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Communiqué No. 253 by
The Extraordinary Session of the Council of the
League of Arab States at the Ministerial Level
on
Developments of the Palestinian Cause and
Israeli Violations

Cairo,
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The Council of the League of Arab States at the Ministerial Level, convened an Extraordinary Session, chaired by the Arab Republic of Egypt on 7th May 2023 at the headquarters of the League of Arab States, in which the Council emphasizes the centrality of the Palestinian cause to the Arab nation, and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, particularly their right to self-determination, return and compensation for Palestinian refugees, as well as their right to the establishment of an independent and sovereign State of Palestine on the lines of 4 June 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital,

THE COUNCIL,

- 1- *Expresses full solidarity with the Palestinian people on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Palestinian Nakba; pays tribute to generations of Palestinian refugees who have been displaced from their homes by Israeli force, terrorism and oppression since the Nakba in 1948; emphasizes their inalienable right to return and compensation; and appreciates the commemoration of this painful memory all over the world, including in the United Nations General Assembly as well as in several capitals and international and regional organizations;*
- 2- *Condemnes the widespread Israeli crimes against the Palestinian people, including recent campaigns of Israeli siege and brutal aggression against Jerusalem, Nablus, Gaza Strip, Jenin, Jericho, Tulkarem, and other Palestinian cities, villages and camps, including the practice of killing, terrorism and incitement, which have resulted in the deaths of dozens of martyrs, wounded and detainees, as well as demolishing homes,*

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- facilities and infrastructure; *and expresses solidarity with the families of the martyrs and victims of the brutal Israeli aggression;*
- 3- *Emphasizes the importance of the protection of the Al-Aqsa Mosque / Al-Haram Al-Sharif with its entire area of 144,000 square meters as a place of worship for Muslims only, according to international law and international resolutions; rejects and condemns all violations perpetrated by Israel, the occupying Power, in Islamic and Christian holy sites, particularly attempts to alter the historic and legal status quo in the holy Al-Aqsa Mosque, divide it spatially and temporally and turn away or undermine the freedom of Muslim worshipers, and endanger its foundations through excavations underneath the Mosque, including the Israeli aggression in the holy month of Ramadan against unarmed worshipers and the deliberate destruction of Al-Aqsa Mosque furniture and assets, as well as the recent attacks on Bab Al-Rahma chapel, in frantic attempts to control and divide Al-Aqsa Mosque; emphasizes the State of Palestine's sovereignty over Jerusalem and its sanctities; affirms the significant role of the Hashemite custodianship over the Islamic and Christian holy sites in Jerusalem in protecting these holy sites and preserving the historical and legal status quo thereof; and reiterates that the Jordanian Awqaf Department of Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa Mosque Affairs is the only legal body with exclusive authority over the holy Al-Aqsa Mosque/ Al-Haram Al-Sharif; and stresses the importance of the role of Jerusalem Committee;*
 - 4- *Calls on the international community and international human rights organizations to put pressure on Israel, the occupying Power, to immediately release all prisoners and detainees, particularly the veterans and sick, children, the elderly, members of parliament and administrative detainees and martyrs' bodies, and to hold Israel, the occupying Power, fully responsible for the death of Palestinian prisoner Khader Adnan, who died after an 86-day hunger strike during which Israeli prison authorities deliberately committed fatal medical negligence against him, refusing to give him a fair trial and dismissing his rightful demand for freedom;*
 - 5- *Calls on the international community to apply the necessary pressure on Israel, the occupying Power, to end its occupation of the land of the State of Palestine on the lines of 4 June 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital, and to halt its aggression against the*

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Palestinian people as well as all its illegal policies and practices, including annexation, colonial settlement, apartheid, targeting civilians, forced displacement, arbitrary arrest, expropriation of property, demolition of homes and infrastructure, violation of holy places; and *calls* to provide international protection to the Palestinian people.

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