



Secretariat General
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Council Affairs

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**Communiqué by the
Extraordinary Session of the Council of the League of Arab States
at the Level of Permanent Representatives
on
Israeli Campaign of Attacks and Incitement against UNRWA**

The Council of the League of Arab States at the level of Permanent Representatives, chaired by the Kingdom of Morocco, was briefed on Sunday, January 28, 2024 on the Israeli campaign of attacks and incitement against the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA),

The Council of the League of Arab States, *emphasizing* the mandate given to UNRWA in accordance with its founding resolution, United Nations General Assembly Resolution 302 of 1949; *and affirming* the need for UNRWA to continue assuming its responsibilities in providing services to Palestinian refugees inside and outside the camps in all its five areas of operations, until the question of Palestinian refugees is justly resolved according to the UN General Assembly Resolution 194 of 1948;

THE COUNCIL,

- 1- *Condemns* the Israeli aggression against UNRWA schools, institutions, premises and staffers in the Gaza Strip, which resulted in the killing of 152 martyrs of UNRWA staffers and hundreds of wounded, as well as the destruction of many UNRWA premises and facilities, including those that shelter thousands of Palestinian civilians who were forcibly displaced from their homes and their residential neighborhoods by the Israeli occupation army;

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- 2- *Rejects and condemns* the systematic Israeli campaigns against UNRWA, including blatant incitement against the Agency, and accusing its staffers of terrorism without investigation or scrutiny, in continuation of the series of Israeli attacks on UNRWA with the aim to undermining and ending its mandate;
- 3- *Emphasizes that* funding UNRWA is a shared responsibility of the international community; *and rejects and warns against* reducing or suspending UNRWA's funding, which exposes generations of Palestinian refugees to the loss of health and educational services, and constitutes an unacceptable attempt to eradicate the question of Palestinian refugees, noting that depriving Palestinians of educational opportunities as a result of suspending the Agency's funding, which shall deny them any chance to hope for a better future, would undermine the prospects of peace, and exacerbate the instability of the region;
- 4- *Calls on* States that have recently suspended their funding to the Agency, to reconsider and rescind their positions, and to avoid holding UNRWA responsible for the consequences of the unjust Israeli allegations against some of its staffers;
- 5- *Holds* the Israeli occupation government accountable for the legal, criminal and financial responsibilities for targeting UNRWA premises, facilities, and staffers;
- 6- *Calls on* States and donors to fulfill their financial obligations to support UNRWA's budget;
- 7- *Urges* States that announced pausing their contributions to UNRWA's budget to reconsider their decisions; *and notes that* the Agency has opened an investigation into the allegations made by Israel, the occupying Power, against a small number of its staffers, and has declared its employees' adherence to the principles of international law and the UN charter;
- 8- *Emphasizes that* stopping UNRWA operations in the Gaza Strip will deprive more than 2 million Palestinians of its vital services necessary for the continuation of life and represents a collective punishment against the Agency staffers and the refugee community benefiting from its services at a critical time given the humanitarian catastrophe in the Gaza Strip caused by the Israeli

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aggression; *warns* of the consequences of suspending UNRWA's funding on its ability to fulfill its basic obligations towards millions of refugees in its five areas of operations in accordance with its noble UN mandate;

- 9- *Emphasizes* its strong and continuous support for UNRWA, which plays a vital role in fulfilling the humanitarian, educational and health needs of the Palestinian people, as a major partner in joint efforts to promote justice and achieve stability in the region; *stresses* enhancing this support by Member States and international donors to enable UNRWA to continue its vital mission in improving living conditions of Palestinian refugees; *urges* States and international organizations to strengthen their partnership with UNRWA and to provide political and financial support to help it carrying out its important programs, which reflects the commitment to achieve justice and equity and provide protection and care for the Palestinian people, which is crucial for a just and sustainable peace in the region; and *demands* a rapid and transparent international investigation into Israeli crimes against UNRWA staffers, including the killing of 152 of its international staffers in the last period;
- 10- *Supports* the statement issued by UNRWA on January 27, 2024, particularly urging States that have suspended their funding to the agency to reconsider their decisions before UNRWA is forced to suspend or reduce its humanitarian response, especially since the lives of people in the Gaza Strip depend on this support and so does regional stability;
- 11- *Requests* the Councils of Arab Ambassadors and the missions of the League of Arab States in States and regional and international organizations to take urgent action with visits and contacts to circulate and implement this Resolution.

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