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QUESTION OF PALESTINE

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-ninth year

Letter dated 24 May 1984 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to your letter dated 9 March 1984 concerning the call for convening an international peace conference on the Middle East.

You will find below the text of the reply of the Government of Lebanon to the contents of your above-mentioned letter.

I would be grateful if you would arrange for this letter and its annex to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 33 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Rachid FAKHOURY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/39/50.

ANNEX

Text of the reply of the Lebanese Government to the Secretary-General's
letter dated 9 March 1984 concerning the call for convening an
international peace conference on the Middle East

I. Lebanon, in its firm belief in the Charter of the United Nations, always calls for the solution of international problems by peaceful means and for respect for the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council. Proceeding from this general principle, Lebanon has voted in favour of all the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly concerning the question of the Middle East, including resolution 38/58 C endorsing the call for convening an international peace conference on the Middle East with the objective of finding a just and lasting solution to this problem.

II. Among the firm principles in which Lebanon believes is the principle of respect for the right of peoples to self-determination. Accordingly, Lebanon favours enabling the Palestinian people to exercise its right to self-determination, without which step there will be no peace in the Middle East region.

III. The Lebanese Government, wishing to assist in ensuring the climate necessary for the successful convening of this conference, in order that its proposed objective may be attained, has agreed to participate in it, within the limits of the following concepts:

1. Lebanon is host to a large number of Palestinian refugees, who await a just solution to their problem in accordance with United Nations resolutions. Consequently, it is concerned with any effort made to attain this goal.
2. Lebanon's agreement to participate in this conference stems from the fact that it is a country concerned with the resolution of the conflict in our region, because it has many times been exposed to problems, acts of aggression and occupation without having been responsible for any act that might give rise to phenomena such as those to which it has been exposed. It therefore grasps any opportunity which might bring about a just and comprehensive solution in the region.
3. Lebanon considers that the General Armistice Agreement concluded in 1949 is the legal text governing Lebanese-Israeli relations, as is stressed in Security Council resolutions 270 (1969), 332 (1973), 337 (1973), 450 (1979), 459 (1979), 467 (1980), 474 (1980), 483 (1980), 498 (1981), and 501 (1982).
