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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL Forty-third year

Letter dated 17 November 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued on 16 November 1988 by the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia concerning recognition by the Government of Indonesia of the independent Palestinian State (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this text circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 37 and 40, and of the Security Council.

(<u>Signed</u>) Nana S. SUTRESNA Ampassador Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Statement issued on 16 November 1988 by the Department of Foreign Affairs concerning recognition by the Government of Indonesia of the independent Palestinian State

The Government and people of the Republic of Indonesia welcome and support the decision of the Palestine National Council, taken on 15 November 1988, which has proclaimed the establishment of an independent Palestinian State.

The decision of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia recognizing the independent Palestinian State is fully in line with Indonesia's consistent support for the struggle of the Palestinian people to achieve their inalienable right to self-determination and to sovereign and independent statehood in Palestine.

This support of the Indonesian Government is in accordance with the noble ideals enshrined in the Preamble of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, which states that independence is the right of every nation and therefore colonialism must be abolished in the world.

The Government and people of the Republic of Indonesia are convinced that this development will make a concrete contribution to the achievement of peace in the region of West Asia — in the world as a whole.
