



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

### Newsletter on Recent and Upcoming Activities - No. 1/2019 –

#### 1. Committee Bureau Holds Annual Retreat, 21 June



On 21 June, the Bureau held its fifth annual Retreat to discuss challenges affecting the Committee and its work and to determine the Committee's 2019-2020 priorities and activities and the key areas of impact including Committee messaging and outreach, and upcoming activities.

For more details, click [here](#).

#### 2. Committee Delegation Visits Berlin, 24-25 June



On 24-25 June, a Committee delegation visited Berlin to meet with officials from the Federal Chancellery and the Foreign Office, German parliamentarians, and Middle East experts at a leading German think tank. Key issues discussed included the challenges and humanitarian crises facing the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, the diminishing prospects for achieving the two-State solution on the pre-1967 borders, and the need for efforts to revive the peace process and achieve a just and

lasting solution on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions.

For more details, including the Summary Report and pictures, click [here](#).

### 3. International Conference on Jerusalem, 27-28 June



The Committee in collaboration with the OIC convened the International Conference on the Question of Jerusalem under the theme “Preserving the cultural and religious character of Jerusalem” on 27-28 June at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

The Conference addressed the issue of Israel’s policies and measures aimed at changing the character of Occupied East Jerusalem, which have significant political, legal and socio-economic ramifications, including the threat of derailing prospects for a peaceful solution to the Question of Palestine. Palestinian, Israeli and international experts formulated concrete and actionable recommendations and proposed ways forward among the relevant stakeholders for the preservation of a City considered sacred by three religions.

For more details, documents and full video coverage, click [here](#).

### 4. Committee Visits the Palestine Museum in Connecticut, 13 July



On 13 July, Members and Observers of the Committee visited the Palestine Museum in Woodbridge (CT) established in 2018. The visit, featuring a lecture by renowned artist Samia Halaby and music and dance performances, contributed to highlighting among UN diplomats the richness of Palestinian cultural and artistic achievements and the resilience of the Palestinian people in the face of adversity.

For more details and pictures, click [here](#).

### 5. Committee Chair Makes a Statement at Security Council Debate, 23 July



At the Security Council quarterly debate on “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question” Committee Chair Amb. Cheikh Niang (Senegal) delivered a statement. Against the backdrop of Israel's entrenchment of its 52-year military occupation and a series of unilateral and unlawful actions aimed at negating the two-State solution, he stressed that economic initiatives for the Palestinian people without a political initiative addressing the fulfilment of their inalienable rights, including to self-determination and independence cannot succeed. The only way out of the current impasse is a revival of the peace process through a collective approach and with the two-State solution as its goal based on international law, the relevant UN resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative.

For the full statement, please click [here](#).

## 6. Committee Bureau Meets with UN Secretary-General, 24 July



On 24 July, Members of the Bureau met with Secretary-General António Guterres at UN Headquarters. Participants committed to do their best to ensure sustained financial support for UNRWA, which continues to face a financial shortfall, and to advance intra-Palestinian unity and a just, comprehensive, lasting and peaceful solution to the Palestine question based on the two-State solution on the pre-1967 borders.

## 7. Committee meeting and adoption of Annual report



At the 396th meeting on 4 September, the Committee adopted its 2019 Annual Report to the General Assembly (A/74/35) featuring the work of the Committee in the context of the resolutions and international law that informed its mandate. The Committee also heard reports about recent activities and approved the concepts for upcoming events, including the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People which this year will be observed on 26 November.

Attendance was high, and several Permanent Representatives made interventions in support of the work of the Committee and about their national initiatives to advance the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. The Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine provided an update on the situation on the ground and the firm international consensus upholding the two-state solution. He underscored that the Committee formed the core of this consensus and made a strong appeal for political and financial support to UNRWA, for adoption of all resolutions related to the Question of Palestine in the GA, and for continued capacity-building of the State of Palestine.

For more details, click [here](#).

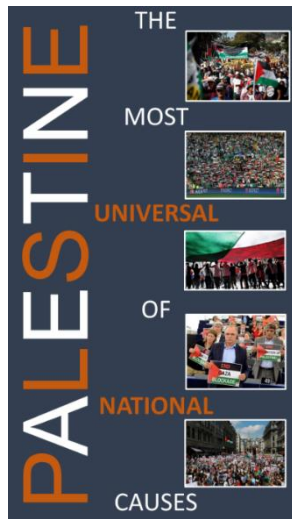
## 8. Upcoming Capacity Building Activities for the State of Palestine

In September, the Committee, in collaboration with UNESCO and UNDP, will organise trainings on Strategic Communications in Ramallah for staff of the Palestinian Government that will equip participants to communicate more effectively with international and domestic audiences.

On 4-5 October, the Committee will organize a 2-day closed-door legal seminar on “Deterring the annexation of the Palestinian territory and rolling back Israeli settlements through harnessing Third-Party State responsibility”, in collaboration with the Irish Center for Human Rights of the National University of Ireland in Galway, Ireland.

In the week of 20-25 October, the Committee will organize a five-day visit by Palestinian hydrologists and relevant officials to Dakar and the Senegal River to study international best practices in water management. This capacity building activity will enable Palestinian officials to learn from Senegal’s

experience and leadership in international and cross-boundary water management and to provide a platform for sharing of international best practices in the domain.



From 28 October to 6 December, two Palestinian diplomats will undergo a 6-week capacity building training on multilateral diplomacy during the 74th session of the General Assembly in New York. The training will acquaint them with the work of the United Nations, its legal foundations, rules and regulations, the functioning of its main organs and major items on their respective agendas, with a special focus on the question of Palestine in its many aspects.

## 9. 2019 International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, 26 November

The International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People annually commemorates the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 181 (II) on 29 November 1947 partitioning the mandate of Palestine into two States. Events in honour of this day, including a solemn ceremony of the Committee, are held at UNHQ in New York and UN offices in Geneva, Nairobi and Vienna and other cities around the world.

This year, the Committee will hold its special meeting in the morning of 26 November. All Member States and Observers, United Nations family organizations, intergovernmental and civil society organizations are invited to attend. The meeting is also open to the media.

In the evening, the Committee Chair will host the Opening Ceremony of the exhibit “Palestine - The Most Universal of National Causes”, presented by the Committee, in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine.

For more details, please click [here](#).

## 10. Publications

- Read latest [Monthly Bulletin on UN and IGO action on the question of Palestine](#).
- Read latest [NGO Action News](#).

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*\* This Newsletter on recent and upcoming activities of the UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People is produced and distributed on behalf of the Committee by the Division for Palestinian Rights of the United Nations Secretariat.*