

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

PEACE INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRACY UNITY PROSPERITY

Permanent Mission Of The Lao People's Democratic Republic To The United Nations

New York, 19 November 2020

Excellency,

I have the honour to enclose herewith the message of solidarity 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.

Anouparb VONGNORKEO 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 <u>New York</u> Message of Solidarity By 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, 2020

On this occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (29 November), on behalf of the Government and People of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, I would like to extend to Your Excellency Mahmoud Abbas, President of the State of Palestine, and through Your Excellency, to the Government and People of the State of Palestine, our warmest congratulations and greetings of friendship and solidarity.

The Lao PDR reaffirms its unwavering support for the independence and sovereignty of the State of Palestine and Palestinian people in their legitimate quest for dignity, justice and their inalienable right to self-determination in their independent and viable State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, living side by side in peace and security with the State of Israel, within internationally recognized borders. While expressing our deepest sympathy over the many challenges and hardships towards your noble cause, we commend the Government of the State of Palestine on its important contributions to the work of the United Nations, especially its successful chairmanship of the Group of 77 and China at the United Nations in 2019.

The annual commemoration of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People is the testimony of collective support of the international community and underscores the importance and urgency of seeking a lasting solution to the Palestinian question as well as addressing the plight of the Palestinian people who live their daily lives through the untold suffering and humiliation for many decades. Therefore, it is of paramount importance for the international community to renew our collective efforts for resolving the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, which remains the key to lasting peace, stability and prosperity in the region.

In this regard, the Lao PDR renews its call for the occupying Power to immediately cease all its unlawful occupation of the Palestinian territory, place a complete and indefinite freeze on all settlement activities, and respond favorably and in good faith to the international consensus in order create the environment conducive to the pursuit of peace as well as for salvaging the prospects of achieving a two-state solution as soon as possible in line with relevant United Nations resolutions, international law and bilateral agreements. We also support the genuine engagement of many world leaders and any initiatives, including a possible international peace conference, as repeatedly called for by Palestinian President Abbas, under the auspices of an expanded Quartet that would allow for the re-engagement of the parties concerned and the launch of a credible political horizon.

Finally, the Lao PDR 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.