



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

### Newsletter on Recent Activities

No. 16 / April – June 2023

#### 1. Bureau condemns the raid by Israel Forces inside the Aqsa Mosque Compound



On 5 April, the Bureau issued a statement following the intrusion and violence against Palestinian worshippers at the Aqsa Mosque Compound in Jerusalem.

You can read the full text of the statement [here](#)

#### 2. Bureau meets with Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the State of Palestine



On 24 April, the Bureau met with Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the State of Palestine, H.E. Mr. Riyad Al-Maliki. Bureau members reiterated their commitment to supporting the peaceful resolution of the Question of Palestine and expressed a consensus about not overshadowing the Palestinian plight with other global crises. The discussion further expressed support for the Secretary-General's increased engagement on the question of Palestine as well as for the State of Palestine's full UN membership and the revival of the Middle East Peace Process.

### **3. The Committee Chair addresses the quarterly Security Council Open Debate on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question**



On 25 April, Ambassador Cheikh Niang, the CEIRPP Chair and Permanent Representative of Senegal, delivered the Committee's statement to the quarterly Security Council Open Debate on the situation in the Middle East including the Palestinian question. At the ministerial-level meeting attended by H.E. Mr. Riyad Al-Maliki, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the State of Palestine, the Chair conveyed concern at Israel's advancement of settlements,

condemned violence in Jerusalem, reiterated the need to uphold the historic status quo of the Holy Sites, and appealed for Security Council leadership to protect the Palestinian people.

You can read the full text of the statement [here](#).

#### **4. New Permanent Representative of Malaysia becomes Committee Vice Chair and Rapporteur**

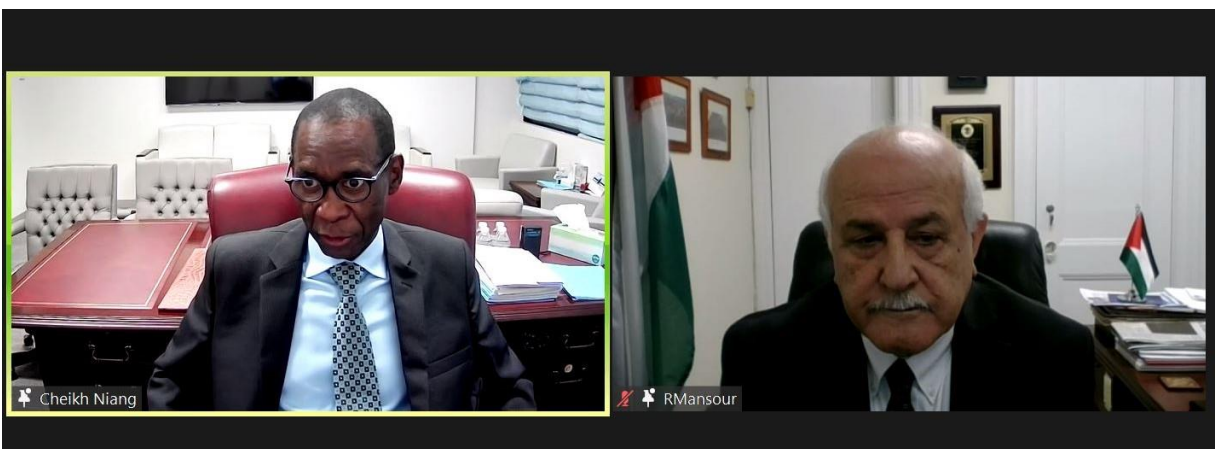


On 3 May, the Committee elected Permanent Representative of Malaysia, H.E. Mr. Ahmad Faisal Muhamad, as Committee Vice-Chair and Rapporteur. At the meeting, in addition to providing an update on development in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine, H.E. Mr. Riyad Mansour, briefed on the guidelines and procedures for Member States to submit statements to the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

For additional information on the Committee meeting click [here](#)

See the composition of the Bureau [here](#)

#### **5. CEIRPP holds closed consultations with Civil Society on Gaza**



On 27 April, the Committee held closed consultations with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to discuss the situation in Gaza. The virtual meeting, titled “The ongoing Nakba in Gaza: blockade, dispossession, and denial of rights,” was conducted under the Chatham House Rule, with CSO representatives from Palestine, Israel, and the United States alongside Committee members and observers. The meeting focused on the Great March of Return and its legacy, the violation of the right of return for Palestine refugees, Israel's restrictions on family reunification, and access of Palestinians in Gaza to healthcare.

For the Chair summary of the event, please click [here](#).

#### **6. Bureau meets with the 10 non-permanent members of the Security Council (E10)**



On 9 May, the Bureau organized a lunch meeting, hosted by Indonesia, with the ten non-permanent members of the Security Council (E10). The roundtable discussed how to collectively bring a political horizon to the Palestinian plight, including through efforts towards a resumption of peace negotiations between Israel and the State of Palestine. Permanent Observer Riyad Mansour provided a political update, including on Israeli airstrikes in Gaza, and urged the E10 to identify sustainable solutions to the conflict.

#### **7. Committee Commemorates 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nakba with a High-Level meeting followed by a Special event in the General Assembly Hall**





On 15 May, for the first time, the UN commemorated the 75th anniversary of the Nakba, pursuant to a General Assembly [Resolution](#) mandate. The Chair of CEIRPP presided a high-level event, which included a keynote address by H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Abbas, President of the State of Palestine, as well as interventions by Ms. Rosemary DiCarlo, UN Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, Mr. Nyle Fort, Associate Professor of African Studies at Columbia University, speaking as CSO representative, and a video message from Mr. Philippe Lazzarini, UNRWA's Commissioner-General and other interventions by representatives of Regional Groups.



In the evening on the same day, a Special Commemorative Event was held in the General Assembly Hall. A video message by Csaba Kőrösi, President of the General Assembly was followed by a performance by Palestinian composer, Naseem Alatrash and the New York Arabic Orchestra, accompanied by Palestinian singer Sanaa Moussa. The event brought to life the Palestinian experience of the Nakba through live music, photos, videos, and personal testimonies.

For more information and videos of the two events, please click [here](#).

## **8. Bureau members meet with Palestinian civil society representatives**



On 22 May, members of the Bureau met with representatives of Palestinian civil society organizations and the Israel-Palestine Working Group based in New York. Civil society representatives updated on the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT) and on recent reports concluding that Palestinians in the OPT are victims of a situation of apartheid. They also called to restore the UN Special Committee on Apartheid.

For more information on the work of the CEIRPP on civil society click [here](#)

## **9. Bureau members meeting with UNRWA Commissioner-General**



On 30 May, the Committee Bureau met with UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini to discuss the current financial status of UNRWA before the General Assembly-convened Pledging Conference on 2 June 2023. The Commissioner-General raised alarm about the Agency’s deepening funding crisis while Ambassador Cheikh Niang, Committee Chair, reaffirmed support for adequate funding and leveraging UNRWA’s 75 anniversary to galvanize international backing.

For more information on the UNRWA Pledging conference, please click on this [link](#):

## 10. Bureau meeting to plan future activities

On 13 June, the Bureau met to discuss plans for the remainder of 2023, including Delegation visits and outreach to Member States in view of promoting resolution to the question of Palestine.



## **11. Chair expresses deep concern and opposition to illegal Israeli settlements and condemns the violence carried out by extremist Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank**

On 19 and 21 June, the Chair of the Committee issued the following [statements](#) on developments related to the situation in the OPT: He strongly [condemned](#) the violence carried out by extremist Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank. Chair strongly condemns the violence carried out by extremist Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank

## **Publications & audio-visual content**

### **12. Brief animated history of the question of Palestine**

On 8 June, on behalf of the Committee, UNISPAL launched a brief animated video on the history of the question of Palestine. The video was posted on the UNISPAL website and disseminated on all social media channels. You can view the video [here](#):



Our March, April and May Monthly Bulletins offer a collection of important actions and documents by the United Nations system and intergovernmental organizations relevant to the



question of Palestine. You can read the bulletins in our database, the world's largest online repository of documents on the question of Palestine.

[March Bulletin](#)

[April Bulletin](#)

[May Bulletin](#)

Database of documents on the Question of Palestine is available [here](#)

Our newsletters – NGO action news - about recent and upcoming activities of Civil Society Organizations affiliated with the Committee are available [here](#). The Committee provides the information “as is” without warranty of any kind and does not accept any responsibility or liability for the accuracy or reliability of the information contained in the websites linked in the newsletter.

Interested to know more about the UN Palestinian Rights Committee? Watch this interactive [animation](#) that explains the mandate and objectives of the Committee.



### **13. Committee now has a TikTok account**



- In May, the Committee set up a TikTok account that has elicited more than 2,000 views in just over one month. This social media tool was added to fulfil the Bureau request to expand outreach, in an ongoing effort to reach to new and younger audiences and find innovative ways to inform about the Palestinian question.
- You can follow it at <https://www.tiktok.com/@unispal?lang=en>.

Follow the Palestinian Rights Committee:

