

AFRICAN UNION

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ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION

Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session

30 - 31 January 2015

Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA

Assembly/AU/Dec. 546-568(XXIV)

Assembly/AU/Decl.1-7(XXIV)

Assembly/AU/Res.1-2(XXIV)

Assembly/AU/Commitment(XXIV)

**DECISIONS, DECLARATIONS
AND RESOLUTIONS**





DECLARATION ON THE SITUATION IN PALESTINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST
Doc. Assembly/AU/9(XXIV)

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, having met at our Twenty Fourth Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 30 to 31 January 2015;

Taking Note of the Report on the Situation in the Middle East and Palestine; and **Recalling** all resolutions and decisions adopted by the OAU/AU on the Situation in Palestine and the Middle East;

Reiterating our full support to the Palestinian people in their legitimate struggle against Israeli occupation, under the leadership of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people;

Reaffirming our support for the peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict in accordance with the principles of international law and all United Nations relevant resolutions, which guarantees the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on the borders of June 1967, and its capital, East Jerusalem;

Further Reaffirming the right of the Palestinian people to establish their own Palestinian Independent State, and supporting full membership of the State of Palestine at the United Nations and in the international agencies and accession to international conventions and protocols;

Welcoming the Decision of the Swedish National Assembly, Spanish Parliament, the British House of Commons and the French National Assembly to recognize the independent State of Palestine;

Commending the efforts exerted by President Mahmoud Abbas to achieve comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, and supports his efforts in achieving the Palestinian reconciliation;

Condemning all Israeli measures on the city of Jerusalem, through the policy of Judaization, the demolition of houses, the expulsion and destruction of historic monuments of the Islamic and Christian holy sites and the expansion of settlements in the city;

Further Condemning Israel for withholding Palestinian funds, which constitute a cornerstone of the Palestinian economy, and calling on the international community to put pressure on Israel to release withheld Palestinian tax funds;

Hereby:

1. **CALL UPON** the international community to exert pressure on Israel to stop all settlement activities, release Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails and, **DEMAND**

that Israel refrains from arbitrary arrests of Palestinians including children and women, which is a violation of international laws and human rights norms including the Geneva Convention on the Rights of Women and Children;

2. **FURTHER CALL** upon the international community to exert pressure on Israel to lift the blockade on Gaza Strip, open the crossings, and allow the construction of the seaport and the rebuilding of the airport and the entry of building materials to restore what has been destroyed by the recent Israeli war on Gaza Strip;
3. **REQUEST** the United Nations and the Quartet to shoulder their responsibilities and put pressure on Israel to commit to the process of serious peace negotiations;
4. **URGE** the UN Security Council to discharge its responsibilities in maintaining international peace and security, and to take the necessary steps to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict in all its aspects, to achieve a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region based on the principle of two-state solution, according to the 1967 borders, and apply the provisions of relevant international law and previous decisions of the UN Security Council in this regard;
5. **REITERATE** that a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East, demands a full withdrawal of Israel from the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories to the line of June 1967, including the Syrian Golan Heights and territories still occupied in southern Lebanon.

