



UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY



Distr.  
GENERAL

A/33/406  
29 November 1978  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

Thirty-third session  
Agenda items 30 and 31

SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

QUESTION OF PALESTINE

Letter dated 29 November 1978 from the Permanent Representative  
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations  
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to send you the text of a message from the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, L. I. Brezhnev, addressed to the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Yasir Arafat, on the occasion of the observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people.

I would request that you circulate this message as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda items 30 and 31.

(Signed) O. TROYANOVSKY

ANNEX

Message dated 29 November 1978 from the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, L. I. Brezhnev, addressed to the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Yasir Arafat, on the occasion of the observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people

In connexion with the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, I send heartfelt comradely congratulations to you and your comrades and to the entire Palestinian Arab people.

The celebration of this day throughout the world is a patent manifestation of solidarity with the just struggle that is being waged by the Arab people of Palestine for the realization of their inalienable national rights, including their indisputable right to establish their own State. Thanks to its steadfastness, courage and firmness of principle in this difficult struggle, the Palestine Liberation Organization has won all-Arab and international recognition as the sole lawful representative of the Palestinian people, and become one of the advance guards of the Arab national liberation movement.

The just cause of the Palestinians enjoys the unswerving support of the countries of the socialist community and of the progressive and democratic forces of the whole world. The Soviet Union will continue in future firmly to support the Palestinian people in their struggle for the realization of their legitimate national rights. We shall not swerve from our policy of principle, aimed at the achievement of a comprehensive settlement and the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

I wish the friendly Palestinian people and their political vanguard - the Palestine Liberation Organization - success in the struggle for the achievement of national independence and statehood.

L. I. BREZHNEV

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