

Handed to Sd. by  
Palestinian Permanent Observer  
- 12 July 2010  
*Permanent Observer Mission  
of Palestine  
to the United Nations*



File  
البعثة الرقابية الدائمة  
للفلسطين  
لدى الأمم المتحدة

Ref. SGC.193/10

12 July 2010

Excellency,

This letter is being conveyed to you in connection with the efforts of the United Nations General Assembly to follow-up the report of the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict, also commonly referred to as the "Goldstone Report", in pursuit of accountability and justice for the violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law perpetrated during the Israeli military operations in the Gaza Strip from December 2008 to January 2009.

Pursuant to the note of 27 May 2010, in which the Secretariat of the United Nations, on behalf of Your Excellency, has requested the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations to provide, with reference to General Assembly resolution 64/254 of 26 February 2010, entitled "*Second follow-up to the report of the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict*", written information regarding the steps that the Palestinian side may have taken, further to the urging of the Assembly in operative paragraph 3 of resolution 64/254 as well as of operative 4 of resolution 64/10 of 5 November 2009, I have the honor to convey to you the following:

1. A letter, dated 11 July 2010, from President Mahmoud Abbas
2. The report of the "**Palestinian** Independent Commission Investigating in Follow-up of the Goldstone Report", including a General Introduction to the Report

Pursuant to its mandate, the Palestinian Independent Commission (PIC) has presented a comprehensive report, constituting an independent, credible investigation that is in conformity with international standards. This information is thus being submitted in compliance with General Assembly resolution 64/254, as requested by the Secretariat, in order to assist the Secretary-General in fulfilling his responsibilities under the said resolution, which requested him to report on the implementation of the resolution, with a view to consideration of further action, if necessary, by the relevant United Nations organs and bodies, including the Security Council.

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon  
The Secretary-General of the United Nations  
The United Nations  
New York

In this regard, as stressed by the General Assembly in resolution 64/254, Palestine reaffirms the need to ensure accountability for all violations of international humanitarian and human rights law in order to prevent impunity, ensure justice, deter further violations and promote peace. Palestine reaffirms its respect for international law and its commitment to upholding its obligations and responsibilities in this regard. At the same time, Palestine reiterates its urgent and constant appeals to the international community to uphold the rule of law and all of the legal and moral obligations towards the question of Palestine, including towards ensuring accountability and justice for the crimes perpetrated by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, over the many decades of its belligerent military occupation.

In closing, we take the opportunity to reiterate the importance of achieving truth and justice, which are absolutely necessary for the fulfillment of our collective efforts to make peace a reality. In this regard, we reaffirm the conviction expressed repeatedly by the General Assembly, including in resolutions 64/10 and 64/254, that *"achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace and stability in the Middle East"*.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Dr. Riyad Mansour  
Ambassador, Permanent Observer  
of Palestine to the United Nations