



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

Newsletter on Recent and Upcoming Activities - No. 2/September to December 2019 -

1. Committee Chair participates in UN Media Seminar in Ankara, Turkey



On **11-12 September**, the Chair participated in the 2019 United Nations International Media Seminar on Peace in the Middle East, held in Ankara, Turkey. The event was organized by the Palestine Programme of the UN Department of Global Communications, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey.

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

2. Committee Chair meets in Dublin, Ireland, with Deputy Prime Minister Simon Coveney



On **3 October**, a Committee delegation met in Dublin with the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Ireland, Mr. Simon Coveney, to discuss the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory.

Mr. Coveney reiterated Ireland's continued engagement and support for Palestinian rights, which rank high on Ireland's foreign policy agenda.

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

3. Committee organizes seminar on legal issues related to the question of Palestine, Galway, Ireland



On **4 and 5 October**, the Committee organized 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 Centre for Human Rights of the National University of Ireland in Galway and with the participation of Irish and international legal experts and Palestinian officials.

4. Seminar for Palestinian officials on best practices in water management in Dakar, Senegal



The Committee, in collaboration with the Government of Senegal, organized a Study Visit for Palestinian officials on best practices in water management in Dakar, followed by a visit to the Senegal River between **21 and 25 October**.

The study visit was beneficial for both parties, providing direct links between Palestinian and Senegalese experts to exchange ideas and knowledge. With Palestinian officials having received insight into water management methods and practices in Senegal and its neighbouring countries, as a next step Palestine offered to provide expertise to Senegal on advanced irrigation

techniques, archiving procedures and biodiversity surveying methods, within the context of South-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC).

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

5. Committee supports capacity building of staff from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UNHQ, 28 October-6 December, New York



On **28 October**, two Palestinian staff from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, began the annual six-week training programme at UN Headquarters organised by the Committee. During this period, and as customary, the trainees underwent an extensive induction and familiarized themselves with the work of the UN on the Palestinian issue. The training concluded on 6 December.

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

6. Committee Vice Chair Makes a Statement at Security Council Debate



At the Security Council quarterly debate on “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question” on **28 October**, the Committee Vice Chair, Amb. Neville Gertze (Namibia), delivered a statement. On behalf of the Committee, he called upon the international community and the Security Council to break the inertia, implement all resolutions, particularly those adopted by the Council itself and “walk the talk”.

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

7. Committee supports capacity building on South-South and Triangular cooperation for Palestinian officials, Turin

From **29 to 31 October**, the Committee supported the participation of two officials from the Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Palestinian International Cooperation Agency (PICA) respectively, in a training on “UN Catalytic Support to South-South and Triangular Cooperation in implementing the 2030 Agenda” that took place at the United Nations System Staff College in Turin, Italy. During the training, fellow practitioners shared best practices and developed grants proposals.

For more details click [here](#).

8. Committee Chair meets Palestinian journalists participating in UN capacity building programme, UNHQ



On **5 November**, the Chair met with a group of Palestinian journalists participating in the annual training programme organized by the Department of Global Communications, through which the UN strengthens the skills and capacity of young Palestinian media practitioners, and thus assists in the process of building democratic institutions in Palestine. The Chair informed about the work of the Committee and engaged the journalists in a lively informal discussion on the situation in the Middle East and the work of the United Nations.

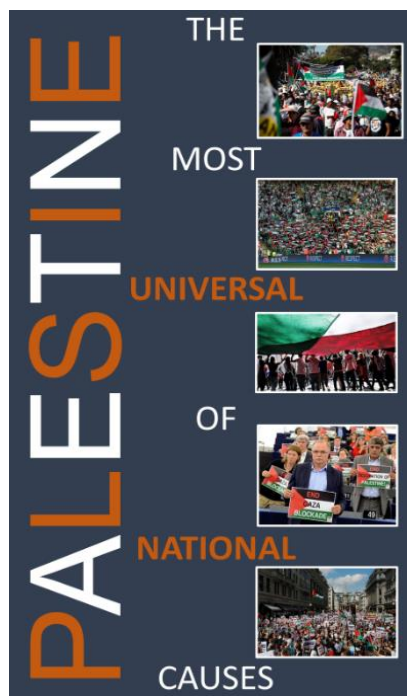
9. Committee endorses four resolutions and receives a briefing by the Deputy Special Coordinator



At the Committee meeting on **20 November**, following unanimous endorsement of four draft resolutions to be voted in the GA on 3 December, the Committee heard a sobering briefing by James McGoldrick, UNSCO’s Deputy Special Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator/Resident Coordinator, on the humanitarian situation in the West Bank, including Jerusalem, and Gaza.

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

10. Observance of the 2019 International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People



The International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, commemorating adoption of General Assembly (GA) resolution 181 (II) on 29 November 1947 that partitioned the mandate of Palestine into two States, was observed at UNHQ in New York on **27 November**, at UN offices in Geneva (29 November), Nairobi (11 December) and Vienna (29 November), and in other cities around the world.

At the special Committee meeting on 27 November, the Committee Chair, GA and Security Council Presidents, Chef de Cabinet (on behalf of the SG), the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine (reading out a message from President Abbas), representatives of the AU, LAS, OIC and NAM, and a civil society representative, Mr. Gus Newport, delivered remarks. Additionally, [messages of solidarity](#) (were received from 48 MS, including 29 Heads of State and Government and 5 international organizations. A photo exhibit entitled, 'Palestine – the most universal of national causes' was opened in the UN Visitor's Lobby featuring photos and human-rights focused quotes of international figures, politicians, and artists from all over the world. The exhibit is open until 6 January 2020.

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

11. On 3 December, the General Assembly discussed item 38, "Question of Palestine".



On **3 December**, the General Assembly discussed item 38, "Question of Palestine".

The Chair introduced the four draft resolutions, as endorsed by the Committee on 20 November, the Rapporteur *a.i.* introduced the Annual Report of the Committee, followed by a statement by the Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine. The GA adopted [the resolutions](#). For more details please click [here](#).

12. 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.*

***The Division for Palestinian Rights launched a user survey regarding the UN Information System on the Question of Palestine ([UNISPAL](#)). Please take a few minutes to complete the [survey](#).**