



# CHAIR OF THE COORDINATING BUREAU OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT



## DECLARATION OF THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM) ON PALESTINE

*New York, 19 September 2017*

### Reaffirmation of Principled Positions and Commitment to Action:

1. The Ministers of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Committee on Palestine met at the United Nations Headquarters, in New York, on 19 September 2017. They *expressed grave concern* as they solemnly reflected on the passage of fifty years since the onset of Israel's foreign occupation of Palestinian and other Arab lands in 1967, while bearing in mind other upcoming solemn anniversaries, including the seventieth anniversary of the General Assembly's decision to partition Mandate Palestine by its adoption of resolution 181 (II) on 29 November 1947 and the seventieth year since the 1948 *Nakba* endured by the Palestinian people.
2. The Ministers *reaffirmed* the Movement's longstanding and principled positions and commitments regarding the question of Palestine in all its aspects, as most recently reaffirmed at the XVII Summit at Margarita Island, as well as in previous Declarations by the Committee and other Ministerial Declarations. They *reaffirmed* their abiding solidarity with the Palestinian people and unwavering support for their just cause, as they continue to seek to realize their long-denied freedom and rights.
3. On this solemn occasion, the Ministers *reiterated* their demand for the complete end to the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian and Arab lands in all of its manifestations and for full respect of international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, and the relevant United Nations resolutions. They *urged* the international community to act urgently to fulfill the historical, political, legal and moral responsibilities towards the question of Palestine and to fulfill the international community's commitments to the Palestinian people in support of the realization of their inalienable rights and legitimate national aspirations, including to self-determination, freedom and independence in their State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, on the basis of the pre-1967 borders and a just solution for the Palestine refugees based on General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and to achieve genuine peace, security and co-existence.
4. The Ministers *stressed* the urgency of collective efforts aimed at bringing an end to Israel's occupation and the injustices that continue to be endured by the Palestinian people, including the Palestine refugees, and at achieving their rights and a just, lasting, comprehensive and peaceful solution to the question of Palestine in all its aspects in accordance with international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions. They



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*reiterated* their continued support of the Movement's designation at the XVII Summit at Margarita Island of the year 2017 as the "International Year to End the Israeli Occupation of Palestine", and *pledged* their full support to continuing advocacy and the pursuit of meaningful activities and initiatives throughout the year to mobilize the necessary support and solidarity.

5. The Ministers *appealed* to all of the Movement's Members to renew their commitment and further strengthen and coordinate their efforts to promote the realization of justice and rights for the Palestinian people, in line with the Movement's positions and principles and the relevant UN resolutions. They *underscored* the need for intensification of international and regional efforts in this regard, especially in light of the critical political and humanitarian situation that continues to prevail in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. They *cautioned* of the high risks for further deterioration and destabilization, as witnessed in the recent period in Occupied East Jerusalem due to provocative and illegal Israeli actions in the Old City and at Al-Haram Al-Sharif, which houses Al-Aqsa Mosque, including attempts to undermine the historic status quo at the holy site, which dramatically raised tensions and inflamed religious sensitivities.
6. The Ministers *recalled* in particular the responsibilities of the Security Council and General Assembly regarding the question of Palestine. They *urged* immediate efforts in respect of their Charter duties and implementation of all relevant resolutions, without exception, including Security Council resolution 2334 (2016). They *stressed* that such efforts are the key to peace, imperative for ultimately bringing an end to the Israeli occupation, securing the legitimate national aspirations and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, and establishing just and lasting peace and security based on the two-State solution on the pre-1967 borders.
7. The Ministers *welcomed*, in this regard, the adoption of resolution 2334 on 23 December 2016 by the Security Council, and *welcomed* the leading role played by the members of NAM Caucus in that body in line with its Charter duty for the maintenance of international peace and security. They *recalled* that resolution 2334 (2016), *inter alia*, reaffirmed the illegality of Israeli settlement activities; reiterated the demand that Israel immediately and completely cease all settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem; underlined that the Council will not recognize any changes to the 4 June 1967 lines, including with regard to Jerusalem, other than those agreed by the parties through negotiations; called upon all States to distinguish in their relevant dealings between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied in 1967; called for an end to all acts of violence against civilians, including acts of terror, as well as all acts of provocation, incitement and destruction; and urged the intensification of international and regional efforts and support aimed at achieving without delay a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East on the basis of the relevant UN resolutions, Madrid terms



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of reference, including the principle of land for peace, Arab Peace Initiative and Quartet Roadmap and an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967.

8. The Ministers *unequivocally condemned* Israel's repeated, deliberate and flagrant violations of resolution 2334 (2016) as it has continued and intensified its illegal settlement campaign throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, declaring plans for, and advancing, the construction of thousands of more settlement units since the adoption of resolution 2334 (2016). They *condemned* the occupying Power's contempt of the Security Council and *called for* immediate measures to implement resolution 2334 (2016) and all other relevant resolutions regarding the Palestine question and to hold Israel accountable for its violations and grave breaches.

### The Critical Situation in the Occupied State of Palestine, including East Jerusalem, and the Grave Breaches of International Law by the Occupying Power:

9. The Ministers, following a briefing by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Palestine, *assessed* recent developments on the ground and the status of the political process. They *expressed grave concern* about the critical situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem - the territory that constitutes the State of Palestine - due to ongoing illegal policies and practices by Israel, the occupying Power, which continue to inflict immense harm and suffering on the Palestinian people. They *lamented* the ongoing political impasse and absence of a credible political horizon for a peaceful solution, in particular due to Israel's continuing intransigence and obstruction of peace efforts and entrenchment of its fifty-year military occupation via various illegal schemes and measures. They *cautioned* about the rising despair and hopelessness this situation is causing, especially among youth, and stressed that the situation is untenable and requires immediate remedy.
10. The Ministers *reiterated* their alarm about Israel's illegal, destructive and aggressive measures in the Occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem. They *deplored* all such measures, which have caused hundreds of Palestinian civilian casualties over the past year, as well as the destruction of hundreds of Palestinian properties, including homes, leading to more forced displacement of hundreds of Palestinian civilians. They *cautioned* that Israel's illegal settlement colonization policies and practices and provocations, incitement and terror by Israeli settlers and religious extremists, especially at Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, continue to escalate tensions and threaten to destabilize the fragile situation, with far-reaching consequences.
11. The Ministers also *expressed grave concern* about the deteriorating situation in the Gaza Strip due to the lasting impact of the Israeli military aggression of July and August 2014, which they condemned in the strongest terms, as it caused massive human and physical



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devastation from which there has been minimal recovery, and the exacerbation of the humanitarian crisis there as the entire Palestinian civilian population continues to be inhumanely isolated, besieged and deprived by the decade-long illegal Israeli blockade – a blockade that constitutes massive collective punishment and a grave breach of international humanitarian and human rights law. They *reiterated* their calls for the urgent provision of political, economic and humanitarian support to alleviate the hardships being endured by the Palestinian people in this dire situation.

12. The Ministers *deplored* the continuing obstruction of the reconstruction and the extremely slow pace of recovery of Gaza due to the ongoing illegal Israeli blockade, and *expressed deep regret* that thousands of families remain displaced and homeless and that vital infrastructure has not been rebuilt, severely impacting humanitarian, socio-economic, psychosocial and environmental conditions. They *reiterated* their call for the complete lifting of the Israeli blockade of the Gaza Strip, while also stressing that the crisis in Gaza must be comprehensively addressed, in accordance with international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, and the relevant UN resolutions, in the context of the overall situation of the continuation of the illegitimate, belligerent, Israeli foreign occupation of the Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 1967. They *reiterated their call* for respect for the ceasefire agreement achieved on 26 August 2014, based on the Egyptian initiative on the basis of the November 2012 ceasefire agreement, along with their continuous calls for urgent efforts to ensure the immediate, sustained and regular opening of all border crossing points into and out of the Gaza Strip to allow for the movement of persons and goods, including humanitarian assistance, medical supplies, food, fuel supplies, construction materials and commercial flows, including exports, necessary for economic recovery.
13. The Ministers *deplored* that Israel has continued to blatantly ignore the recommendations made in the report of the Independent Commission of Inquiry (COI) established by the Human Rights Council, pursuant to its resolution S-21/1 of 23 July 2014, to investigate all violations of international humanitarian and human rights law resulting from Israel's 2014 military aggression against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, as well as in other relevant inquiries and reports, without consequence, and *reiterated* their call for establishing accountability for the grave breaches and crimes perpetrated and for justice for the victims of these crimes. They also *affirmed* the importance of the International Criminal Court (ICC) for addressing the war crimes and crimes against humanity being committed by Israel against the Palestinian people, and *emphasized* the centrality of justice in bringing an end to such crimes and impunity.
14. The Ministers *reiterated* their categorical condemnation of all illegal Israeli settlement activities by which Israel, the occupying Power, has continued to colonize the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to forcibly displace Palestinian



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civilians, in grave breach of international law, in particular the Fourth Geneva Convention, and in direct contradiction to the objective of peace on the basis of the two-State solution on the pre-1967 borders. They *stressed* that all Israeli measures aimed at altering the legal, geographic and demographic character and status of Jerusalem and of the Occupied Palestinian Territory as a whole are null and void and have no legal validity whatsoever, and that such measures seriously undermine the contiguity, integrity, viability and unity of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which remains an integral part of that Territory, and jeopardize the possibility of achieving the two-State solution for peace on the basis of the pre-1967 borders. They *stressed* the importance of Security Council resolution 2334 (2016) towards, *inter alia*, salvaging the two-State solution and the urgency of its full implementation.

15. The Ministers *strongly condemned* the provocative decisions by Israel, the occupying Power, following the adoption of resolution 2334 (2016), including to advance the construction of thousands of additional new units in several illegal settlements and thus the illegal transfer of thousands more Israeli settlers to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in grave breach of international law and in direct and deliberate violation of relevant resolutions. They *urged* serious and immediate efforts for the implementation of resolution 2334 (2016), and *called for* its full respect by all parties. They *stressed* the importance of the reports by the Secretary-General pursuant to the resolution for monitoring implementation, and *called* for serious follow-up by the Security Council to ensure respect of its resolutions and accountability.
16. The Ministers also *recalled* the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice (July 2004), and *urged* serious efforts, collectively and individually, to ensure respect with the legal obligations defined therein, including with regard to both Israel's illegal construction of the wall and all settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. They *underlined* the responsibilities of the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention in this regard.
17. The Ministers also *called* on all States and international organizations to actively pursue policies that ensure respect for their obligations under international law with regard to Israel's illegal settlement campaign and do not in any way extend support to this illegal campaign, directly or indirectly. They *called* for practical measures to be taken to hold Israel accountable for its violations, including the imposition of punitive measures against Israeli settlement products and business dealings, whether direct or indirect, with Israeli settlements and related entities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. They *took note* in this regard of Human Rights Council resolution 31/36, requesting, *inter alia*, the establishment of a database of all business enterprises involved in Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and *urged* the Movement's Members cooperation in this regard.





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18. The Ministers *welcomed* all such measures to compel Israel's compliance with its legal obligations, such as South Africa's actions against Israeli settlement products and the European Union "guidelines" and labeling of Israeli settlement products. They *urged* further measures by States, in accordance with their international legal obligations, including Security Council resolution 2334 (2016), and they called upon States to distinguish, in their relevant dealings, between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967.
19. The Ministers *reiterated their condemnation* of Israeli aggressions, provocations and incitement, especially by some government officials, settlers and religious extremists in Occupied East Jerusalem, including at Al-Haram Al-Sharif, which houses Al-Aqsa Mosque. They *called for* full respect of the historic status quo at the holy site and for the cessation of all measures in violation of the historic status quo, international law and the relevant resolutions. They *expressed grave concern* about the high tensions and instability caused by the continuation of such illegal Israeli actions, which are severely inflaming religious sensitivities, and *demanding* a halt to all violations and vandalism against Muslim and Christian holy sites. They *stressed* the need to ensure Palestinian freedom of access and worship and ensure full respect for the sanctity of all holy sites, recalling the custodial role of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan regarding the administration and protection of the holy sites in East Jerusalem.
20. The Ministers also *deplored in the strongest terms* Israel's systematic human rights violations against the Palestinian people, including, *inter alia*, the willful killing and injury of civilians, including peaceful protesters; violent military raids, particularly in refugee camps, terrorizing the civilian population; imprisonment and detention of thousands of Palestinian civilians, including children and women; settler terrorism and violence against Palestinian civilians; demolition of homes and properties; forced displacement of civilians; exploitation of natural resources; imposition of blockade on the Gaza Strip and severe movement restrictions and obstructions in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and all other unlawful measures of collective punishment, which are gravely impacting human rights and the humanitarian, socio-economic and security conditions of the Palestinian people under Israel's occupation.
21. The Ministers *reiterated their grave concern* about the plight of thousands of Palestinian civilians, including children, women and elected officials, held captive in Israeli prisons and detention centers, who number over 6,500 persons, and about ongoing arrest raids being carried out by the Israeli occupying forces. They *deplored* Israel's ill-treatment of Palestinian prisoners and detainees, including reported torture, solitary confinement, prolonged administrative detention, inadequate access to proper medical care and deliberate medical negligence, education and family visits, subjection to military trials,



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unsanitary conditions of detention in grave violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention and human rights law. They *expressed grave concern in particular* over Palestinian child prisoners and detainees, and *demanded* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease the abhorrent practice of imprisoning children, including by means of administrative detention, and that it respects its obligations under international law, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

22. The Ministers *called again for* proper international access to Palestinian prisoners and detainees and inspection of their conditions. They *renewed the call* for their immediate release of all Palestinian prisoners and detainees held by Israel, reaffirming the Ministerial Declaration on Palestinian Political Prisoners of Bali (May 2011) and Sharm El Sheikh (May 2012), and *expressed support* for all efforts in this regard, including the “*International Campaign for the Freedom of Marwan Barghouti and all Palestinian Prisoners*”, and the “*Robben Island Declaration*”.
23. The Ministers also *expressed their grave concern* at the 40-day hunger strike by over 1,000 Palestinian prisoners, which began on 17 April 2017 in protest of their inhumane treatment in captivity and in a collective appeal for respect of their rights, in accordance with international law, including humanitarian and human rights law. They *noted* that the hunger strike – the Freedom and Dignity Strike – constituted a non-violent, peaceful action aimed at drawing attention to their plight, and deplored Israel’s punitive measures against the hunger strikers. They *noted* the prisoners’ appeals for basic rights, including access to proper health care, family visits and education, as well as an end to solidarity confinement, administrative detention and other abuses.
24. The Ministers *appealed* for immediate attention and efforts by the international community to compel respect by Israel, the occupying Power, of its legal obligations vis-à-vis the Palestinian prisoners and detainees in its captivity. They *demanded* an end to Israel’s arrest campaign, by which more Palestinian civilians, including children, are imprisoned and detained daily. The Ministers *expressed alarm* that since the onset of the Israeli occupation in 1967 more than 800,000 Palestinians have been imprisoned by Israel.
25. The Ministers *urged* all members of the international community, the UN and other international and non-governmental organizations to provide humanitarian and developmental assistance to the Palestinian civilian population in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, to alleviate the consequences of the Israeli occupation on all aspects of their lives for five decades. They *called* in particular for assistance to be extended to alleviate the humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip and support long-overdue reconstruction efforts. They *expressed grave concern* moreover about the vulnerability of the Palestine refugees, who constitute the majority of Gaza’s population and who are suffering deep poverty and high rates of food insecurity and unemployment and



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displacement from their shelters due to the last Israeli aggression. They *appealed* to donor countries for urgent support to relevant assistance programs, including the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and other United Nations agencies delivering humanitarian and development assistance to the Palestinian people, to mitigate this humanitarian crisis and support reconstruction and economic recovery, as well as to engage youth and revive hope amidst rising levels of despair.

26. The Ministers *commended* the role and work of UNRWA in providing assistance and emergency relief to the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation, in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Occupied Palestine, at a time of heightened instability and crises in the region and declining socio-economic and humanitarian conditions. They *urged* the international community to provide the necessary and generous support to UNRWA *to alleviate* its recurrent financial crises and ensure its uninterrupted provision of assistance to the Palestine refugees in accordance with its General Assembly mandate. They *urged* the support of the Movement's Members for the ongoing efforts in follow-up of the recommendations of the Secretary-General's 30 March 2017 report on the Operations of UNRWA, including General Assembly action aimed at enhancing voluntary contributions to the Agency, expanding the donor base, establishing partnerships, and securing a larger allocation to UNRWA from the UN regular budget, in line with the commitments to ensure that the Agency is predictably and sufficiently funded to effectively carry out its mandated operations, as affirmed in the relevant resolutions and the New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants.
27. The Ministers *stressed* the need to ensure protection for the Palestinian civilian population in accordance with international humanitarian law and relevant Security Council resolutions regarding the protection of civilians in armed conflict. They *welcomed in this regard* the convening of a Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on 17 December 2014, and *reiterated the call* for follow-up measures to compel respect of the Convention by Israel, the occupying Power, including consideration of measures to ensure protection of the civilian population.

### The Prospects for Peace:

28. The Ministers *expressed deep regret* about the negative impact of Israel's illegal practices on the peace negotiations, which collapsed in April 2014 and remain stalled despite regional and international peace efforts. They *deplored* Israel's intransigence and obstruction of peace efforts and bad faith in negotiations, particularly by continued pursuit of illegal settlement activities, as well its systematic and deliberate violation of past agreements and commitments, which have deepened the political impasse.





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29. The Ministers *commended* the good faith engagement by Palestine in all phases of negotiations, under the leadership of President Mahmoud Abbas, and the demonstrated commitment to the longstanding parameters for a peaceful solution and cooperation with all peace efforts. They *welcomed* the continuing regional efforts to promote peace on the basis of the Arab Peace Initiative, and *welcomed* its reaffirmation by the Arab Summit, convened in Jordan on 29 March 2017. They *underscored* the calls for the intensification of efforts aimed at achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and a just, lasting, comprehensive and peaceful solution, in accordance with the relevant UN resolutions, including resolution 2334 (2016). They *reiterated* the readiness to cooperate and support all relevant efforts, as affirmed in the participation in the recent Paris Conference for Middle East Peace on 15 January 2017.
30. The Ministers *cautioned* once again that the status quo is unsustainable, and *expressed deep regret* at the solemn occasion of the marking of the fiftieth year of the occupation and the continued obstruction of the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and a just and lasting peace. In light of the deterioration of the situation on the ground and rising tensions, they *called for* the immediate mobilization of international action and political will to address the root causes of the conflict and provide a credible political horizon for bringing an effective end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 within a set timeframe and achieving a just and peaceful solution to the question of Palestine in all its aspects on the basis of international law and the relevant UN resolutions. They *recalled* in specific the historic role and obligations of the international community, including the UN Security Council and General Assembly, for advancing a just, lasting and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, on the basis of the agreed, longstanding terms of reference and parameters enshrined in the relevant UN resolutions, the Madrid principles, including the principle of land for peace and the Arab Peace Initiative.
31. The Ministers *urged* international efforts to address the continued Israeli intransigence and obstruction of a credible political process, to help the parties overcome the political deadlock and to preserve the two-State solution on the pre-1967 borders, which is being severely jeopardized by Israel's illegal settlement colonization activities and attempts at the de facto annexation of Palestinian land. They *called again on* the Quartet, in light of the responsibilities undertaken by it to promote Middle East peace, to act boldly and in full cooperation with the regional and concerned international partners towards this objective, including efforts to follow-up on and advance the Arab Peace Initiative and the French Initiative.

The State of Palestine in the International Arena:



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32. The Ministers *welcomed* the raising of the State of Palestine's flag at the United Nations on 30 September 2015 as another step towards its rightful inclusion in the community of nations. They *recalled* also resolution 67/19 on 29 November 2012, which, *inter alia*, accorded to Palestine the status of nonmember Observer State in the UN, as well as Palestine's admission as a Member State of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). They *stressed* the importance the State of Palestine's accession to numerous international conventions, including the core humanitarian and human rights treaties and the Rome Statute of the ICC, confirming its commitment to uphold the rule of law and enhancing its ability to protect and promote the rights of the Palestinian people. They *expressed support* for efforts to enhance Palestine's status and rights in the international arena, including to join international organizations and the achievement of admission to UN membership, in fulfillment of the application submitted by President Mahmoud Abbas on 23 September 2011, which remains pending before the Security Council.
33. The Ministers *welcomed* the broad recognition of the State of Palestine by many countries, including many Members of the Movement. They *reiterated the hope* that all Movement Members would extend formal recognition to the State of Palestine on the basis of the pre-1967 borders, remaining at the forefront of the international efforts supporting the Palestinian people to realize their inalienable rights.

### Calls for Support to Palestine:

34. The Ministers *urged* continued assistance to support Palestinian economic recovery and development, including for strengthening State institutions and infrastructure, in line with the national priorities and development plans of the Palestinian people and in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. They *called on* Israel to cease all obstructive, oppressive, unlawful practices, including the punitive withholding of tax revenues. They *pledged* their support to efforts to address the Palestinian economic crisis, and *called on* the Movement's Members to do their utmost to provide assistance. They *commended* the many initiatives of humanitarian and developmental support by Members in this regard, and urged their continuing generosity, including in the framework of South-South cooperation.
35. The Ministers *reaffirmed their support* for the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, under the leadership of President Mahmoud Abbas. They *urged* the completion of Palestinian reconciliation and *recognized* the efforts exerted by the Arab Republic of Egypt, the State of Qatar, the League of Arab States and other concerned regional parties to bring the sides together. They *urged* the implementation of agreements reached in this regard, stressing that unity is vital for achieving the inalienable rights and legitimate national aspirations of the Palestinian



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people, and *called on* the international community to respect and support Palestinian reconciliation and to reject and demand a halt to Israeli punitive measures in this regard.

36. The Ministers *reaffirmed the resolve* of the NAM Committee on Palestine, with the support of the Movement as a whole, to continue assisting the Palestinian people in their legitimate struggle for justice, dignity, peace and the exercise of their inalienable rights, including to self-determination and freedom in their independent State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, and a just solution for the Palestine refugee problem based on resolution 194 (III). They *called for* the redoubling of international efforts, at the governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental levels, to realize these noble objectives as rapidly as possible, stressing that a peaceful solution to the question of Palestine is central for establishing peace and stability in the Middle East.
37. The Ministers *agreed*, in view of the deteriorating situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, including East Jerusalem, the increasing threats to the achievement of the two-State solution on the pre-1967 borders, as well as on the basis of the Movement's quest for the establishment of a peaceful and prosperous world, to enhance the status and role of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) as an anti-war and peace-loving force, including through its instrumentalization as a Front for World Peace, and in favor, in particular, of the respect of the right to life and the inalienable right of the peoples to their self-determination and independence.
38. The Ministers *expressed their strong hopes and full support* for the increased mobilization and intensification of efforts in 2017, in line with the Movement's declaration of 2017 as the International Year to End the Israeli Occupation of Palestine. They *welcomed* past and planned events to be held in their capitals in observance of the solemn commemorations in this year being marked by the Palestinian people and as expressions of solidarity and *welcomed* proposals in this regard.
39. The Ministers *expressed their desire* for the organization of a visit by the NAM Committee on Palestine to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, at the earliest possible date to show solidarity with the Palestinian people and to further raise international awareness to the current dire situation and call for the end to Israel's occupation.
40. The Ministers *called for* the exertion of efforts with friendly countries that have yet to establish diplomatic relations with the State of Palestine to encourage them to do so, in line with the Movement's positions and as a contribution to preserving the two-State solution on the pre-1967 borders and salvaging the prospects for peace.
41. The Ministers *pledged* to remain in constant contact and coordination in order to uphold the principles and positions declared herein in support of a just, lasting, comprehensive and



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peaceful solution and its attainment without delay, and in solidarity with the Palestinian people.