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QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE
OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES, INCLUDING PALESTINE

Note verbale dated 7 March 1988 from the Permanent Mission of Algeria to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Centre for Human Rights, transmitting the declaration of the Council of Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs of the Arab Gulf States concerning the situation in the occupied Arab territories

The Permanent Mission of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria to the United Nations Office and the international organizations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the Centre for Human Rights at Geneva and has the honour to transmit to it the declaration of the Council of Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs of the Arab Gulf States concerning the situation in the occupied Arab territories, with the request that it should be circulated as an official document of the forty-fourth session of the Commission on Human Rights.

Annex

Declaration

concerning the popular uprising in the occupied Arab territories

The Council of Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs of the Arab Gulf States, at its ninth session, held in Kuwait from 22 to 23 Jumada al-Ula 1408 A.H., corresponding to 11 to 12 January 1988,

Expressing its pride in the uprising of the Palestinian people, which constitutes a general revolt in the occupied Arab territories and in which young persons, children, women and the aged have participated in a heroic and epic struggle that has alarmed the Israeli enemy and induced it to open the detention camps of 1948 and to declare the entire West Bank and Gaza Strip closed military areas,

Deploing the repressive and barbarous acts which the military authorities have been committing for more than a month against the defenceless Palestinian people, as illustrated by the murders, displacements, expulsions and detentions that have stirred the conscience of the world and caused international indignation,

Condemning the inhuman methods of repression employed by the Israeli authorities, which have caused miscarriages among women, destroyed crops, demolished property and ruined the human environment and social life in general as a result of the use of internationally prohibited gases,

Reminding the Security Council, the Commission on Human Rights and the International Labour Organisation of the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, particularly article 49 prohibiting the expulsion of citizens from their lands, and the principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation,

1. Calls upon the Security Council, the Commission on Human Rights and the International Labour Organisation to fulfil their duties as specified in their Charters and Constitutions, as part of their international responsibility to protect defenceless persons in the occupied Arab territories and elsewhere in the world, thereby enhancing their credibility in dealing with events in accordance with their proclaimed principles;

2. Calls upon Arab States and organizations to take a resolute and unified stand in support of this uprising, as a historic responsibility to be assumed by every Arab;

3. Calls upon the League of Arab States and the International Labour Organisation to appeal to international groupings, such as the Non-Aligned Movement, the European Economic Community, the Organization of African Unity, the Group of 77 and international labour federations, to take procedural measures commensurate with the acts of repression in the occupied territories, including the suspension of assistance and the cessation of existing co-operation with the Israeli authorities.