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LETTER DATED 16 MAY 1980 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF EGYPT TO
THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the statement issued by the
Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Egypt on 15 May 1980. I kindly request that this
letter and the statement be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. A. Esmat ABDEL MEGUID
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement dated 15 May 1980 by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Egypt

"Today President Mohammed Anwar El Sadat held a meeting attended by Vice President Mohammed Hosny Mubarak, Dr. Moustapha Khalil, Vice Chairman of the National Democratic Party, General Kamal Hassan Ali, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Dr. Boutros Boutros Ghali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. The meeting reviewed the present stage of the negotiations for the full autonomy for the Palestinian people in the light of the results of the last round of meetings and the telephone conversation yesterday between President Sadat and President Carter, President of the United States.

In his speech to the People's Assembly on 14 May 1980, President Sadat expressed Egypt's readiness to resume the negotiations. This emanates from Egypt's concern that the peace effort be successful with a view to reaching an agreement on the establishment of full autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza as a first step towards a comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian people. However, Israel's Chief delegate in the negotiations stated that the Israeli Government is preparing a basic state law regarding Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. This draft basic state law was referred to the relevant Committee in the Knesset. Such action creates a serious and grave situation which contravenes the principles of International Law and legitimacy, the framework of Camp David and the spirit of peace. Furthermore, Israel has recently embarked on certain actions designed to create a fait accompli situation contrary to the principles of negotiating in good faith.

By these actions and statements, Israel attempts to exclude specific issues from the framework of negotiations, a matter which adversely affects the conduct of negotiations and the current strenuous efforts to establish peace.

Moreover, Israel has drastically escalated the application of repressive measures in the occupied territories. Such actions clearly contradict the confidence building measures envisaged as an integral part of the peace process in order to alleviate the suffering inflicted upon the Palestinian people subjected to occupation.

As a result of the aforementioned Israeli action, it became difficult to create the appropriate atmosphere for the resumption of the talks. Under such conditions it is imperative that Israel reconsider its position."
