on the parties concerned to return to the peace talks for two-state solution as soon as possible. It is important that the engagement of the international community be sustained, to make sure that the parties live up to their commitments, negotiate in good faith and refrain from taking steps which will jeopardize the peace negotiations.

In this regard, the Lao People's Democratic Republic joins the international community to call upon the occupying power to immediately cease all its unlawful occupation of the Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, place a complete and indefinite freeze on all settlement activities, and respond in good faith to the international consensus in order to pave the way to create an environment conducive to the pursuit of peace as well as for salvaging the prospects of achieving a two-state solution as stipulated in the United Nations Security Council resolutions and other relevant United Nations resolutions.

Finally, the Lao People's Democratic Republic would like to take this opportunity to wish the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People every success in its noble task.

Vientiane, 8 November 2018