



## Security Council

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### Letter dated 29 March 2021 from the Permanent Representatives of Egypt, France, Germany and Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Egypt, France, Germany and Jordan would like to share the joint statement of their latest meeting on the Middle East Peace Process held in Paris on 11 March 2021 (see annex). We also have the honour to transmit to you herewith the joint statements of our previous ministerial meetings held in Cairo, Amman and by videoconference.

We would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* Mohamed Fathi Ahmed **Edrees**  
Permanent Representative Mission of Egypt to the United Nations

*(Signed)* Nicolas **de Rivière**  
Permanent Representative Mission of France to the United Nations

*(Signed)* Christoph **Heusgen**  
Permanent Representative Mission of Germany to the United Nations

*(Signed)* Sima Sami I. **Bahous**  
Permanent Representative Mission of Jordan



**Annex to the letter dated 29 March 2021 from the Permanent Representatives of Egypt, France, Germany and Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

[Original: Arabic, English and French]

**Paris Meeting on the Middle East Peace Process – Joint Statement (11 March 2021)**

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Egypt, France, Germany and Jordan met in Paris today to continue their efforts to contribute to advancing the Middle East Peace Process towards a just, comprehensive and lasting peace. They were joined by the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and the European Union Special Representative for the Middle East Peace Process.

The Ministers declared:

1. Following our meetings in Munich on February 15, 2020, in Amman on September 24, 2020 and in Cairo on January 11, 2021, we welcome the opportunity to discuss further potential steps to contribute to the restoration of a conducive environment for a resumed dialogue between the two parties, with a view to advancing the Middle East Peace Process.
2. We concur that progressive and mutual confidence-building measures based on a step-by-step approach will help restore a dialogue between the parties, paving the way for a genuine peace process that should resume as soon as possible.
3. We emphasise that the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the basis of the two-state solution is indispensable for comprehensive peace in the region. We remain firmly committed to enabling and supporting all efforts aimed at achieving a just and lasting peace in the Middle East based on international law, relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and agreed parameters. We emphasise the importance of the peace treaties between Arab states and Israel, including the recently signed agreements, contributing to the resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on the basis of the two-state solution so that comprehensive and lasting peace is achieved. Only a negotiated two-state solution, ensuring an independent and viable Palestinian state based on June 4, 1967 lines and UN Security Council resolutions, living side by side a secure and recognized Israel, can fulfil the aspirations of both the Israelis and the Palestinians, hence providing just and sustainable peace.
4. We deem it necessary to preserve the two-state solution, as it serves the interest of both the Palestinians and the Israelis in the quest for the creation of two peaceful and democratic states living side by side and contributing to regional peace and stability within a favourable environment.
5. We call on the parties to refrain from any unilateral measures undermining the future of a just and lasting solution to the conflict. We stress the need to cease all settlement activities, including in East Jerusalem, in accordance with relevant UN Security Council resolutions. We concur that settlement policy through building and expansion of settlements as well as confiscation of Palestinian structures and properties are a violation of international law and undermine the viability of the two-state solution. We recall the importance of upholding the historic and legal status quo of the Holy sites in Jerusalem. In this regard, we recall the importance of the historic Hashemite custodianship of Jerusalem's Holy sites.
6. We welcome the parties' efforts to cooperate in the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic. We encourage both sides to cooperate more closely in providing a holistic response to the public health and economic crisis induced by the pandemic, including

by reinvigorating the bilateral economic mechanisms to foster coordination for the benefit of the two peoples.

7. We welcome the progress made in preparing for Palestinian elections and call on all parties to honor the electoral process, commit to democratic principles and refrain from any acts of violence. We call on Israel to facilitate the preparation and conduct of the voting process as well as free access to polling sites, including in East Jerusalem.

8. We value the indispensable role of UNRWA in providing humanitarian assistance and essential services to the Palestinian refugees, in accordance with its UN mandate. We call upon the international community to honour its commitments to UNRWA, thereby helping the Agency overcome the present dire financial deficit.

9. We express our willingness to work closely and actively with Middle East Quartet and the United States as well as with all other actors committed to achieving a just and lasting peace in the region.

### **Cairo Meeting On the Middle East Peace Process – Joint Statement (11 January 2021)**

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Egypt, France, Germany and Jordan, met in Cairo today to pursue their coordination and consultation on means to advance the Middle East Peace Process towards a just, comprehensive and lasting peace. The ministers discussed their recent contacts with their Palestinian and Israeli counterparts and the views of each party. They also took note of the message addressed by the Palestinian Foreign Minister to the host of the meeting H.E. Sameh Shoukry.

1. The Ministers welcomed the opportunity to discuss potential steps to advance the Middle East Peace Process and to create a conducive environment for a resumed dialogue between the Palestinians and the Israelis. They called upon both parties to deepen their cooperation and dialogue on the basis of further and reciprocal commitments, also in light of the Covid-19 pandemic. In this regard they welcomed the Palestinian Authority's decision to restore cooperation based on Israel's commitment to past bilateral agreements.

2. Recalling the principles laid out in their joint statement on 24 September 2020 on the occasion of their meeting in Amman, they firmly committed to supporting all efforts aimed at achieving a just and lasting peace in the Middle East based on international law, relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and agreed parameters, as recalled in the Arab Peace Initiative.

3. They emphasized that the resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on the basis of the two-state solution is an indispensable requirement to comprehensive peace in the region. They further emphasized their commitment to a negotiated two-state solution, ensuring an independent and viable Palestinian state based on June 4, 1967 lines and UN Security Council resolutions, living side by side a secure and recognized Israel.

4. They emphasized the role of the United States in this context and expressed willingness to work with the United States towards facilitating negotiations leading to a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region, based on the internationally-recognized parameters, and re-launching a credible peace process between the Palestinians and Israelis.

5. They called on the parties to refrain from any unilateral measures undermining the future of a fair and lasting solution to the conflict. They reiterated in this regard the call of the implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions to immediately

and completely cease all settlement activities including in East Jerusalem. They also concurred that the building and expansion of settlements, and confiscation of Palestinian structures and properties are a violation of international law that undermine the viability of the two-state solution. Furthermore, they stressed the importance of the adherence to international humanitarian law in the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967, including East Jerusalem.

6. They stressed the importance of preserving the composition, character and status of the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967 including East Jerusalem. They recalled the importance of upholding the historic and legal status quo of the Holy sites in Jerusalem. In this regard, they recalled the importance of the historic Hashemite custodianship of Jerusalem's Holy sites.

7. They emphasized the importance of the peace treaties between Arab states and Israel, including the recently signed agreements contributing to the resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on the basis of the two-state solution so that comprehensive and lasting peace is achieved.

8. They urged all parties, including the international Quartet and their potential partners, to exert collective efforts, and to take practical steps to launch and sponsor credible negotiations on all final status issues in the Middle East Peace Process.

9. They welcomed the recent developments in efforts to achieve Palestinian reconciliation, and welcomed the Palestinian authority's willingness regarding the holding of upcoming elections. They also vowed to support Egypt's efforts in this regard aiming to end divisions between the Palestinians.

10. They highly valued the indispensable role of UNRWA in providing humanitarian assistance and essential services to the Palestinian refugees. They called upon the international community to honor its commitments to UNRWA, thereby helping the organization overcome the present dire financial deficit.

11. The Ministers agreed on the necessity to pursue monitoring the developments pertinent to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and called for the prompt resumption of the talks as well as the creation of political horizons and the restoration of hope through credible dialogue, with a view to relaunching serious, meaningful, and effective direct negotiations between the two parties.

At the end of the meeting, the ministers agreed to reach out to the Palestinians and the Israelis conveying their common vision on the way forward towards peace.

They also thanked Egypt for its efforts to organize the meeting and decided to hold the next meeting in France.

### **Amman Meeting On the Middle East Peace Process – Joint Statement (24 September 2020)**

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Egypt, France, Germany and Jordan, met in Amman today to continue their coordination and consultation on means to advance the Middle East Peace Process towards a just, comprehensive and lasting peace. The meeting was attended by the EU Special Representative for the Middle East Peace Process.

The Ministers declared:

1. We emphasize our commitment to support all efforts to achieve a just, lasting and comprehensive peace that fulfills the legitimate rights of all parties on the basis of international law, relevant United Nations resolutions and agreed parameters, including the Arab Peace Initiative.

2. We stress that the resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on the basis of the two-state solution, that ensures the emergence of an independent and viable Palestinian state on the basis of June 4, 1967 lines, living side by side a secure and recognized Israel, is the path to achieving comprehensive, enduring peace and regional security.
3. We concur that the building and expansion of settlements and confiscation of Palestinian structures and properties are a violation of international law that undermine the viability of the two-state solution. In this regard, we call on both parties to fully implement UNSCR 2334 and all its provisions.
4. Recalling our joint statement from July 7, 2020. We take note of the suspension of annexation of Palestinian lands following the announcement of the decision by the United Arab Emirates and Israel to normalize ties. This suspension should become permanent.
5. We stress the importance of upholding the legal and historic status quo of the Holy Sites in Jerusalem. We recognize the important role of Jordan and the Hashemite Custodianship of the Holy Sites in this regard.
6. We emphasize that the resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on the basis of the two-state solution is indispensable for comprehensive peace. We emphasize the importance of the peace treaties between Arab States and Israel, including the recently signed treaties between the United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Bahrain with Israel, contributing to the resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on the basis of the two-state solution so that comprehensive and lasting peace is achieved.
7. We reaffirmed the indispensable role of UNRWA and the need to provide it with the political and financial support it needs to continue to fulfill its UN mandate and provide its vital services to refugees.
8. We emphasize that ending the stalemate in peace talks, the creation of political horizons and the restoration of hope through credible dialogue must be a priority. We emphasize the urgency of the resumption of serious, meaningful and effective negotiations on the basis of international law and agreed parameters directly between the parties or under UNumbrella, including the Middle East Quartet, to achieve this peace. We call upon the parties to commit to past agreements and to resume credible dialogue on these basis. The Covid-19 pandemic is a severe reminder that peace and cooperation are more necessary than ever. We will continue to work together and with all other concerned parties to enable such negotiations. Egypt, France, Germany and Jordan will maintain their active involvement and continue their efforts as well as to offer their good offices to produce a conducive environment for the resumption of credible negotiations, with a view to progressing towards achieving the just and comprehensive peace that all peoples of the region deserve.

### **Joint statement of the Foreign Ministers of Egypt, France, Germany and Jordan (7 July 2020)**

After a joint video conference the Foreign Ministers of Egypt, France, Germany and Jordan declared today, July 7, 2020:

“We exchanged views on the current state of the Middle East Peace Process and its regional implications. We concur that any annexation of Palestinian territories occupied in 1967 would be a violation of international law and imperil the foundations of the peace process. We would not recognize any changes to the 1967 borders that are not agreed by both parties in the conflict. We also concur that such a step would have serious consequences for the security and stability of the region, and would

constitute a major obstacle to efforts aimed at achieving a comprehensive and just peace. It could also have consequences for the relationship with Israel. We underline our firm commitment to a negotiated two-state-solution based on international law and the relevant UN resolutions. We discussed how to re-start a fruitful engagement between the Israeli and the Palestinian side, and offer our support in facilitating a path to negotiations.”

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