

EGYPT - PLO CAIRO DECLARATION

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE "CAIRO DECLARATION" ISSUED ON THE SEVENTH OF NOVEMBER 1985:

"THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE WAS AND STILL IS STRUGGLING IN ORDER TO LIBERATE ITS OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, PRACTICE ITS RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND ESTABLISH ITS STATEHOOD AS A SINE QUA NON FOR REALIZING A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE-EAST UNDER WHOSE UMBRELLA, ALL THE PEOPLES OF THE REGION COULD CO-EYIST FREE FROM ACTS OF VIOLENCE AND SUPPRESSION. DESPITE THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY CHANGES THAT TOOK PLACE IN THE AREA MAINLY DURING THE LAST FEW YEARS, STARTING WITH THE ISRAELI AGGRESSION AGAINST THE PLO IN LEBANON IN 1982, AND THE ISRAELI RAID ON THE PLO HEADQUARTERS IN TUNIS IN 1985, THE STRUGGLING PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IS STILL COMMITTED TO PEACE AND IS SEEKING TO IMPROVE THE ATMOSPHERE WITHIN THE REGION AND ON THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA FOR THE JUST AND PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. THE PLO -ON CRITICAL STAGES- WENT FAR ON THAT WAY:

1- THE ARAB FEZ SUMMIT; HELD IN 1982 WHERE ALL ARAB PARTIES INCLUDING THE PLO DECLARED THEY WERE FOR A PEACE GUARANTEED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF THE INTERNATIONAL LEGITIMACY WHICH HAD BEEN RECONFIRMED IN CASABLANCA SUMMIT IN 1985.

2- GENEVA DECLARATION CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR PALESTINE IN 1983 WHICH CONFIRMED THE RIGHT FOR ALL COUNTRIES OF THE REGION TO EXIST WITHIN SECURE AND INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED BORDERS INCLUDING THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND ESTABLISHING ITS PALESTINIAN STATE.

3- THE JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN AGREEMENT SIGNED ON 11TH OF FEBRUARY 1985 WHICH REFLECTED THE SPECIAL AND DISTINCTIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE JORDANIAN AND PALESTINIAN PEOPLES AND CONSTITUTIONALIZED THEIR COMMITMENT TO MARCH TOGETHER UNDER A COMMON CONCEPTION OF BOTH THE TARGET AND THE MEANS.

4- THE INSISTENCE UPON THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FORMULA FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE-EAST WHICH WOULD BE ATTENDED BY THE SOVIET UNION, THE UNITED STATES, THE PERMANENT MEMBERS STATES OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND BY OTHER CONCERNED PARTIES IN THE AREA INCLUDING THE PLO.

IN THE CONTEXT OF SEEKING TO ACHIEVE A JUST AND PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT THE STRUGGLE OF THE PLO BY ALL LEGAL MEANS TO RESTORE THE NATIONAL AND INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND THEIR FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOM- THE PLO CONDEMNS ALL SORTS OF VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS SPECIFICALLY THE RIGHT TO LIFE AND SECURITY WITHOUT ANY DISCRIMINATION DUE TO RELIGION OR RACE OR COLOUR.

IN ORDER TO GIVE A MOMENTUM TO THE EFFORTS EXERTED TO HOLD THE INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE THE PLO RENOUNCES AND CONDEMNS ALL TERRORIST OPERATIONS EITHER COMMITTED BY STATES OR BY INDIVIDUALS OR BY GROUPS AGAINST INNOCENTS AND UNARMED PEOPLES EVERYWHERE; AND REAFFIRMS ITS RESOLUTION ISSUED IN 1974 CONDEMNING ALL EXTERNAL OPERATIONS AS WELL AS ALL SORTS OF TERRORISM. THE PLO REAFFIRMS ANEW ITS FACTIONS AND INSTITUTIONS' COMMITMENT TO THAT RESOLUTION. THE PLO, STARTING FROM TODAY WOULD ASSUME ALL THE DETERRING MEASURES AGAINST THE DISSIDENTS. AS LONG AS THE COMMITMENT WOULD NOT BE UNDERTAKEN FROM ONE SIDE, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST OBLIGE ISRAEL TO STOP ALL TERRORIST ACTIONS INTERNALLY AS WELL AS EXTERNALLY. THE PLO REAFFIRMS IN THIS CONTEXT THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO RESIST THE ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF ITS TERRITORIES BY ALL AVAILABLE MEANS IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE WITHDRAWAL FROM THESE TERRITORIES BECAUSE THE RIGHT OF RESISTANCE AGAINST THE FOREIGN OCCUPATION IS INALIENABLE AND LEGITIMIZED BY THE U.N. CHARTER WHICH RENOUNCES THE USE OF AND THE THREAT OF FORCE TO SETTLE DISPUTES. THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO RESIST THE FOREIGN OCCUPATION OF PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES IS AFFIRMED BY THE VARIOUS RESOLUTIONS ISSUED BY THE U.N. AND THE GENEVA AGREEMENTS.

RECENT EVENTS AFFIRM THE PLO'S CONVICTION THAT THE TERRORIST OPERATIONS COMMITTED ABROAD ARE HARMFUL TO THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE'S CAUSE AND DISTORT ITS LEGITIMATE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM. ON THE OTHER HAND EVENTS FORTIFY ITS BELIEF THAT BRINGING TO AN END THE OCCUPATION AS WELL AS ISRAELI PRACTICES IS THE ONLY WAY TO ACHIEVE SECURITY AND PEACE IN THE REGION. THE PLO APPEALS TO ALL THE LOVING-PEACE FORCES ALL OVER THE WORLD TO STAND BY THE PLO WHILE IT IS TAKING THIS STEP AS A CONTRIBUTION TO RIDDING OF THE WORLD FROM THE SPREADING OF TERRORIST PHENOMENON AND LIBERATING INDIVIDUALS FROM FEAR AND DANGER.

THE PLO'S FINAL OBJECTIVE IS TO RESTORE A JUST, COMPREHENSIVE AND LASTING PEACE IN A WAY THAT GUARANTEES THE NATIONAL AND INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A SECURE AND A SAFE SOCIETY FOR ALL.

* [This is a text of a press release made available by Mr Saad Z. Nassar, Press & Information Counsellor for the Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Canberra].