



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

Newsletter on Recent Activities

No. 17 / July – September 2023

1. Bureau Meeting with UNRWA Chief of Staff



On 18 July, the Bureau of the Committee, headed by Ambassador Cheikh Niang, met with Mr. Ben Majekodunmi, Chief of Staff of UNRWA, and Ms. Gréta Gunnarsdottir, Director of [UNRWA's Office](#) in New York. During the meeting, the Bureau received a briefing on the recent [Advisory Commission](#) meeting in Beirut, discussed the Agency's financial situation and suggested collaborative initiatives for [UNRWA's 75th anniversary](#), reaffirming their support for the Agency's work.

2. Committee Virtual conference on the question of Jerusalem



On 20 July, the Committee, in cooperation with the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), convened a virtual Conference on “The impact of Israeli settlement policies on the Palestinian population in Jerusalem”. The conference was officially opened by ASG Khaled Khiari and a representative of the OIC. Later, four civil society representatives from Palestine, Israel and the United States highlighted Israel’s ongoing illegal practices restricting freedoms of Palestinians in Jerusalem and emphasized the importance of economic activism in countering Israel’s occupation. Speakers further underlined how the UN database of business enterprises linked to settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT) can be an important advocacy tool.

To view the recording of the event, click [here](#).

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



On 27 July, the Permanent Representative of Malaysia and Vice-Chair of the Committee, H.E. Ahmad Faisal Muhamad, delivered the Committee's statement at the Security Council Open Debate on the situation in the Middle East including the Palestine Question. The Committee condemned the continued attacks on Palestinian civilians, including women and children, and the raids on Palestinian villages. It further welcomed the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights' call for Israel to align its policies and actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, with international human rights standards and humanitarian law.

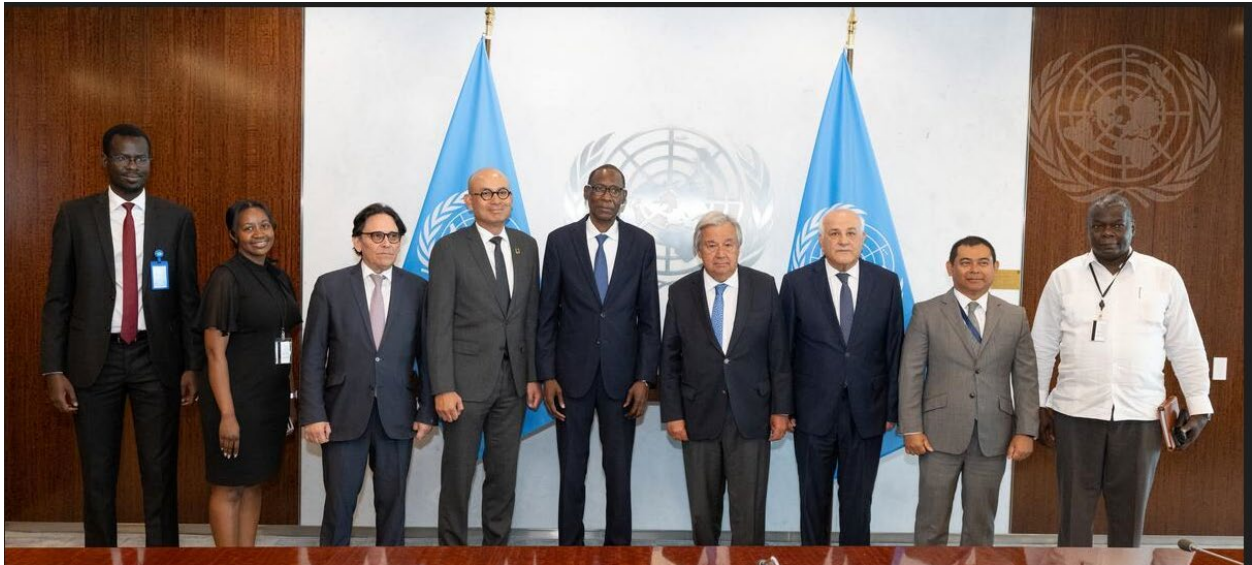
The full text of the statement in English, and French is available [here](#).

4. Bureau holds internal planning meeting



On 21 August, the Bureau held a strategic meeting to plan upcoming activities for the fourth quarter of 2023. The Observer Mission of the State of Palestine briefed on political developments on the ground and the ongoing ICJ Advisory Opinion. The Bureau discussed the adoption of the 2023 Annual Report, initiated plans for the annual Bureau Retreat, considered CSO accreditation requests and formally endorsed the Legal [Study](#) commissioned by the Committee to examine the legality of the Israeli occupation of the OPT, including East Jerusalem (see entry 7).

5. Bureau meeting with the UN Secretary-General



On 22 August, the Bureau of the Committee met with UN Secretary-General António Guterres to express concern at the worsening situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), including East Jerusalem. Ambassador Cheikh Niang, the Chair of the Committee, urged the Secretary-General to visit the OPT and stressed the importance of enhancing the protection of the Palestinian population. The Secretary-General reiterated the UN support for the two-State solution and expressed his wish to visit the OPT soon.

6. The Committee adopts its Annual Report 2023 and launched a Legal Study



On 30 August, the CEIRPP adopted without amendments its 2023 Annual Report that will be presented at the 78th General Assembly session in November. The State of Palestine provided updates on the political and humanitarian situation in the OPT and requested Member States'

support for full UN membership. In addition, Professor Michael Lynk briefed on the findings of the [study](#) commissioned by the Committee on the Legality of the Israeli Occupation and marking its official launching. The Committee accredited one CSO based on the Bureau's recommendation.

Click [here](#) to watch the live recording of the meeting. The Annual Report 2023 can be accessed in the five UN languages on the [website](#) of the Committee.

7. Official Launch: Study of the Legality of the Israeli occupation



On 30 August, the Committee launched a study on the Legality of the Israeli Occupation of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. The independent and impartial research study conducted by a highly respected academic institution examined the legality of Israel's occupation through the lenses of international law and legal precedents.

The full text of the [study](#) is available on the Committee's UNISPAL website as a PDF file and [flipbook](#).

Promotion and advocacy

8. UN Exhibit Booklets coming soon in French and Spanish



The Committee will soon release the French and Spanish versions of its acclaimed four public exhibitions from 2017 to 2020. These booklets are pivotal in the Committee's worldwide advocacy, aligning with the UN's annual observance on 29 November as per General Assembly resolution A/RES/75/21 and the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. The exhibitions are currently available in printed and e-book versions in Arabic and English. You can explore the user-friendly [flipbook](#) versions of these engaging booklets on the Committee's UNISPAL website.

9. Brief animated history of the question of Palestine



On 8 June, the Committee launched a brief animated video on the history of the question of Palestine. The video is available on the Committee's UNISPA website and was disseminated on all social media channels. You can view the video [here](#) in [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#).

10. UN Information System on the Question of Palestine

The Committee continued to promote the peaceful resolution of the Question of Palestine, through its website and social media. Over the past 3 months, the UNISPA [website](#) was visited more than 200,000 times, whereas the Committee's social media accounts garnered around 300,000 views and interactions.

11. Publications

- The Committee's 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.

[June Bulletin](#)

[July Bulletin](#)

[August Bulletin](#)

- The Annual Compilation of resolutions, decisions, and voting records of the General Assembly and the Security Council relating to the question of Palestine in 2022 is available [here](#). The document covers actions in 2022 by the General Assembly's seventy-seventh session, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, and the Human Rights Council.

- The various reports prepared by the United Nations and its affiliated agencies on the question of Palestine are available in the Committee's 2022 Annual Compilation of Reports and accessible [here](#).
- The weekly Committee NGO Action News on recent and upcoming activities of Civil Society Organizations working on the question of Palestine are available on the UNISPAL website [in English, Arabic, French and Spanish](#). The Committee provides the information "as is" without warranty and does not accept any responsibility or liability for the accuracy or reliability of the information contained in the websites linked in the newsletter.