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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE EXERCISE  
OF THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS  
OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1987

I. MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE EXERCISE OF THE  
INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

1. The Committee's mandate for 1987 is contained in General Assembly resolutions 41/43 A and B, the relevant parts of which are paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of resolution 41/43 A and paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 41/43 B.
2. In paragraph 3 of resolution 41/43 A the Committee is requested to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine as well as the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Achievement of Palestinian Rights adopted by the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly or the Security Council, as appropriate.
3. In paragraph 4 of resolution 41/43 A the Committee is authorized to continue to exert all efforts to promote the implementation of its recommendations, including representation at conferences and meetings and the sending of delegations where such activities would be considered by it to be appropriate, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-second session and thereafter.
4. In paragraph 5 of resolution 41/43 A the Committee is requested to continue to extend its co-operation to non-governmental organizations in their contribution towards heightening international awareness of the facts relating to the question of Palestine and in creating a more favourable atmosphere for the full implementation of the Committee's recommendations, and to take the necessary steps to expand its contacts with those organizations.
5. With regard to paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 41/43 B, which deals with the work programme of the Division for Palestinian Rights, the Committee is expected to

provide the Division with the necessary guidance in discharging the tasks referred to therein.

## II. ACTION CONSIDERED BY THE COMMITTEE

6. As in 1986, the Committee decided that during the year 1987 it would maintain its past activities and increase its contacts and co-operation with Governments and with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in intensified efforts towards greater and more positive international awareness of the facts relating to the question of Palestine. Furthermore, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 41/43 D, the Committee decided that, in its activities during 1987, it would continue as a matter of priority to exert all efforts to promote the early convening of the proposed International Peace Conference on the Middle East, while urging the understanding and further co-operation of all concerned for the resolution of a problem of such fundamental importance to the maintenance of international peace and security.

7. As in the past, the Working Group was re-established to assist in the preparation and expedition of the work of the Committee. Its membership is as follows: Afghanistan, Cuba, the German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Guyana, India, Malta, Pakistan, Senegal, Tunisia, Turkey, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). Meetings of the Working Group would be open to all members and observers of the Committee. It was agreed that H.E. Mr. George Agius (Malta) would continue as Chairman and that Mr. Pramathesh Rath (India) would serve as Vice-Chairman of the Working Group.

8. In accordance with paragraph 3 of resolution 41/43 A, the Committee will continue to monitor events directly relating to the question of Palestine and to the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and, through its Chairman, to convey its considered views on such developments to the General Assembly or the Security Council, as appropriate. As in the past, the Bureau may, whenever urgent action is required, through its Chairman, draw the attention of the Secretary-General and the President of the Assembly or of the Security Council to developments affecting the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

9. In response to paragraph 4 of resolution 41/43 A and in accordance with past practice, the Committee decided to request the Secretary-General to address a letter to all Member States emphasizing the need for positive action with regard to the holding of the proposed International Peace Conference on the Middle East and reiterating the receptiveness of the Committee to participation and suggestions by all Member States in carrying out its work.

10. Also with reference to paragraph 4 of resolution 41/43 A, it may be recalled that the Committee, in its programme of work for 1986, had stated its intention to complete the process of sending delegations to the capitals of the members of the Security Council during the 1986-1987 biennium. In light of the fact that the Assembly in resolution 41/43 D had endorsed the call for setting up a Preparatory Committee within the framework of the Security Council to take the necessary action to convene the Conference, and keeping in mind the message from Chairman Arafat to

the 137th meeting of the Committee (A/AC.183/SR.137), the Committee decided that in 1987 it would give priority to visits at the highest possible level to the capitals of the permanent members of the Security Council in order to further this objective.

11. In response to paragraph 5 of resolution 41/43 A, the Committee decided that in considering its work with NGOs in 1987, it would keep in mind the proposal made by the NGOs that 1987 be observed as the year of the Palestinian people because it marks several significant anniversaries in its history.

12. In accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 41/43 B dealing with the programme of work of the Division for Palestinian Rights, the Committee considered: (a) seminars to be held in 1987; (b) NGO preparatory meetings, symposia and the international meeting to be held in 1987; (c) arrangements for the observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People in 1987; and (d) studies and publications to be prepared by the Division for Palestinian Rights.

13. In this connection, the Committee was mindful of the report of the Secretary-General on the current financial crisis of the United Nations (A/41/901 and Add.1) and the report of the Fifth Committee on the same issue, adopted by the General Assembly on 11 December 1986 (A/41/953).

#### A. Seminars

14. In the normal rotation, regional seminars are due to be held in 1987 in Asia, Latin America and North America.

15. With regard to the seminar in North America, the Committee at its 134th meeting on 20 November 1986, in adopting a preliminary calendar for 1987, decided to combine this seminar with the North American NGO symposium, as done in the past, and to hold this combined meeting in New York from 22 to 26 June 1987. In accordance with past practice, the seminar would be of two days duration and be followed by a three-day symposium.

16. In relation to the seminars to be held in Asia and Latin America, the Committee decided that they would be held as far as possible in conjunction with the NGO symposia planned for the same regions, keeping in mind the need for continuing financial stringency. The Committee tentatively decided that the Asian seminar should take place in Bangkok from 1 to 5 June. The Committee also stressed the importance of organizing a seminar in Latin America in 1987, for which a suitable venue should be found as soon as possible, in co-operation with the delegations concerned and the Secretariat.

17. As in 1986, the Committee decided that the regional seminars would address the following topics:

(a) The International Peace Conference on the Middle East, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/58 C, the need for such a conference and efforts and prospects to promote a successful outcome and benefits thereof;

- (b) The rôle of the Palestine Liberation Organization;
- (c) The question of Palestine and public opinion [in the region concerned];
- (d) The United Nations and the question of Palestine.

It was also decided that other topics of particular relevance to the region concerned might be added.

**B. Non-governmental organizations' preparatory meetings, symposia and international meeting**

18. In the normal rotation, NGO regional symposia are due to be held in Africa, North America and Asia in 1987. In addition, because of the financial stringency, the Committee deferred to 1987 the symposium that was to be held in Latin America in 1986. Provision has also been made for two preparatory planning meetings (for the International Co-ordinating Committee for NGOs and the North American Co-ordinating Committee, respectively) and an international meeting of NGOs.

19. As mentioned earlier, the Committee decided to hold the North American symposium in New York, in conjunction with the North American seminar, from 24 to 26 June.

20. The Committee also decided on dates and venues for the following meetings:

- (a) North American Co-ordinating Committee of NGOs Preparatory Meeting, New York, 17 to 18 February 1987;
- (b) International Co-ordinating Committee of NGOs Preparatory Meeting, Geneva, 16 to 17 March 1987;
- (c) International NGO Meeting, Geneva, 7 to 9 September 1987.

21. Dates and venues for the other regional symposia scheduled for 1987 will be decided at a later date in the light of decisions yet to be taken with regard to the Seminars, and keeping in mind the need to maximize NGO participation.

**C. Studies by the Division for Palestinian Rights**

22. In 1986, the Division prepared a study on Approaches for the Practical Attainment of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. It also prepared a background paper on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Achievement of Palestinian Rights of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, for the use of the Committee.

23. For 1987, the Committee decided that the Division should prepare information material, mainly addressed to the layman, on the following topics:

(a) The various anniversaries to be observed in 1987 in accordance with the request made by the NGOs;

(b) The need for convening the International Peace Conference on the Middle East in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/58 C;

(c) An updated background of the question of Palestine;

(d) Updated information on the United Nations activities on the question of Palestine.

D. International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People

24. The Committee decided that the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People should be observed on Monday, 30 November 1987, and that two meetings of the Committee should be held and programmes similar to those organized in the past be repeated in 1987.

25. As in the past, the Committee also decided to invite the PLO to provide an exhibit to be displayed at United Nations Headquarters during the week of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.

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