Arab Moves to Counteract U.S. Administration Decision on Jerusalem

The Council of the League of Arab States at its Ministerial Session, chaired by the Republic of Djibouti, convened at the Secretariat General headquarters in Cairo on Thursday, 1st February 2018, in resumption of the Extraordinary Session held on 9th December 2017 concerning the U.S. decision to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israeli Occupation State and to move its Embassy to Jerusalem and in implementation of Resolution 8221 issued by that Session,

- Having reviewed the note of the Secretariat General,
- *Emphasizing* all its previous resolutions at all levels concerning the occupied City of East Jerusalem; capital of the State of Palestine, inter alia, counteracting the recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of the occupying Power and the transfer of diplomatic missions thereto,
- *Stressing* its determination to continue its moves to counteract the aforementioned U.S. decision and the similar stands that violate the rules of international law,
- Affirming its resolve to support the State of Palestine in challenging Israeli schemes and practices that target the seizure of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, its continued Judaization and stealing its Arab and Islamic identity,
- Having been briefed by HE Mr. Ayman Al Safadi, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Chair of the 28th Session of the Arab Summit and the Arab Peace Initiative Committee on the outcomes of the Ministerial delegation meeting pursuant to previous resolution of the Arab League Council, convened in Amman on 6th January 2018, as well as the efforts and consultations carried out by the Ministerial delegation,
- Having also been briefed by HE Dr. Riad Malki, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the State of Palestine on the most recent political and field developments, followed by the U.S. Administration's decision on Jerusalem,
- having been briefed furthermore by HE the Secretary-General and HE Heads of Delegation of Member States,
- 1- Welcomes the General Assembly Resolution A/RES/ES-10/19 issued on 21st December 2017 by its Tenth Emergency Special Session on basis of "Uniting for Peace", which affirmed that any decisions and actions which purport to have altered the character, status or demographic composition of the Holy City of Jerusalem have no legal effect, are null and void and must be rescinded in compliance with relevant resolutions of the Security Council, and in this regard calls upon all States to refrain from the establishment of diplomatic missions in the Holy City of Jerusalem, pursuant to Council resolution 478 (1980), and called on all States to refrain from the establishment of diplomatic missions in the Holy City of Jerusalem, pursuant to Security Council Resolution 478 of 1980, which also emphasized that the question of Jerusalem a final status issue to be resolved through negotiations in line with relevant Security Council resolutions;
- 2- Reiterates its rejection of any resolutions recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel (the occupying Power), and moving diplomatic missions thereto, which represent a breach to the rules of international law and international legitimacy resolutions, while undertaking all necessary measures to counteract and prevent any similar decisions; in

- implementation of the resolutions adopted by successive Arab summits and Ministerial Councils;
- 3- Endorses and supports the decisions of HE President Mahmoud Abbas of the State of Palestine and the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization to counteract the U.S. Administration's recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of the occupying Power; and to cooperate with the State of Palestine to achieve the objective of these decisions at all levels;
- 4- Reaffirms adherence to peace as a strategic option, and to the resolve of the Arab-Israeli conflict pursuant to the Arab Peace Initiative of 2002 with all its elements, which stipulated that peace with Israel and normalization of relations have to be preceded by an end to its occupation of the Palestinian and Arab territories occupied since 1967, recognition of the State of Palestine and the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, inter alia, the right to self-determination and the right of return and compensation for the Palestinian refugees and a just solution to their question according to the Arab Peace Initiative of 2002 and General Assembly Resolution 194 (1948); as well as rejection of any deals or initiatives to resolve the conflict contrary to the international terms of reference of the Middle East Peace Process.
- 5- *Emphasizes* the right of the Palestinian people to exercise all forms of anti-occupation struggle in accordance with the provisions of international law, including the people's peaceful resistance and mobilization of the necessary supportive Arab endeavours;
- 6- Seeks action with international actors to establish an international multilateral mechanism, under the umbrella of the United Nations to sponsor the peace process, including the call for the convening of an international conference to re-launch a credible time-bound peace process, on the basis of international legitimacy resolutions, the principle of land for peace and the two-State solution on the borders of 4th June 1967;
- 7- Endorses and supports the State of Palestine's approach to obtain a full United Nations membership, to seek mobilization of international support to this end; and requests the Arab Group in New York to undertake the necessary procedures in this regard;
- 8- Seeks direct action with the States that have not recognized the State of Palestine, through bilateral and multilateral visits and consultations, to urge them to recognize the State of Palestine with East Jerusalem as its capital, which is an integral part of the Palestinian territories, all of which represent a base and leverage needed for the peace process, and to clarify the strategic importance of such recognition in enhancing peace and security opportunities in the Middle East and the world;
- 9- Endorses and supports the right of the State of Palestine to join international organizations and instruments, in order to strengthen its legal and international status and reinforce its independence and sovereignty over its occupied territory;
- 10- Supports the Palestinian efforts and endeavours that aim at holding Israel (the occupying Power) accountable for the crimes committed against the Palestinian people, including its discriminative procedures and legislations enacted to legalize and perpetuate its colonial regime and provides the necessary technical and financial support for these endeavours;
- 11- Underlines that the boycott of the Israeli occupation and its colonial regime is one of the most viable and legitimate means of resistance, termination and enforcement of the two-State solution and the Peace Process; calls upon all States, institutions, enterprises and individuals to boycott and to stop all forms of transactions with the Israeli colonial occupation regime and its illegal settlements on the occupied Palestinian territories, inter alia, banning import of or investment in their products, either directly or indirectly due to their violation of international law, and to continue cooperating with international bodies to establish the database of enterprises dealing with Israeli settlements, pursuant to relevant Human Rights Council resolutions;
- 12- Commends Al-Azhar International Conference in Support of Jerusalem held in Cairo on 17th-18th January 2018, seeking to implement its recommendations to protect Al-Quds Al-Sharif and preserve the existing legal and historical status of the City and its Holy

- places; *supports* the *sumud* (resilience) of its people in all its forms; and *endorses* its proposal to designate 2018 as a Year for Al-Quds Al-Sharif;
- 13- Values the efforts exerted by the Arab Parliament and its effective actions to protect Al-Quds and to support the Palestinian question; calls upon all Arab Parliaments to act and cooperate effectively with their world counterparts to challenge the consequences and implications of the recent U.S. decision on Jerusalem and the Israeli schemes aiming at threatening the status and identity of Al-Quds Al-Sharif;
- 14- Calls on the Palestinian factions and forces to accelerate conclusion of the national reconciliation in accordance with the Cairo Agreement signed in May 2011 and its implementation mechanisms and instruments, most recent of which the 2017 Cairo Agreement, to enable the National Unity Government to carry out its full responsibilities in Gaza Strip, to conduct general elections shortly in order to achieve political partnership, under the umbrella of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people; Commends the diligent efforts exerted by the Arab Republic of Egypt to achieve the Palestinian national reconciliation and unity, urging it to continue its positive endeavours in this regard;
- 15- Rejects and condemns attempts to end or diminish the role and mandate of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) through the systematic Israeli campaigns against the Agency; warns of the danger of taking any decision by any State that decreases or reduces the Agency's financial support; Calls on the international community to adhere to the UNRWA mandate and to securing of the necessary sustained financial resources and contributions for its budget and activities, so as to enable it to carry out its role in providing basic services to the Nakba victims; a right whose responsibility to fulfil is borne by the international community as foreseen by the Arab Peace initiative of 2002 and the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 194 of 1948 with an aim to enhancing security and stability in the region;
- 16- Requests the Ministerial Delegation, formed according to Resolution 8221 of the Ministerial Arab League Council to continue exerting further efforts and consultations and report thereon to the next session of the League's Council;
- 17- Thanks the States and organizations that adopted rejecting stands to the U.S. decision on Jerusalem, for their supportive stands towards achievement of just and comprehensive peace that meets the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, in line with international law and international legitimacy resolutions;
- 18- Takes note of the Media Action Plan proposed by the Secretariat General pursuant to Item (8) of Resolution 8221, to be referred to the Council of the League at Permanent Delegates level for consideration and to be then submitted to the 149th Ordinary Session Ministerial Council of the League to be held on 6th -7th March 2018;
- 19- Requests the Secretariat General, the Councils of Arab Ambassadors and the Arab Groups in international organizations to follow up on the implementation of this resolution provisions with all the relevant parties; and to report thereon to the Council prior to its next meeting;
- 20- *Decides* to remain in permanent session to proceed in light of the developments of the Question of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, its safeguard and protection.

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