



Report on the visit of a Delegation of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to Berlin

24 and 25 June 2019

1. Pursuant to the 2019 Committee Programme of Work and in view of Germany's membership on the Security Council for 2019/20, a Committee delegation visited Berlin to meet with German officials and parliamentarians on 24 and 25 June 2019. The purpose of the visit, which followed on a Committee delegation visit to Brussels in March 2019, was to mobilize regional and national support for the two-State solution - including concrete steps such as recognition of the State of Palestine and protection of Palestinian civilians and promote the achievement of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. The visit took place in the context of a stalled Middle East peace process, the Bahrain conference on a US-proposed economic plan for the Palestinian territory, threats to multilateral consensus and unilateral actions on final status issues including Jerusalem and funding for Palestinian refugees through the UNRWA.
2. The Delegation consisted of the Chair Ambassador Cheikh Niang (Permanent Representative of Senegal); Vice-Chair Ambassador Neville Gertze (Permanent Representative of Namibia); Ambassador Mohammad Koba (Deputy Permanent Representative of Indonesia), the Observer on the Bureau, Ambassador Riyadh Mansour (Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine), and Mr. Ahmad Bawazir (from the Permanent Mission of Indonesia). The Delegation met with officials of the Federal Chancellery and Foreign Office besides parliamentarians and Middle East experts at a leading German thinktank. Two staff members of the Division for Palestinian Rights accompanied the delegation.
3. In its meetings with German interlocutors, the delegation informed about the mandate and activities of the Committee as well as recent developments on the ground. The delegation thanked Germany for its support to the Palestinian cause, manifested in the continuing financial assistance to UNRWA and to projects in the occupied Palestinian territory, and expressed the hope that this support would soon be followed by Germany's recognition of the State of Palestine. The delegation asked Germany to take a stance rooted in international law and United Nations resolutions so that unilateral actions do not become a new norm. German interlocutors expressed support for upholding the multilateral consensus on the question of Palestine including a rejection of annexation of Palestinian territory. They reaffirmed German and EU support to the two-State solution, and underlined that Germany would aim to maintain sustained funding for UNRWA.
4. The visit led to a highly productive exchange of views with policymakers in Germany, and it would be beneficial for the Committee to follow-up on the visit with outreach to German and EU diplomatic counterparts in New York, Berlin and Brussels.