RESOLUTION ON THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Forty-eighth Ordinary Session, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 19 to 23 May 1988,

<u>Having considered</u> the report of the Secretary-General on the Question of Palestine and contained in Document CM/1497 (XLVIII),

Recalling the Resolutions adopted by the previous sessions of the Council of Ministers and Assembly of Heads of State and Government on the Question of Palestine and the problems of the Middle East,

<u>Guided</u> by the principles and objectives of the Charter of the OAU and the Charter of the UN and the joint struggle against Zionism and Racism in order to attain freedom, independence and peace,

<u>Further recalling</u> all relevant resolutions of the United Nations and Non-Aligned Movement on the Question of Palestine and the problem of the Middle East,

Noting the report of the United Nations Committee on the Exercise by the Palestinian people of their inalienable rights,

<u>Noting</u> also the reports of the UN Secretary-General on the Question of Palestine and his continuous efforts to realize a comprehensive just and lasting peace in the Middle East,

<u>Reaffirming</u> the legitimacy of the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, its sole legitimate representative in order to retrieve their land and exercise their full national rights,

<u>Following</u> attentively and with deep concern the popular uprising of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories to put an end to the Israeli occupation and to regain their national and inalienable rights, their right to

repatriation, and the establishment of their independent Palestinian State with Jerusalem as its Capital,

<u>Noting with deep concern</u> the Israeli organized State terrorism against the Palestinian people and their leadership inside and outside the occupied territories,

<u>Noting further</u> the alliance the Zionist regime of Israel and the <u>APARTHEID</u> regime in South Africa aimed at maintaining a terrorist policy and liquidating the Palestinians and the Arabs in the Arab and Palestinian occupied lands on one hand, and the peoples of South Africa and Namibia on the other:

 REAFFIRMS all the previous resolutions and recommendations adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and the Council of Ministers on the Question of Palestine;

2. FURTHER REITERATES:

- a) the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to return to their homeland and properties in Palestine from which they were displaced;
- b) the right of the Palestinian people to self determination without any outside interference and the establishment of their independent Sovereign Palestinian State on their homeland with Jerusalem as its Capital;
- c) its call for the immediate unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all Palestinian occupied territories including Jerusalem, and calls on the UN and more especially the Security Council, to take all the necessary measures to put an end to Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories and extend the International Protection through UN machinery, to the Palestinians in the occupied territories as well as supervise operations during the transitional period until the Palestinian people can fully exercise their inalienable national rights;

- 3. EXPRESSES its unconditional support for the legitimate heroic popular uprising of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories and salutes all countries, organizations and individuals that condemned the facist Zionist aggression against the Palestinian people and supported the heroic uprising; also salutes the international mass media which played an important role in unveiling Israel's Zionist practices in the Palestinian occupied territories;
- 4. STRONGLY CONDEMNS Israel the occupying power for its oppressive racist policy of aggression against the Palestinians in the occupied territories, as the continued occupation, confiscation of land and water resources, deportation and illegal detentions constitute a flagrant violation of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 on the Protection of Civilians in times of war;
- 5. INVITES Member States to supply all forms of assistance, as a matter of urgency to the Palestine Liberation Organization to enable it to support the uprising of the Palestinian people struggling in their occupied territories;
- 6. STRONGLY CONDEMNS the Criminal Act by the Zionist State of Israel in assassinating the Palestinian freedom fighter Khali Al Wazir (Abu Jihad) in Tunisia, and considers this assassination as an act of State terrorism committed against a sovereign State, member of the OAU and an act of aggression and provocation threatening Peace and security;
- 7. *SUPPORTS the efforts for convening an International Conference for Peace in the Middle East in accordance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly in particular No. 38/58/C of 13/12/83 and 41/430 of 13/12/86 with the Participation of the Permanent Members of the UN Security Council and the parties concerned including the PLO the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, as an independent party, and on equal footing with the other parties;

- 8. WELCOMES the convening of the coming Extraordinary Arab Summit meeting in Algeria and considers it a sound support to the Palestinian people and their uprising in the occupied territories and an opportunity to enhance the common Arab efforts towards the achievement of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East;
- CALLS for the implementation of the Council's reso lutions No, 605, 607,
 608 on the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories;
- 10. DEEPLY REGRET the continuation of US Policies of:
 - (a) support to Israel in all fields, which enable the Zionist entity in the continuation of its occupation of the Palestinian territories;
 - (b) its decision to close down the PLO Mission in New York which is considered a clear violation of the Treaty of the Premises signed in 1947 between the UN and the host country.
- 11. CALLS ON the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to follow up on the developments of the Palestinian Question and submit a report on them to the forthcoming Session of the OAU council of Ministers.

* Reservation by: Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya