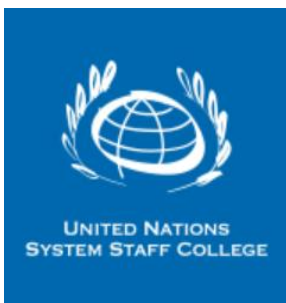




UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

Newsletter on Recent and Upcoming Activities – No. 6 / October-December 2020 –

1. Committee Supports Capacity Building of Officials from the Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs



From 7 September – 9 October 2020, the Committee in collaboration with the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC) supported the participation of three Palestinian Foreign Ministry officials in a 5-week online training on “Effective Writing Skills”. For more details on the Committee’s capacity building programme click [here](#)

2. Committee Contributes to Security Council Debate on the Situation in the Middle East



On **26 October**, the Security Council held its quarterly open debate (virtually) on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question. The Chair of the Palestinian Rights Committee, Ambassador Cheikh Niang, called for the total halt of annexation plans by Israel, while supporting all peace initiatives, including a possible international peace conference, as called for by President Abbas, under the auspices of an expanded Middle East Quartet.

For the Committee Chair’s statement to the Security Council, click [here](#).

3. Virtual Event with Parliamentarians on the Palestinian Question



On **12 November**, the Committee held the virtual event “International Parliamentarians and the Palestine Question”. The panel comprised of Ms. María Arena, Member of the European Parliament; Mr. Mandla Mandela, Member of the National Assembly of South Africa; and Ms. Betty McCollum, Member of the United States Congress. The speakers and participants – among them from the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the

Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM) – emphasized the need for unified actions to keep the protection of Palestinians and their rights on the international agenda, to strengthen multilateral approaches to solve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and to provide urgent support to UNRWA. Participants called for closer interaction between legislative bodies and international organisations, requesting the Committee to organise such events in the future.

For more details, documents and video of the event, click [here](#).

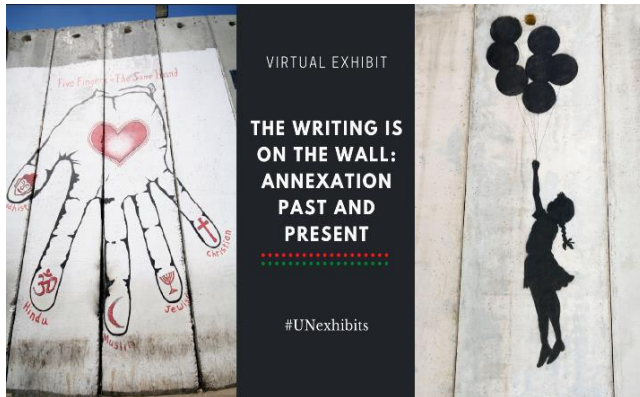
4. Committee Bureau Holds Meeting to Discuss Developments



On **23 November**, the Committee Bureau held a virtual meeting to discuss political developments including the state of negotiations on annual GA resolutions endorsed by the Committee as well as to receive updates on upcoming activities including preparations for the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People 2020. It also discussed outreach to other Member States of the United Nations, and efforts to mobilize support for the Palestinian question.

Furthermore, on 23 November 2020, the Committee endorsed by silence procedure the four resolutions to be submitted to the General Assembly as reflected in item eight (8) of this Newsletter.

5. Virtual Exhibit and Video Commemorating the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People



On **29 November**, the Committee in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine to the UN, launched a virtual exhibit titled “The Writing is on the Wall: Annexation Past and Present”. The exhibit examines the plight of the Palestinian people, focusing on the separation wall built illegally in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. It explores this through the words of advocates and public personalities, and through images from artists and human rights activists who have used the wall as a canvas

to express their solidarity with the Palestinian people.

For the exhibit, click [here](#), for the video, click [here](#).

6. Committee Participates in Solidarity Day Commemoration in Canada



On **29 November**, the Chair of the Committee, Amb. Cheikh Niang (Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations in New York), delivered a statement at the commemoration of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People organized virtually by the Palestinian General Delegation to Canada and the Canada-Palestine Parliamentary Friendship Group.

For the Chair’s statement, click [here](#).

7. Committee Commemorates 2020 International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People



The United Nations marks the passage of General Assembly resolution 181 (ii) of 1947 every year as the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, with Special Meetings and events at Headquarters in New York, and at the UN offices in Geneva, Nairobi, Vienna and elsewhere, organized on or around 29 November.

This year, the Committee organized a virtual Special Meeting on **1 December**, attended by the President of the General Assembly, a representative of the President of the Security Council, the Secretary-General, Member States, and representatives of civil society. Participants reiterated the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, and the need to return to serious negotiations that end the occupation and lead to the establishment of a viable and geographically connected Palestinian state.

Committee representatives delivered [statements](#) on the Committee's behalf at similar events organized at the UN offices at Geneva (8 December) and Vienna (10 December). The event in Nairobi will be held at a later date.

The event was livestreamed on UN TV and social media. For more details click [here](#).

8. General Assembly Holds Annual Debate and Votes on Resolutions on the Question of Palestine



On **2 December**, the Committee delivered its annual report on its activities to the General Assembly, which along with four resolutions relating to the Question of Palestine (previously endorsed by the Committee) were voted on and adopted by the General Assembly.

The resolutions are on the "Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People" ([A/RES/75/20](#)), "Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat" ([A/RES/75/21](#)), "Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine" ([A/RES/75/22](#)), and "Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat" ([A/RES/75/23](#)).

The event was livestreamed on UN TV. For the press release including voting results, click [here](#), for the videos, click [here](#) and [here](#).

9. Committee Participates in International Media Seminar on Peace in the Middle East



On **8 December**, the Chair of the Committee, Amb. Cheikh Niang delivered a statement at the opening of a two-day International Media Seminar on Peace in the Middle East, organized by the UN Department for Global Communications Special information programme on the question of Palestine.

Speakers elaborated on the Israel-Palestine conflict and discussed the challenge of

misinformation and disinformation in a bid to sensitize public opinion on the question of Palestine and promote a peaceful settlement to the Israel-Palestine conflict. The event was livestreamed on UN WebTV.

For more details, click [here](#), for the Chair's statement, click [here](#).

10. Committee Bureau Holds Meeting to Discuss Plans for 2021



On **10 December**, the Committee Bureau held a virtual meeting to discuss proposed activities and events for the Committee Programme of Work for 2021.

It also reviewed political trends and development on the question of Palestine and agreed on adopting a flexible Programme of Work for 2021 taking into consideration the uncertainties caused by the pandemic. The Committee would continue to engage with parliamentarians and strengthen advocacy with civil society organizations and think-tanks.

- Read the latest [Monthly Bulletin](#) on UN and other International Organizations' action on the question of Palestine
- Read the latest [NGO Action News](#)
- Read [the Compilation of UN Resolutions and Decisions Adopted in 2019](#)
- Read [the Annual Compilation of United Nations Reports on the Question of Palestine 2019](#)
- **Visit** the Committee's Website: <http://www.un.org/unispal>
- **Like** the Committee's page: <http://www.facebook.com/UN.palestinianrights>
- **Follow** the Committee at @UNISPAL: <https://twitter.com/UNISPAL> & <https://www.instagram.com/unispal/>
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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.*