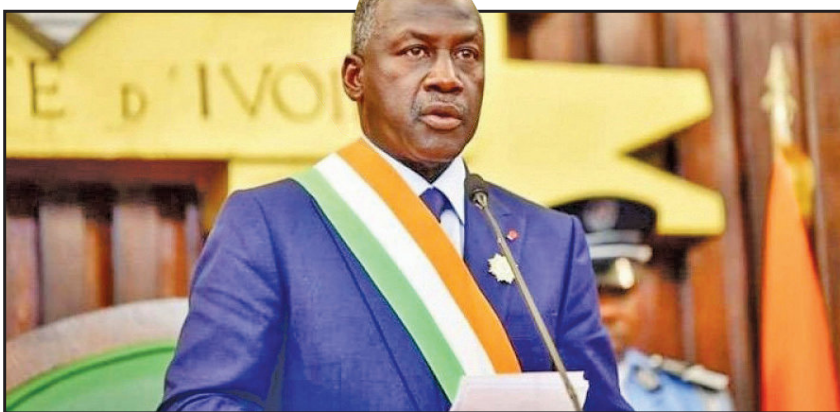


H.E. Mr. Adama Bictogo Speaker of the Cote d'Ivoire Parliament Talks to «PUIC»:

Need for International Solidarity to Face Climate Change



H. E. Adama BICTOGO, Speaker of the National Assembly of Cote d'Ivoire stated, in his interview with the “PUIC” that many countries are affected by the consequences of climate change, making the latter a very real climate crisis. His Excellency reiterated that he is in favour of international solidarity in this respect .

For details read inside pages



Call For International Move to Punish Israeli Occupation

The 5th Extraordinary Meeting of the PUIC Standing Committee on Palestine called on the International Criminal Court to take action for punishing the Israeli occupation, as well as committing the Zionist entity to pay indemnities to the victims of the aggression launched against the innocent Palestinians in all parts of occupied Palestinian territories.

For details read inside pages



By Mouhamed Khouraichi Niass, Secretary General

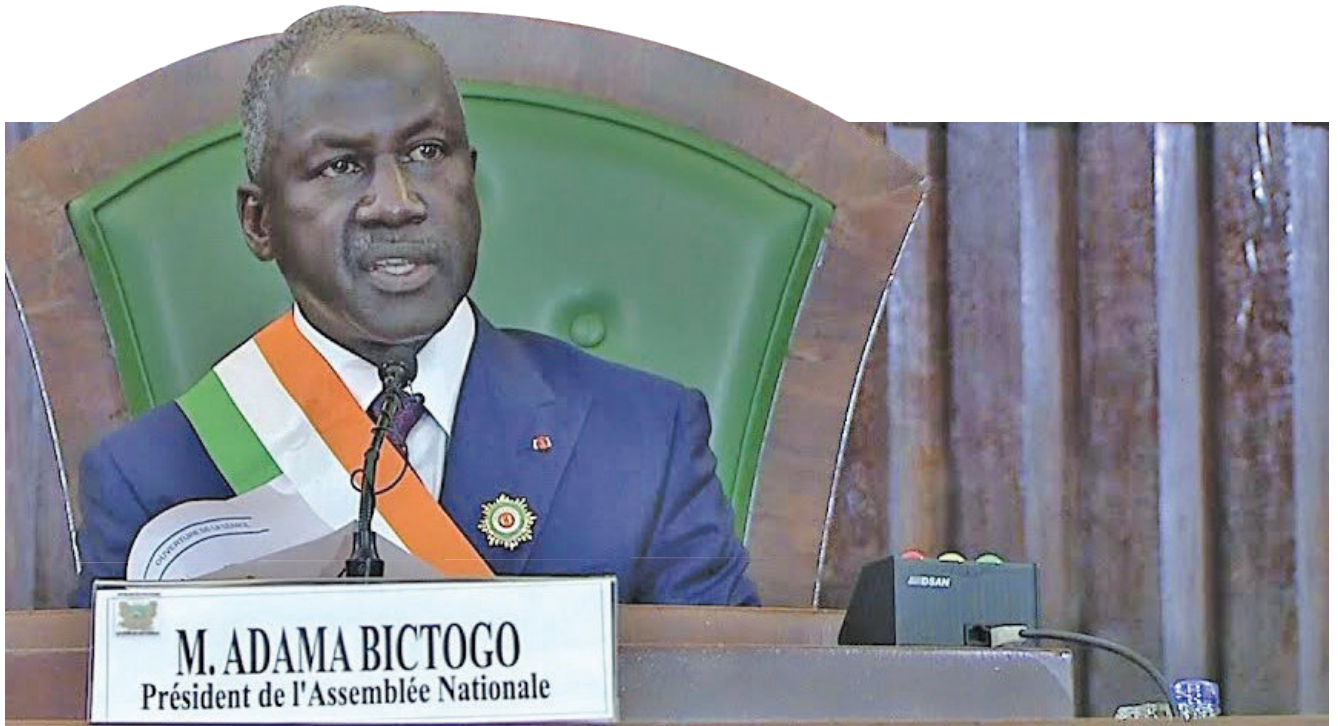
This issue of “Al Majalis” magazine is produced in conjunction with the holding of the 18th Session of the Conference of the Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States, in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, which is the 5th country of the African group to host a conference of the Union, after Senegal, Uganda, Mali, and Burkina Faso.

All of this demonstrates the interest that the parliaments of the African Group pay to the Parliamentary Union of the OIC member States (PUIC), which did not disappoint them, as the issues presented to Africa were among its most important priorities, including development challenges, combating terrorism, confronting disasters and epidemics, and coordinating International efforts to support Africa in the economic, social and political fields.

All of the PUIC's Conferences are full of decisions on issues related to Africa, embodying the solidarity of the Arab and Asian groups with the African group, which plays a prominent role in the Union's march. Since the slogan of the 18th session of the Union Conference is: “Union Countries: Addressing the Challenges of Climate Change in the World,” the issues of drought, desertification, floods, and other climate change issues in Africa will receive great attention during this conference. It will be our duty to emphasize the activation of the lofty value system of our true religion in confronting climate change through awareness and guidance, as well as by issuing legislation and recommendations that stimulate solidarity among Islamic countries.

INDEX

● Interview with HE Mr. Adama Bictogo	2
● Meeting of PUIC Palestine Committee	4
● Speeches of Speakers of PUIC Parliaments On Israeli Aggression	6
● PUIC Webinar on Burning Quran and Climate Change	18
● Virtual Meeting of the PUIC Committee on Human Rights, Women and Family	19
● Article on Israeli Aggression by Mr. Mohamed Yazid Ben Hammouda	20
● Martyrdom of Members of Palestinian Legislative Council	21
● PUIC 49 th Executive Committee	22
● Parliamentary News	24
● Meeting of PUIC Islamic Group	27
● Activities of Secretary General	28



H.E. Mr. Adama Bictogo Speaker of the National Assembly of Cote d'Ivoir Talks to «PUIC»:

Need for International Solidarity to Face Climate Change

In his address to the Union's publication "PUIC", His Excellency the Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Mr Adama BICTOGO, addressed a number of important issues related to the process of joint Islamic parliamentary action. These issues included: climate change, the Palestinian cause, the fight against terrorism and violent extremism, economic growth and national prosperity, and criteria for success of National and regional organisations.

► **PUIC :The Parliament of Côte d'Ivoire is hosting the 18th Conference of the PUIC under the theme: "PUIC Parliaments' efforts to deal with the consequences of climate change". How do you envision effective Parliamentary means to address the consequences of climate changes?**

● **Mr. Adama Bictogo:** As you know, the world is currently facing the consequences of climate disruption, the most harmful effects of which are felt at the environmental level, notably, in the form of heavy rainfall, rising temperatures and flooding, as well as at the social level,

where issues such as food insecurity, disease and land conflicts arise as a result of the displacement of disaster-stricken populations. We are seeing many of our countries affected by the consequences of this phenomenon, which demonstrates once again, if any proof was needed, that the climate crisis is very real. We have an obligation to continue to take action to mitigate, adapt, prepare for crises and repair the consequences of climate change. These deplorable events are the result of the climate change that the planet has been facing over the past few decades.

I am particularly in favour of international solidarity in this respect. Indeed, the scale of the damage suffered by a number of countries around the world means that we need to join forces to channel financial and material resources to provide substantial assistance to these countries, which have fallen victim to large-scale climatic disasters.

For this reason, I would like to acknowledge the convening of COP28, which took place from 30 November to 12 December 2023 in Dubai, and which provided an

opportunity to review the progress made under the Paris Agreement and to draw up an action plan defined by all stakeholders in order to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect the lives and livelihoods of our people, particularly the future generations.

► **PUIC :The Palestinian cause remain the central issue for the Islamic Nation. As you know, they are facing a catastrophic situation. In your view, what is the solution for this long-standing problem? In your view, what could the PUIC do more in this regard?**

● **Mr. Adama Bictogo:** First of all, I would like to express my dismay at what is happening in Gaza and Israel, in particular the violent deaths of tens of thousands of people and the vast destruction of infrastructure.

Amid this escalation of violence, we call for an immediate ceasefire and for respect of international humanitarian law in order to preserve the lives of civilians.

► **Your country has hosted PUIC's 49th Executive committee which in its final**

Communique you emphasized on the necessity of fighting terrorism. In your opinion how can terrorism be eliminated in Africa?

● **Mr. Adama Bictogo:** As you know, the upsurge in terrorist attacks and the growth of radicalism and religious fanaticism in Africa in recent years are real obstacles to the effective implementation of inclusive development plans and strategies, especially as the growing impoverishment of our people and regional disparities encourage recession and provide fertile ground for the exacerbation of acts and actions that fuel terrorism. Given this situation, the fight against terrorism must be seen as a joint movement that extends beyond individual countries, aiming to reduce the vulnerability of state systems by implementing measures that lead to measurable medium and long-term objectives. This strategy will enable us to prevent terrorism from inflicting major damage on the institutional, political, economic and social equilibrium of our States and communities, as is unfortunately the case in some West African countries, in the Middle East and even in the rest of the world. The issue of terrorism and insecurity therefore calls for in-depth and coordinated reflection, in view of the acts of violent extremism witnessed in our countries, resulting in deaths, dehumanisation, destruction of property and displacement of populations.

▶ **PUIC : This year, Côte d'Ivoire has realized a high economic growth among African countries. What is the reason for this? What is Côte d'Ivoire's recommendation for the prosperity of African countries?**

● **Mr. Adama Bictogo:** Côte d'Ivoire is the world's leading producer of cocoa and cashew nuts, and has enjoyed one of the fastest and most sustained rates of economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa for over ten years under the leadership of His Excellency Alassane Ouatara, President of the Republic.

With an average real GDP growth of 8.2% over the period 2012-2019, Côte d'Ivoire has managed to contain the COVID-19 pandemic and maintain a positive growth rate of 2% in 2020. By 2021, the country has returned to its high

growth track and continues to play a central role as a regional economic hub. In 2022, economic activity in Côte d'Ivoire remained robust, although it faced challenges arising from Russia's invasion of Ukraine, global monetary contraction, and growing political instability in the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU). Growth was largely driven by sustained public investment and strong domestic consumption. The industrial and service sectors and the government's fiscal measures aimed at containing price increases also contributed to this economic performance. The economic forecast for the short and medium term remains positive, albeit slightly below the levels seen prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. This positive outlook is underpinned by a strong commitment to macroeconomic stability and ongoing structural reforms in line with the National Development Plan (NDP 2021-2025). Over the next few years, average real GDP growth is expected to reach 6.5% in 2024-25. Continued investment in network infrastructure, particularly in the digital and transport sectors, and the exploitation of recent oil discoveries, combined with prudent macroeconomic policies, should boost business confidence and increase productivity. Projects to develop value chains have the potential to improve agricultural productivity and boost manufacturing, which will support long-term growth prospects. Côte d'Ivoire has achieved this progress thanks to the political stability it has enjoyed over the last ten years under the leadership of the President of the Republic. So if there's one strategy I could recommend for development in Africa, it's to work towards achieving stability, creating more jobs for young people and women, and above all

joining forces to combat terrorism.

▶ **PUIC : How do you evaluate the success, or otherwise, of African regional organizations in talking African disputes and problems?**

● **Mr. Adama Bictogo:** Assessing the success or otherwise of African regional organisations in resolving disputes and problems across the continent can be a complex matter and depends on a number of factors, most notably:

Conflict Resolution: The effectiveness of a regional organisation can be measured by its ability to prevent, mitigate or resolve conflicts between member states. If it succeeds in peacefully resolving tensions and disputes, it is generally considered to be more successful.

Implementation of decisions: A successful regional organisation should be able to effectively implement its decisions and resolutions. If member states follow the recommendations and agreements reached within the organisation, this can be considered a measure of success.

Regional Stability: The overall stability of a region is an important indicator. If a regional organisation succeeds in creating a stable and peaceful environment, it is likely to be regarded as an effective player in resolving regional problems.

Economic and Political Cooperation: The degree to which member states cooperate economically and politically can be an indicator of success. Regional organisations that promote economic and political cooperation are often seen as making a positive contribution to regional development.

Respect for Human Rights and Democracy: The promotion of and respect for human rights, as well as the promotion of democracy, are key criteria. An organisation that works actively to strengthen democracy and protect human rights is often considered to be accomplishing important work.

Given this wide range of criteria, it is essential to acknowledge that the assessment of success may vary according to the specific objectives and perspectives of each organisation. Furthermore, the complex challenges facing Africa often require a long-term approach, and results can take time to emerge.

□ **“Fight against terrorism must be seen as a joint movement that extends beyond individual countries”**





5th Extraordinary Meeting of PUIC Standing Committee on Palestine in Tehran:

Call For International Move to Punish Israeli Occupation

The 5th Extraordinary Meeting of the PUIC Standing Palestine Committee, convened in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, on Wednesday, 10 January, 2024, in response to a kind invitation from H.E. Dr. Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, Speaker of the Islamic Parliament of Iran on the criminal aggression launched by the Israeli occupation on the Palestinian people which is continuing for three months now.

The meeting was held under the slogan “Cooperation of Parliaments for Palestine”, in the presence of H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Boughali, PUIC President and a number of Speakers of PUIC Member Parliaments and Heads of Delegation who represent (26) Parliaments, including parliaments which are non-members of the Palestine Committee. The interventions of participants confirmed, as well as, the Final Communique that the Palestinian Cause of has been and is and shall continue to be the Central Cause of the Islamic Ummah until the Palestinian people establish

their independent sovereign state with Al Quds as its Capital, being the eternal capital of the Palestinian state.

The following are some excerpts of the Final Declaration:

We, the participants in the 5th Extraordinary Meeting of the PUIC Standing Palestine Committee, held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran on 10 January 2024, to discuss the Israeli occupation “Criminal aggression against the Palestinian people which has caused massacres that resulted in the fall of thousands of martyrs; Mostly women and children and the widespread destruction of Gaza and all its vital infrastructure.

Affirm that the Palestinian Cause has been, and shall remain, the central cause of the Islamic Ummah until the Palestinian people establish their independent state with Al- Quds as its Capital, and that Al- Quds, with the blessed Al- Aqsa Mosque in its heart, is a red line for all Muslims, and it is the immortal capital of the Palestinian state. Call, earnestly, for immediate cessation

of hostilities in Gaza, in particular, and in all the Palestinian territories, (the West Bank and Al Quds), as well as for stopping all Israeli military operations, and the withdrawal of Israeli forces and putting an end to this aggressive war. And releasing the Palestinian prisoners and detainees currently present in Israeli jails. **Consider** that supporting Gaza citizens and assisting them during this painful ordeal, is a religious, moral and humanitarian duty. We rally and exhort all peoples and governments of the Member Parliaments to support the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in Gaza, materially, morally, media-wise, diplomatically and politically. We call for coordinating their efforts in order to deliver the humanitarian assistance to the besieged and displaced Gaza citizens, especially medicine, food, water, fuel, tents, house effects, house utensils, and winter clothes. **We call** for providing the Palestinians with the necessary financial assistance to rebuild what has been destroyed by the Zionist regime’s war machine in the Gaza Strip,



Affirm that the war crimes, the crimes against humanity and the crimes of genocide committed by the Israeli politicians and the military in Gaza Strip, including land military assault, air attacks, the destruction of houses and places of worship, centers of public services, schools, hospitals, the killing of innocent people and detentions which constitute stark violations of international law and the international humanitarian law, and an intentional breach of UN resolutions in this respect, whose perpetrators should be referred for justice before relevant international courts.

Demand referring the Israeli perpetrators of the war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide crimes to international justice, and Call on international human rights and legal organizations and institutions, especially the International Criminal Court, to take action for punishing the Israeli occupation, as well committing the Zionist entity to pay material indemnities to the victims and those affected by the losses resulting from the Israeli aggression and the destruction of the infrastructure, bulldozing farms and the uprooting of trees. We charge the PUIC Secretary General with following up thereof at international organizations and bodies, and request the States of the Member Parliaments to charge their legal experts with preparing documents on the crimes perpetrated by the Israeli regime aimed at prosecuting it in international courts.

Thank the friendly state of South Africa

for initiating a legal suit against Israel for violating the agreement on preventing genocide.

Condemn the American participation in the aggression; whether through direct participation in supplying the Israeli entity army with the latest products manufactured by the American war machine or through protecting the Israeli entity and covering up its crimes at international fora, as well as using the veto to constitute a legitimate cover for aggression.

Totally reject coercive displacement operations and the internal dispersal of Palestinians either from Gaza Strip or the West Bank.

Declare our total support for all kinds of resistance by the Palestinian people against the occupying Zionist entity, as resistance against occupation is considered as a legitimate right of all peoples under occupation.

Supporting and Assisting Gaza Residents is a Religious, Moral and Humanitarian Duty



Address salutation of glory and appreciation to the faithful martyrs of Gaza and the West Bank, and the media personnel who have fallen down by the aggressive Zionist military forces. We also salute the martyrs who have fallen down in combatant Lebanon and the other regions. Furthermore, we salute the steadfastness of the Palestinian People in Gaza Strip.

We call upon the member parliaments to enact legislations that support the Palestinian cause, and confrontation of the occupation.

Strongly condemn the continuation of provocative and violent actions by the colonialist settlers and military forces of the Israeli occupation against the residents of the West Bank and the city of Quds. These are attempts to impose new facts on the ground through usurpation which is considered a type of racial segregation (Apartheid) and discrimination carried out by the terrorist Zionist entity.

Commending the continuous efforts exerted by H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Boughali PUIC President during his presidency in support of the steadfast Palestinian People, assisting their just cause, and exhorting the honest members of the parliaments in all corners of the world who are promoting international peace and security to stand by the side of the Palestinian people to enable them to recover their usurped land and establish their independent and sovereign state with Al Quds as its capital. We also **salute** the efforts and initiatives of His Excellency since the onset of the Zionist aggression on Palestine and call upon him to continue these good efforts until this unequal war in occupied Palestine comes to an end.

Express our praise and appreciation of the incessant efforts carried out by the Islamic Republic of Iran to support and assist the Palestinian Cause. We also **express** our utmost thanks and gratitude to the Islamic Parliament of Iran, and to H.E. Dr. Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, Speaker of the Iranian Islamic Parliament, for hosting this important meeting, wishing the steadfast Palestinian people victory and glory.



In their Emergency Meeting:

Speakers of Islamic Parliaments Call For Establishing an Alliance of Muslim States to Support Palestinian Cause

The PUIC held a virtual meeting, on Monday 16th October, 2023, through Zoom technology, to discuss the dangerous developments in the Palestinian territories.

Thirty-Two (32) Member Parliaments participated in the meeting, thirteen Speakers took the floor, and unanimously expressed firm condemnation of the Zionist aggression on Gaza, requesting urgent intervention to stop the aggression and sending relief supplies to the citizens of Gaza who are facing genocide, through persistent air, sea and land bombardment, and preventing them access to basic necessities such as water, electricity, food, and medicine, which is contrary to international law, human rights and all religious laws.

In their Final Declaration, which was the fruit of exhaustive discussions, the Speakers of PUIC member Parliaments affirmed the Palestinian issue is a focal cause for the

Islamic World and that they will not relent or make any concession on this issue.

The Speakers considered that the primary causes leading to the current explosion of events in the Palestinian territories are the continued Israeli aggressions, and the disregard and waning global attention to put an end to the suffering of the Palestinians, as well as non-application of the relevant UN resolutions and disregard of legitimate Palestinian rights.

Among the most significant several proposals put forward by the Speakers was the one on establishing an alliance of Islamic states for supporting the Palestinian Cause, and the call for constituting parliamentary –governmental delegations to take the stance of the Islamic states vis-a vis the Palestinian issue to all the corners of the globe, and take action to stop the genocidal war on the heroic steadfast Palestinian people.



H.E. Mr Ibrahim Boughali, Speaker of the People's National Assembly of Algeria, PUIC President:




It is our Duty to Adopt a Firm Stance and Clearly Express to the World our Solidarity and Alignment with our Palestinian Brothers

Today, I firmly believe that the level and firmness of our positions in addressing the fundamental issues of the nation will be the measure by which we will be judged tomorrow. The victim today is Palestine, to which we are all bound by ties of blood, brotherhood and faith, and which is the first of the two Qiblahs and the third of the Two Holy Mosques. The consequences of failing to support Palestine today will be paid by our future generations. As representatives of the Islamic peoples, it is our duty to adopt a firm stance against these grave violations and heinous crimes committed against our brothers in Palestine, to emphasise our position and role in confronting this aggression, and to declare clearly before the world our solidarity and alignment with our Palestinian brothers.

Therefore, we must remind the Security Council and the international community at large that they must assume their legal and moral responsibility towards the Palestinian people, and that the root cause

of conflict and tension in the Middle East lies in turning a blind eye to the crimes of the Israeli occupation and in continuing to grant it impunity and irresponsibility, as well as adopting a policy of double standards, which we have had enough of and which only further aggravates and complicates the situation.

The only solid basis for a lasting, just and comprehensive peace in the region is to

 **The double standard policy that we have had enough of will only aggravate and complicate the situation**



enable the Palestinian people to exercise their legitimate rights to establish their independent state with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital, in accordance with and through the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions, in particular Resolution 242 and the two-state solution framework. It is absurd to equate the victim with the executioner, and it is unreasonable to watch silently as the brotherly Palestinian people are subjected to ethnic cleansing and a genocidal war, while the occupation leaders openly declare day and night their intention to displace the Palestinian people from their land and carry on their crimes unabated, unchecked and unaccountable. It is also illogical and unacceptable to raise voices today about the Zionist occupation prisoners held by the resistance, whilst ignoring the Palestinian prisoners who have been languishing in the Zionist occupation prisons for decades and whose suffering has exceeded all limits.



H.E. Mr Nabih Berri, Speaker of the Lebanese Parliament:

Defending Gaza and Palestine is the Responsibility of the Entire Nation

Gaza is the geographical territory that extends over an area of 350 square kilometres... in which the Zionist killing machine is taking the lives and shedding the blood of Palestinian children, women and the elderly on a scale unprecedented in human history. The defence of Gaza and Palestine is not the responsibility of any particular Palestinian faction, nor is it the responsibility of the Palestinians alone. It is the responsibility of the entire nation. Rest assured that the Israeli project, which is now being implemented in the territory of the Gaza Strip through blood, fire and destruction, and which political and military authorities of the Israeli entity are racing to announce and reveal their intentions about by again raising the plan of “transferring” the Palestinian people from the Gaza Strip to the Sinai Peninsula; If this plan is carried out, it will not constitute not only the downfall and elimination of the Palestinian cause, but rather the downfall of Arab and Islamic national security and it will herald a plan to fragment and divide the entire region into warring sectarian and ethnic mini-states, in which Israel will be the strongest entity.

□ The Zionist plan targets not only the Palestinian issue but also Arab and Islamic national security

□ The project of the Zionist entity is to fragment the entire region into rival sectarian and ethnic states in which Israel will be the strongest entity



► **Therefore, on behalf of myself, the Parliament and the Lebanese people, we propose the following to this Conference:**

● **First:** Urging the member states of the Organisation which have concluded agreements with the Zionist entity to immediately terminate those agreements or, if it is not possible, to freeze their implementation.

● **Second:** Immediate formation of governmental delegations consisting of members of the Organisation to be dispatched to all decision-making capitals of the world to demand a halt to the genocidal war being waged by the Israeli war machine against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, and also to demand a halt to all Judaisation projects targeting the Islamic and Christian holy places in Al-Quds and the Al-Aqsa Mosque, especially the projects of dividing them temporally and spatially.

● **Third:** Emphasising the right of the Palestinian people to struggle and resist legitimately by all means to achieve their rightful dream to return and establish their independent Palestinian state with Al Quds Al Sharif as its capital.



H.E. Dr Hanafy Gibaly, Speaker of the Egyptian House of Representatives:

We Seek to Expose to the World the Brutal Practices of the Occupation against the Palestinian People

His Excellency Dr Hanafy Gibaly, Speaker of the House of Representatives, stressed that the Palestinian issue is passing through a very dangerous turning point that poses specific and serious threats with long-term effects and repercussions. He stressed that since the outbreak of the current crisis, Egypt has realized that it will be extremely serious in scope and repercussions, and that it will mark a new chapter in the history of excessive violence that has been practiced and continues to be practiced against the Palestinian people for many decades.

His Excellency stressed that Egypt places the utmost importance on the humanitarian aspect to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people, in parallel with its tireless efforts and contacts with all regional and international parties to contain this unprecedented escalation. He added that the current tragic situation in the Palestinian territories is

nothing but the result of the negligence in seriously addressing the Palestinian cause and the continued political stalemate without working towards achieving a comprehensive settlement to the Palestinian cause. He also emphasized Egypt's categorical rejection of any calls for the forcible transfer of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, as that would lead to the liquidation of the Palestinian cause and the loss of Palestinian rights.

The Speaker of the House of Representatives, called also on the parliaments of Islamic countries to work actively and extensively in all international forums to expose to the world the brutality and excessive violence of the Israeli occupation against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, which completely contradict human nature and shatter world values as well as the achievements of humanity and civilisation.

□ Rejecting calls for the forced displacement of Palestinians in Gaza because it is a liquidation of the Palestinian cause and a loss of Palestinian rights





H.E. Mr Hammouda Sabbagh, Speaker of the People's Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic:

International Community Must Be Pressured to Stop the Zionist Violations

The resistance heroes among our Palestinian people are drawing up epics of heroism and glory and turning a new page in history under the title (“The time of setbacks has passed and the time of victories has dawned”). Words cannot describe the feelings of pride and glory brought by the resistance fighters, who, with the least possible means and amidst the suffocating siege imposed by the Zionist occupation forces, were able to make this racist entity taste the bitterness of defeat, shame and the humiliation suffered due to disappointment and defeat.

Since the false declaration of the establishment of its racist, cancerous entity, Israel has not ceased its campaigns of killing, expulsion and forced displacement against the Palestinian people, not to mention the many provocative measures it has taken, by continuing its Judaisation operations, changing the demographic and geographical structure of Palestine, violating the sanctity of the holy places, desecrating the sanctity of Al-Aqsa Mosque, and imposing restrictions on worshippers and preventing them from performing their prayers there.


Taking as an example the Hadith of the Noble Messenger Mohammad (peace be upon him) in which he urged us to support our brethren by stating: “Support thy brother, be he the oppressor or the oppressed”. We are all aware of the absolute truth of the great injustice

inflicted on our people in usurped Palestine and the massacres committed against them by the aggressor Zionists, which continue to this day as the occupying forces are bombarding safehouses of Palestinian civilians over their heads, claiming thousands of martyrs and wounded, most of whom are women and children, and destroying infrastructure and water and electricity networks.

In fact, their hatred went so far as to destroy hospitals and demolish them completely, amidst a suspicious silence on the part of the international community, which turns a blind eye to all these terrible crimes which bring shame to humanity. Instead, the United States and the countries of the West have decided to provide all kinds of material, moral and logistical support to the Zionist occupation forces, which are on their part imposing a suffocating siege on the Palestinian people,

depriving them of the most basic needs for survival, such as food, water and urgent medical and emergency supplies. The Speaker of the People's Assembly called upon all brothers in the Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States to voice their support for our resisting people in occupied Palestine and condemn the Zionist massacres perpetrated against them by the occupation forces through scorched earth policy until this moment and to cooperate with national parliaments and influential regional and international parliamentary organisations to immediately stop the barbaric bombing against the defenseless residents of the besieged Gaza Strip and the attempts of the entity to forcibly displace them.

The Speaker also called on the international community, based on its humanitarian, moral and legal obligations, to exert maximum efforts to put an end to the grave violations against the defenceless Palestinians, to provide them with immediate and urgent aid, to open humanitarian corridors to facilitate the delivery of necessary and vital aid to sustain their lives, and to intensify efforts to reach a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian issue, starting with the return of the displaced Palestinians, as they are the legitimate and rightful owners of the land, and to establish their own Palestinian state with Al Quds Al Sharif as its capital.

 **Pride and honour for the resistant people of Palestine, who taught the Zionist entity the bitterness of defeat and shame**





Al-Aqsa Flood was a Natural Response to the Crimes Perpetrated by the Fake Zionist Entity for 75 years

The history of the “Provisional Zionist Entity” during the last seven decades reveals widespread violations, not only against the Palestinians but also against the Islamic countries. The various wars waged by this entity against the peoples of Lebanon, Syria, Egypt and Jordan, as well as the occupation of parts of the lands of neighbouring countries, the siege of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, the construction of illegal settlements in the West Bank, the desecration of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, the abuse of Christian sanctities, the policy of racial discrimination and the killing of journalists are but a few examples of the crimes committed by this entity. This operation was a natural response to the continuous crimes of the artificial Zionist entity against the Palestinian people throughout the past 75 years, and this entity cannot polish its inhuman image in its attack on Gaza by showcasing victimisation. The siege on Gaza and the cutting of water, electricity, medicine and food supplies is a clear case of genocide. Furthermore, the use of non-conventional weapons such as banned phosphorus bombs in the attacks is in direct violation of international treaties banning chemical weapons.

On my part, I would like to make a few proposals on how to change this situation: **First**, at present, an unprecedented wave of support for the Palestinian people has been launched in many countries of the world. The Islamic Republic of Iran, on its part, calls upon all countries of the world to adopt a firm stance and demands the international community to respond firmly to stop the aggression of the Zionist entity and to drop double standards in order to effectively condemn the Zionist entity.

 **We call on the international community to seek to stop the Zionist aggression and eliminate the double standards**



Second, Israel receives at least 3.3 billion dollars from the American military budget every year according to an agreement between the United States of America and the Zionist entity. The latter uses this budget to buy weapons that are used to violate the rights of the Palestinians. Therefore, by continuing to provide military aid to the Zionist entity, the United States is deeply complicit in the ongoing human rights violations. The parliaments of Islamic countries must therefore call on the United States to change its policy towards Gaza and demand an end to the blockade.

Third, Islamic countries, in coordination with each other, should hold companies that support the Zionist entity accountable for their role in violating the rights of Palestinians in Gaza and demand that these companies end their complicity in Apartheid and war crimes.

Fourth, given the urgent need of the Palestinians for medicine and food, the parliaments of Islamic countries must call for the reopening of humanitarian corridors to Gaza as soon as possible to deliver aid.



H.E. Mr Ahmad Abdel Aziz Al-Saadoun, Speaker of the Kuwaiti National

Assembly Emphasises the Need for International Action to

Force the Zionist Entity to Accept the Establishment of an Independent Palestinian State

It is difficult to find words to express the sorrow and heartbreak we all feel vis-a-vis this injustice and tyranny. Words and expressions at our disposal seem inadequate to accurately reflect the situation, and none of us can do so to the extent that we do not underestimate the patience, the solidarity and the strength of the people of Gaza. None of us can express in words the extent of the injustice and oppression committed by the usurping Zionist occupiers, without being outraged by the vileness of their actions, which exceed the boundaries of abhorrence and inhumanity.

Since the voice of parliaments is able to reach international forums more than others, it is our religious and humanitarian duty as Muslim parliamentarians to use our voices to document and expose all the acts of tyranny and abuse perpetrated by the occupying entity against our people in Gaza and all of occupied Palestine.

I now address my speech to the entire world, which has fallen to such a level of delusion and inhumanity that it defends the usurper and occupier without any shame or concern for the honourable blood shed by the women, children and people of the steadfast Gaza Strip.

The Al-Aqsa Flood was neither an oppressive nor an unjust flood, but rather

a tremendous revolution for the people's and human rights that have been denied to Palestine and its people for over seventy years. Thus, how can you hold the legitimate reaction accountable and overlook the unjust act itself!

How could it be possible to remain silent when more than two million people in Gaza are denied access to the basic necessities of life, such as water, electricity, food and medicine, and are now in desperate need of them, in the midst of the war crimes committed by the Zionists in full view of

the world?

We will not cease addressing the international community today, as we are still dealing with the obscene violations of all international laws and humanitarian regulations by the occupying Zionist entity. We are witnessing today the worst human genocide, which is being broadcasted live, where the most horrible, extreme and brutal weapons are being used, the latest being the use of white phosphorus shells on civilian areas and the continued bombing and destruction campaigns. Alongside to our discussions, it is necessary, first of all, to move to a higher level of applying effective pressure on both the regional and international forums, and confront the disappointing Western countries with full force and firmness in order to immediately halt the ongoing and unrelenting aggression against the people of Gaza without any delay or compromise, and then we must direct our efforts and take measures before the international community, particularly the Security Council, in order to force the Zionist entity to comply with the resolutions of international legitimacy and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with full sovereignty and with Al Quds Al Sharif as its capital.

□ It is our duty to expose all acts of tyranny and abuse committed by the Zionist entity





H.E. Mr. Saqr Ghobash, Speaker of the Federal National Council of the United Arab Emirates:

There Can be no Solution to the Palestinian Cause other than a Sustainable Settlement

The United Arab Emirates is dedicated to upholding the principles of brotherhood and solidarity with our fellow brothers at all times and under all circumstances. This strong commitment is particularly reflected in the initiative announced by His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the State, may God protect him, and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, and Ruler of Dubai, may God protect him, to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian brothers in this critical situation. Recently, the UAE dispatched the first aircraft carrying emergency medical supplies, in preparation to enter the Gaza Strip. It has also launched a large-scale community campaign to collect donations in kind and in cash, and prepare aid to be delivered to the besieged civilians of Gaza.


The UAE condemns all attacks against civilians, stressing at the same time the importance of respecting international humanitarian law.

Immediately after the outbreak of the crisis, the wise leadership of the UAE began its diplomatic efforts at all levels

to stop the escalation, stressing the need to prioritise the protection of civilians and facilities. The UAE also called on the international community to undertake efforts to achieve an immediate ceasefire to prevent further loss of life and avoid any further escalation of the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, and to make every effort to achieve a comprehensive and just settlement of peace in line with the UAE's principles on the Palestinian cause and in accordance with the principles on which the UAE was founded, believes

in, defends and upholds through its government and wise leadership.

In this context, the UAE Parliament stresses the firm stance of the State that there can be no solution to the Palestinian issue other than the achievement of a permanent, just and comprehensive solution, embodied in the two-state solution, which is based on three fundamental pillars: the relevant international references, the Arab Peace Initiative, and the re-establishment of the borders of 4 June 1967 to enable the Palestinian people to establish their independent state on their national soil with East Al-Quds as its capital.

 **The United Arab Emirates has provided emergency humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza and has launched a major popular campaign for donations in kind and in cash.**





H.E. Mr. Numan Kurtulmuş, Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, Called for the Establishment of an Independent and Sovereign Palestinian State

His Excellency the Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (GNAT), Numan Kurtulmuş, participated in an online meeting organized by the Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States (PUIC) to discuss the developments in Palestine. Addressing the gathering, Kurtulmuş emphasized the historical responsibility of ensuring an immediate ceasefire to address the humanitarian crisis in Palestine. He urged for urgent humanitarian aid to reach the innocent and oppressed people in Gaza, stating that this is a collective responsibility for all of humanity, particularly the people and leaders of Muslim nations. Kurtulmuş highlighted Türkiye's efforts in calling for a ceasefire and providing humanitarian aid.

He expressed concern that the occupation regime obstructed the delivery of aid to Gaza, and the international community remained largely silent in response. Emphasizing the need for both short-term humanitarian and long-term political solutions, Kurtulmuş called for the establishment of an independent, integrated, and sovereign Palestinian state within the 1967 borders, with Al Quds as its capital. He stressed that a unified Palestine, with territorial integrity, is crucial for Middle East peace.

Referencing President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's call for a new global system, "The world is bigger than 5", Kurtulmuş

proposed the convening of the United Nations Security Council. However, he acknowledged the likelihood of vetoed resolutions against Israel, indicating the need for a new global system characterized by fairness and justice. He expressed hope that the ongoing humanitarian tragedy would pave the way for establishing such a system, requiring collaborative efforts. Kurtulmuş urged Muslim countries, representing approximately 2 billion people globally, to amplify their voices on the international stage.

He called for a united front to draw attention to the war crimes committed by Israel and advocated for a strong joint declaration by the PUIC. This declaration,

initially proposed by the Speaker of the Parliament of Algeria, should address four key issues: condemnation of Israeli crimes, support for the Palestinian people, commitment of Islamic countries despite their differences, and a reminder to the international community of its historical responsibilities.

Kurtulmuş concluded by urging the international community to overcome its silence and prevent the possibility of total genocide or ethnic cleansing against the Palestinian people.

The proposed declaration aims to galvanize global support for Palestine and reinforce the urgency of finding a just and lasting solution to the conflict.

Immediate ceasefire in Gaza and addressing the humanitarian crisis in Palestine is a shared responsibility of all human beings





His Excellency Tan Sri Dato' Johari Abdul, Malaysian Speaker of the House of Representatives of Malaysia:

Malaysia is Unwavering in Supporting the Struggles of Palestinians

Today, I reiterate Malaysia's unyielding position that Malaysia remains in solidarity with the struggles of the Palestinians. We express our deepest dismay over the hypocrisy of the international community, continuing to take one-sided actions regarding all forms of oppression, maiming and killing of thousands of innocent Palestinians.

Of course, our long-standing position on this issue is undisputed. In the history of the world, our first and former Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman was the first leader from an Islamic government to champion the Palestinian cause and bring it before the United Nations. On 23rd of August 1966, Tunku Abdul Rahman declared in the Malaysian Parliament that this country does not recognise Israel and our stance is unwavering.


As it requires a strong collectivism from the international community, it is the responsibility of all parliamentarians

to support resolutions that support this position and to participate in diplomatic initiatives that advance this cause. In addition to providing funding for humanitarian relief, we must also play an active role on the international stage,

calling for the restoration of peace, justice and dignity for the people and land of Palestine.

There must be a greater sense of urgency to exert pressure on all parties concerned to immediately cease any further violence. Considering the large number of innocent civilians killed and injured in 9 days of conflict, the immediate priority of the international community should be to urge both sides to cease fire quickly in order to prevent further humanitarian tragedies and destruction.

Thus, the Parliament of Malaysia strongly advocates for decisive action against all forms of atrocities of Israel's deadly attack on the Gaza Strip. Human rights' violations, violence, and injustice should never be tolerated. We also call for international cooperation and diplomatic efforts to address these issues and work towards a more just and peaceful world for everyone.

 **In 1966, our leader Tunku Abdul Rahman declared that Malaysia does not recognise Israel and our position remains unchanged**





H.E. Mr Ahmed Bin Salman Almusalam, Speaker of the Council of Representatives

of the Kingdom of Bahrain Calls for the Formation of a

Strong and Influential Parliamentary Alliance in Support of the Palestinian Cause

His Excellency Ahmed Bin Salman Almusalam, Speaker of the Council of Representatives of the Kingdom of Bahrain affirmed the firm and determined position of the Kingdom of Bahrain, under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the great King of the country, may God protect him, and the support and follow-up of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, may God protect him, in supporting the Palestinian cause and the legitimate rights of the brotherly Palestinian people.

His Excellency the Speaker of the House of Representatives added that our world today, as His Majesty the King, affirmed “only listens to the voice of strong and influential alliances”. Parliamentary responsibility requires us therefore to work towards building a strong and

□ We call on the international community to take immediate action to stop the escalation and achieve justice for the Palestinian people to establish their independent state



influential parliamentary alliance to support the Palestinian cause and all our issues. His Excellency praised the High Royal instructions to provide urgent aid to our Palestinian brothers through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees and to launch a relief campaign to aid those affected by the war in the Gaza Strip, under the slogan (Save Gaza), organised by the Royal Humanitarian Foundation. His Excellency also stressed that, in light of our parliamentary duty, we declare our solidarity with the brotherly Palestinian people in their defence of their legitimate rights, and provide support and assistance in all forms and ways, calling on the international community to take immediate action to stop the escalation and blatant violations, and to achieve justice for the Palestinian people in order to establish their independent state.



H.E. Mr Brahim Bouderbala, Speaker of the Assembly of People's Representatives of Tunisia:


The Resistance of the Palestinian People against the Usurping Entity is Patriotic Self-Defence

Today, we stand in respect and honour before the sacrifices of the Palestinian people in Palestine. We praise their steadfastness and defence of their honour and the nation's honour amidst the escalation of brutal and barbaric aggression and the continued enemy campaigns of annihilation against innocent and defenceless civilians as well as the deliberate killing of the elderly, women, children and medical staff in full view of the world, which has unfortunately lost its human conscience. In fact, the occupying power has gone so far as to forcibly and violently displace more than half of the population of Gaza from their homes and towns, as part of a scheme approved by its supporters to recreate the 1948 Nakba. The occupation continues to brutally target buildings, infrastructure, markets, hospitals, schools and places of worship, cutting off water, food, electricity, medicine and other basic necessities, turning Gaza into a graveyard of thousands of martyrs and wounded. As we highly praise the heroic and honourable epics of the Palestinian resistance and its struggles characterised by pride and dignity, we reaffirm our solidarity and support with the Palestinian people in their national liberation struggle and their full right to defend their usurped lands, defend their legitimate national rights and self-determination, reclaim their lands and establish their independent state with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital, the first of the two Qiblahs and the third of the two holy mosques. Today, as the dangerous situation in the Palestinian territories worsens, it is imperative to proclaim that the International Community cannot remain silent and watch this barbaric and fascist aggression unfold. We do not accept the injustice and oppression suffered by our people in Palestine, nor the crimes against humanity committed by the usurping entity. I call upon our parliamentary councils and assemblies

to keep working and pushing for an immediate end to the brutal and heinous massacres perpetrated by the enemy, and to work towards providing the necessary international protection for the Palestinian people, putting an end to the tyranny of the brutal occupation, and standing by our brothers in Palestine out of faith in the justice and legitimacy of their cause.

We call on all PUIC member parliaments, friendly parliaments, and all regional and international bodies, whether parliamentary or governmental, as well as national and international civil society actors, to condemn the occupying entity and its day-to-day brutal attacks, and its continued provocative practices and violations of the sanctity of the holy places, and to hold it fully responsible for what is happening in Gaza and all Palestinian cities, and to force it to comply with international legitimacy resolutions in order to restore the stolen rights to their rightful owners. What is described and considered by some parties as terrorist attacks carried out by the courageous Palestinian resistance against the usurping entity is in fact an act of self-defence and a reaction by the legitimate owners of the land to injustice, siege, starvation and arbitrary arrests imposed on them for over seventy years. Those parties should be objective and unbiased in their judgement and should work towards putting

an end to the bloodshed and destruction, ending the policy of double standards and restoring the rights of the legitimate owners of the land. They must also work on obliging the usurping occupier to stop its expansion of settlements and its violation of Islamic and Christian sanctities, especially Al-Aqsa Mosque, as well as its repeated attempts to change the very nature of the city of Al Quds, its Arab and Islamic identity, and its historical and legal status.

 **The duty of the international community is to condemn the unjust aggression against our people in Palestine**





Speakers of PUIC Parliaments Call for : Criminalizing Insulting Religious Symbols

Upon the invitation of H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Boughali, President of the 17th Session of the PUIC Conference, Speaker of the National People's Assembly of Algeria, Speakers of PUIC Parliaments, held a meeting on Monday 25 September, 2023, through Webinar Technology to consider the means of preventing the despicable practices contrary to the values of tolerance and moderation embodied in the burning of the Holy Quran, and also looking into the repercussions of Climate Change and enhancing Islamic Solidarity to confront it.

On Insulting the Holy Quran Speakers Decided:

- Strongly condemning and denouncing the continuation of the incidents of the burning and tearing up copies of the Holy Quran in some Western States.
- Considering that in no way these despicable actions against the Holy Quran can have any connection with the freedom of expression, and condemning allowing them or turning a blind eye on them under any pretext whatsoever
- View that these crimes run counter to all human and moral values and principles, and deemed as a violation of international laws,
- Calling upon all States, to respect the religious

freedom of Muslims, and not to restrict the human rights and basic freedoms of Muslims, including their right to exercise their religious rituals and express their cultural identity,

- Demanding the promulgation of legislations to criminalize insulting religious symbols and sanctities of divine religions.
- Affirming the necessity for the United Nations and relevant regional organizations to adopt resolutions and legislations that ensure non-repetition of these violations and to punish their perpetrators.
- Also demanding lifting injustice as well as realizing justice and fairness for Muslim minorities which suffer denial of their rights and experience repression in more than one place in the world.
- Charging the PUIC Secretary General with contacting the parliaments of Sweden, Denmark and Holland in order to urge them to enact legislations that prevent repetition of such crimes and also to contact international parliamentary organizations for the sake of supporting such an endeavor.
- Expressing our utmost concern vis-a-vis the rising of the hate discourse against Islam and Muslims and the growth of the Phenomenon of Islamophobia; and urging all Islamic countries

to commemorate the World Day on Countering Islamophobia.

Calling for exerting further efforts at the international level to enhance world dialogue in order to firmly establish the culture of tolerance, and raise the values of moderation and peaceful coexistence among peoples which our true religion has advocated, and confirm the renunciation of hatred and violence.

Repercussions of Climate Change-Speakers Decided:

- Calling upon developed states to honor their financial commitments and pledges to help developing states in dealing with the consequences of global warming.
- Affirming the right of developing states to receive the necessary assistance to face the risks and losses resulting from Climate Change, in order to activate the principle of common and variant responsibilities.
- Calling for facilitating energy transformation, and enabling developing states to have access to production mechanisms which depend on renewable energies. Stressing the necessity of taking strict legal measures in order to protect the forest areas and pastures due to the important environment role which their play.



Virtual Meeting of the PUIC Committee on Human Rights, Women and Family:

Calls for Responding to Appeal of Palestinian Women and Children

The PUIC Standing Specialized Committee on Human Rights, women and Family held its First Extraordinary Webinar Meeting to discuss the situation of women and children in the occupied Gaza Strip on Thursday 21 December 2023, at 09:00 (GMT). The meeting was attended by (12) Member Parliaments, of which (6) Members took the floor. The Speakers addressed the developments which has been taken place since the 7th of last October, including massacres, destruction, hunger, torture and deportation of the struggling Palestinian people, committed by the Zionist forces which victimized mainly women and children.

The speeches of the members of the Committee focused on the following important points:

- Necessity of responding to the appeal of Palestinian women and children.
- Necessity of sending food and medical assistance to Gaza.
- Necessity of bigger coordination and cooperation among the PUIC members.
- It is the obligation of all Muslims across the world to put their disputes aside.
- Strong condemnation of the unjust aggression against Palestinian women in the Gaza Strip by the barbaric Israeli forces, and a call to support

Palestinian women by all available means, financially and politically.

- Condemning the killing of civilians, women and children, the deliberate targeting of paramedics and press reporters, and preventing aid teams from reaching them and providing the necessary help to save the wounded.

- Condemning the use of the United States of America veto power against a resolution for humanitarian truces and stopping the genocide of the Palestinian people.

- Calling on the member states of the Union to exercise diplomatic, political, commercial and legal pressure and take any measures that would support the Palestinian cause and lift the siege on the Palestinian people.

Following exhaustive discussions on the current situation in Palestine, the meeting decided on the following:

- 1-Emphasizing** the solidarity of the PUIC Member States with Palestinian women, in particular Palestinian women in the Gaza Strip, who suffer from marginalisation and violence.
- 2-Strongly condemning** the unjust aggression against Palestinian women in Gaza Strip at the hands of the barbaric Israeli forces and calling for the support of Palestinian women by all available means, financially and politically.
- 3-Emphasising** the importance of

implementing immediate measures to stop the unjust war on the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, while continuing to pursue a just solution to the Palestinian cause.

- 4-Refusing** to classify this war as an act of self-defence and denouncing any attempt to legitimise it under any pretext.

- 5-Holding** the Israeli occupation government fully accountable for the crimes committed in the Gaza Strip and for its policy of indiscriminate and collective punishment.

- 6-Demanding** the prosecution and trial of those responsible for massacres and genocide against Palestinian civilians before the International Criminal Court.

- 7-Calling** on the UN Security Council to review its Resolution No. (UNSCR 1325) passed in 2000, which stipulates the need to protect women and prevent violence against them, as this resolution does not protect women under military colonial occupation, as is the case in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

- 8-Calling** on the International Criminal Court to conclude the investigation of all the crimes committed by the Zionist occupation against the Palestinian civilians, media workers, and journalists who have been injured as a result of the indiscriminate bombing by the occupation forces.

Palestine..

Gaza pride, Between The Awakening of Conscience and its Sluggishness



By: Mohamed Yazid Ben Hammouda

Deputy of the National People's Assembly of Algeria,
Member of the PUIC Executive Committee



It is unfortunate and disgusting to see many governments and institutions, losing any trace of freedom, and has entered into the herd sponsored by the usurping hybrid Zionist entity, which will not be able to live for a single hour without the blood of innocents, and other than the wounds of the oppressed searching for their share of life with freedom and dignity in a world that has become a jungle, you find everything in it except freedom and dignity. Once again - and as before - international Zionism reveals its ugly face, its bloody nature, its racist approach, and its criminal logic, which does not see in the human being any kinship or covenant, and where does it get its kinship, covenant, or obligation? And all of its nerves are full of crimes against the prophets and against the saints and children. How could it not be among them, when they are the ones who read in their "holy" book: "Now go and smite Amalek, and completely destroy all his wealth, and do not spare them, but kill man and woman and child and suckling and cows and camel and donkey" The Book of Samuel.

How could he not burn Gaza, how could he not slaughter the children of Gaza, and how could he not kill the elders of Gaza and everyone who has a breath of life, who worships his Lord with such words!

What is happening in the proud Gaza, the witness and martyr Gaza, the patient and persevering Gaza, the pity and resistance, all of this attests to the sincerity of the approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict, which has become the humanitarian/American conflict. It is the struggle of man against the monster that has awakened in the depths of the arrogant; those who think that with money they can buy souls, and with weapons they can subdue their resolve!! We are with Palestine, whether it is an oppressor or an oppressed person, and how can Palestine become an oppressor when it resists for the sake of freedom and human authenticity. Yes - as our predecessors said it, we say it and will recommend it to our successors.

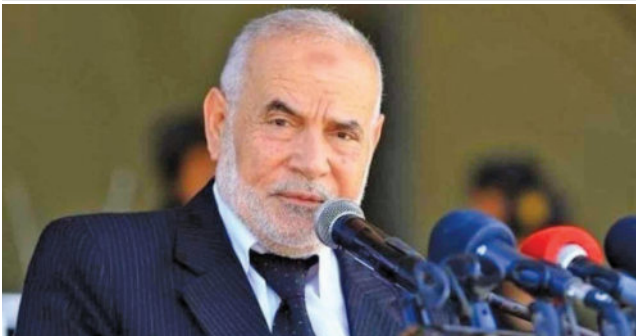
"But what hurts the soul, tears the heart, and rebukes the conscience, is that you see the oppressors and tyrants being serious about their oppression, allied in it, and agreeing on it, while you see the oppressed - and whoever is in their party - mocking their oppression, differing over it, discordant over it, so how will they be helped and how will they be victorious!? It's amazing!!!! While Gaza exposes world opinion, it was able to unite all the peoples of the world around a central issue, which is the issue of justice and freedom. There is no evidence of

this than this overwhelming flood of demonstrations that shook all the cities of the world, in victory for Gaza and its cause. Condemning the arrogance of Zionism and its ally, global arrogance, which lives only on wars, body parts, and carcasses.

There are no borders between us and Gaza to cross or crossings to cross. Between us and it is a vigilance of conscience, a bond of religion, a bond of race, an honorable position, an intersection of destiny, and support in secret, in public, and in all forums. Gaza deserves our permanent victory, and we must not trade in its name, nor cast the justice of its cause as a symptom of this worldly life as many do. Gaza has the right to find us always in the right place at the right time and in the right way. "And those who have wronged will know which way to turn." "We appreciate that by liberating Palestine, humanity will experience world peace based on values and not on interests, because Palestine is not a battle of a people, nation, or religious people of this or that religion." Rather, it is a battle of "common human values," and if humanity as a "value" will remain incomplete in man as a "creature," unless he bears witness to Palestine's "oppression" and declares his readiness for decisive victory.



Martyrdom of the Members of the Palestinian Legislative Council and Destruction of the Parliament Building



The Acting Speaker of the Palestinian Legislative Council, Dr. Ahmed Bahr (Abu Akram), was martyred on Friday, November 17, 2023, as a result of his injury in an air strike during the aggression launched by the occupation forces against the Gaza Strip.

On October 23, 2023, his son Muhammad, his wife, and his children were martyred when the occupation aircraft bombed their house.

The martyr Palestinian politician Ahmed Bahr was born in the Gaza Strip in 1949, and assumed the position of First Vice President of the Palestinian Legislative Council after obtaining about 74,000 votes in the legislative elections. After the occupation arrested the Speaker of the Council, Aziz Al-Dweik, in the occupied West Bank, Dr. Bahr became acting President of the Legislative Council. He rose to fame after a life full of giving and dedication to serving

his cause, the Palestinian cause.

► The martyrdom of Mrs. Jamila Al-Shanti

A member of the Palestinian Legislative Council, Mrs. Jamila Al-Shanti, was also martyred as a result of an Israeli bombing in the Gaza Strip. Jamila Al-Shanti is a Palestinian politician, born in 1957, and was a member of the Palestinian Legislative Council. She was martyred on October 18, 2023, as a result of an air strike launched by Israeli occupation aircraft on her home. Al-Shanti obtained a bachelor's degree in English from Ain Shams University in the Arab Republic of Egypt in 1980, after which she worked as a teacher in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for 10 years. She continued her educational career and obtained a master's degree in foundations of education from the Islamic University in Gaza City in 1998.

She completed her educational career in 2013, by obtaining a doctorate in educational administration from the College of Family Sciences at the University of Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, via distance learning technology.

► The Israeli Army Blows up the Palestinian Legislative Council Building in Gaza

On November 13, 2023, Israeli soldiers from the Golani unit posted a photo of themselves from inside the headquarters of the Legislative Council (Parliament) in Gaza, lining up on the council's platform and raising the Israeli flag after removing the Palestinian flag. Israeli officials, including National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir, reposted the photo, and the building was blown up two days later, according to a video posted by Israeli soldiers.



In the 49th Meeting of the PUIIC Executive Committee in Abidjan:

Call for Uniting Ranks of Islamic Nation

The Executive Committee of the PUIIC held its forty-ninth meeting on July 17-18, 2023, in the Parliament building in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, in response to the invitation made by the Ivorian Parliament. All members of the Committee participated in the meeting.

► Opening session:

The session was opened with a recitation of blessed verses from the Holy Quran and some supplications. The meeting of the Committee was chaired by His Excellency Mr. Adama BICTOGO, Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire. He delivered a speech in which he warmly welcomed the delegations, stating that it is an honor for his country to host, for the first time, a meeting of the PUIIC since the Ivorian Parliament's accession to membership in 1999. And he said that he wishes, on this occasion, to express his great appreciation of the personality of the Secretary-General, His Excellency Mr. Mouhamed Khouraiichi Niass, who has emerged since his election in 2018. He also praised the role played by the PUIIC in carrying out the responsibilities entrusted to it, especially in the field of intensifying cooperation between the various parliaments. He said that the Islamic values that characterize the PUIIC must determine our path in educating children and building our countries, because it is the necessary crucible to enhance the efforts of our governments in reducing poverty, and stressed the need to think in a way that enables us to confront the challenges faced by the countries of the union and to enhance cooperation between Member

Parliaments and coordination between Peoples for the sake of respecting and protecting human rights and humanitarian principles.

► Speech of the Secretary General of the PUIIC:

His Excellency Mr. Mouhamed Khouraiichi Niass, Secretary General of the PUIIC, addressed himself to the international situation in which this meeting is held, explaining that the Palestinian issue is the central issue of the Islamic nation. He condemned the aggressions against the Palestinian people, especially in Gaza and Jenin, and said that the Islamic nation is strongly invited to stand firmly with the Palestinian people. His Excellency took up the situation in the Sahel region, whereas the threat of terrorism and the interference of external parties in the affairs of the region, remain the most outstanding crisis. He expressed everyone's concern about the crisis in Sudan, hoping that a quick solution would be found. He renewed his condemnation of the escalation of the phenomenon of Islamophobia, which was represented in the perpetration of a heinous crime in the city of Stockholm by burning a copy of the Noble Qur'an during the days of Eid al-Adha. He spoke about the resolutions of the previous conference, stressing his thanks to the Ugandan Parliament for voting on a bill against homosexuality.

Working session: The session was chaired by the Vice-President of the National Assembly of Côte d'Ivoire,

► Item 1- Election of members of the Bureau:

His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Yazid Benhamouda from Algeria, was elected Vice-Chairman from the Arab Group. His Excellency Mr. Fadli ZON, Head of the delegation of Indonesia, was elected Vice-Chair from the Asian Group. Her Excellency Mme. Maimouna Epse Touré from Côte d'Ivoire, was elected Rapporteur.

● **Item 2** - The agenda and program of work were adopted.

● **Item 3** - Report of the Secretary-General
The report of His Excellency the Secretary-General covered the period between the date of holding the forty-eighth meeting of the Executive Committee of the PUIIC, and the date of holding the forty-ninth meeting of the PUIIC Executive Committee, which was held in the city of Abidjan, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, on Dhu al-Hijjah 29, 1444 AH, corresponding to July 17, 2023.

Deliberations in the meeting: Some Interventions of participants included the following points:

Emphasizing the centrality and pivotal nature of the Palestinian cause for the Islamic Ummah and the need to unify ranks and visions, to support it and lift the injustice against the Palestinian people.

Condemning, in the strongest terms, the repeated burning of the Holy Qur'an and provoking the feelings of the Islamic nation, and calling for stopping such practices in various ways, with the need to address everything that affects the Islamic identity and confront the phenomenon of Islamophobia.

Calling to unify the ranks of the Islamic nation.

Condemning interference in the internal



affairs of Islamic countries, especially by the European Parliament.

Proposing that the day on which the Union was established i.e. June 17, be the International Day of Islamic Parliaments, with the need to develop the Union's website on the Internet so that it includes the biggest amount of information and parliamentary news. Necessity of confronting the legislations of the West concerning codification of "homosexuality" and combating sexual and intellectual abnormality, and emphasizing combating this orientation and protecting the sanctity of the family.

Calling for supporting the Rohingya refugees, and extending assistance to the Republic of Bangladesh which is facing several problems, and is hosting more than a million refugees who have been dispersed from their homeland. Emphasizing the support extending to the Republic of Sudan in its current crisis and the need for an immediate end to the ongoing fighting, a return to dialogue, reunification, and the renunciation of violence and fighting, while providing material and moral support to the Republic of Chad, which hosts sixty thousand Sudanese refugees, and suffers from the effects of climate change.

The need to confront and fight terrorism in the African Sahel countries, especially in Burkina Faso, Niger, Mali and neighboring countries, and to provide adequate military, material and moral support.

Recommending the adoption of the "Unity of the Umma" as our principle away from sectarianism, sectarianism and division. The Almighty said: "And hold fast to the rope of God all together, and do not become divided."

► **Item 4: Draft agendas for the 10th Meeting of the Standing Specialized Committees of have been adopted.**

● **Item 5:** The draft agendas of Subsidiary Organs have been adopted.

● **Item 6:** Drawing up the Draft Agenda of the 18th session of the PUIC Conference (Draft Agenda adopted, Conference date set)

● **Item 7:** The Abidjan Declaration was adopted. The General Secretariat shall prepare the report of the meeting.

ABIDJAN DECLARATION

The Declaration included several of the important principles and stances as follows:

Affirmation of our solid conviction that our unity and brotherhood, to which our true religion has called us, is the safety valve against what our Islamic world suffers in terms of internal strife and turmoil, external threats, and development challenges.

Necessity of coordinating positions, unifying visions, and intensifying consultations between the Assemblies of Islamic states, in this complex international circumstance, in order to strengthen the cohesion between these states, and intensify cooperation between them.

Affirmation that the Palestinian cause, is a pivotal issue for the Islamic Ummah, and the Palestinian people must have their own independent state, and affirming their full right to regain their legitimate rights.

Strong concern about the growing phenomenon of hatred against Islam and Muslims known as Islamophobia, and consider it a sorrowful phenomenon for human civilization, especially the tearing up and burning of the Noble Qur'an in several European countries. And **call** for stopping insulting religious symbols, as this leads to spreading hatred and intolerance between nations and cultures at a time when the world needs to propagate the values of tolerance and understanding. **Call** on Member Parliaments to seek enactment of international legislations to protect religious symbols and incriminate abusing them.

Strong condemnation of all forms of terrorism. And reaffirmation that this phenomenon is a negation of the teachings of the Islamic religion which calls for tolerance, mercy and rejection of violence. Renew our commitment to combat terrorism.

Call on the Member Parliaments and their respective governments to exchange their best experiences in preventing and combating terrorism, and strengthening understanding between religions, cultures and civilizations through dialogue and expanding the role of the civil society, and all interested people are to exert efforts aimed at enhancing values of tolerance and mutual understanding.

Affirmation of our support for the Sahel States in their battle to combat terrorism, and call on Islamic countries to help these states to eliminate this phenomenon that has resulted in thousands of deaths and injuries, the displacement of millions and disruption of the development process in these countries.

Reiteration of our standing with Muslim minorities in the world, in order to obtain their legitimate rights to practice their rituals, and to guarantee their freedom and access to all their political, civil, economic, social and cultural rights. **Call** for giving special attention to the issue of displaced persons and refugees, which is exacerbated day by day, due to disputes and conflicts, and due to the spread of the phenomenon of terrorism, as well as due to human rights violations, and unemployment arising from difficult economic conditions of some of our countries.



PUIC Parliament Speakers Update

The past few months saw the election of new Speakers of Member Parliaments, while others were reelected. Following is an update of Parliamentary leadership situation:

- ▶ 13 July 2023 Re-election of H. E. Mr. Abass Chernor Bundu, as Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Sierra Leone
- ▶ 27 July 2023 Election of H.E. Mr. Domingos Simões Pereira, as Speaker of the People's National Assembly of the Republic of Guinea Bissau
- ▶ 11 September. 2023 Election of H.E. Mr. Jean-François Ndongou, as Speaker of the Transitional National Assembly of the Republic of Gabon
- ▶ 11 September. 2023 Election of H.E. Mrs. Paulette Missambo, Chairman of the Transitional Senate of the Republic of Gabon
- ▶ 1 October. 2023 Re-election of H. E. Mr. Hammouda Sabbagh, as Speaker of the People's Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic
- ▶ 11 October. 2023 Re-election of H.E. Mr. Ahmad Al Safadi, as Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- ▶ 12 October. 2023 Election of H.E. Mrs. Kandia Kamissoko Camara, as Chairman of the Senate of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire
- ▶ 6 November. 2023 Re-election of H.E. Mr. Saqr Ghobash, as Speaker of the Federal National Council of the United Arab Emirates
- ▶ 9 November. 2023 Re-election of H.E. Mr. Sheikh Khalid bin Hilal Al Maawali, as Speaker of the of the Consultative Council of the Sultanate of Oman
- ▶ 13 November. 2023 Election of H.E. Mr. Mohamed Aslam, as Speaker of the People's Majlis of the Republic of Maldives
- ▶ Re-election of H.E. Mrs. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, as Speaker of Parliament of the Republic of Bangladesh.



Algeria

On January 3, 2024, the President of the National People's Assembly, H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Boughali, supervised the installation of the "Parliamentary Network for Environment and Climate" and the "Parliamentary Network for Youth". In his speech on this occasion, the President of the Assembly explained that the establishment of the "Parliamentary Network for Environment and Climate" constitutes a reflection of the national efforts made in the field of protecting the environment and combating the effects of climate change at the national and international levels. He added in this regard that the Assembly looks forward to supporting the state's efforts in its policies, especially in terms of by proposing draft laws and contributing to confronting the phenomenon of climate change facing Algeria. Regarding the "Youth Parliamentary Network," Mr. Boughali stressed that it, in turn, will work to develop the political culture of youth and shape them as the real force that creates change and the future.



Azerbaijan

Her Excellency Mrs. Sahiba Gafarova, Speaker of the Milli Majlis delivered a speech at the G77+China Summit in Havana on 15 September 2023. She stressed in her speech that a clean environment and green development are two of the five priority areas within the new socio-economic development strategy of Azerbaijan for until 2030. Our country ratified the Paris Climate Accords committing itself to the voluntary reduction of greenhouse emissions by 35% by 2030. By that year, renewable sources of energy are expected to have exceeded 37% of the total energy capacity in the country, thanks to the relevant projects currently implemented. 'I would like to note that Azerbaijan has offered to host the 29th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Climate Change. We stand ready to make a contribution of our own to implementing the global climatic agenda and share our experience.'



Kingdom of Bahrain

On 17 October 2023, during the regular session of the Council of Representatives

chaired by His Excellency Ahmed bin Salman Almusalam, the Council decided to participate in the Bahraini national campaign aimed at providing relief to the people in Gaza by contributing and donating an amount of fifty thousand (50,000) Bahraini dinars. On 31 October 2023, the Council of Representatives decided to approve the request submitted by His Excellency the Speaker to form an ad hoc committee under the name of "Committee of Support for the Palestinian People" to consider the proposal seeking that the esteemed government takes all necessary measures to support the steadfastness of the Palestinian people against the Israeli aggressions.



Bangladesh

The Parliament of Bangladesh, unanimously adopted the Pro-Palestinian resolution at the 25th session of the 11th Jatiya Sangsad (Parliament) on October 30, 2023. The resolution condemned the ongoing genocide in Palestine carried out by Israel and called for standing by Palestine. The resolution says: "The Bangladesh National Parliament strongly condemns the brutal genocide carried out by Israel against the Palestinian people and strongly demands an end to this barbaric killing. Israel's infernal killing in Palestine has caused an extreme disaster of human rights. This Parliament calls on all the conscientious people, states and organizations of the world to come forward to protect human rights in Palestine and calls upon the Muslim Ummah to come forward effectively to protect the Palestinian people and establish their just demand-independent and sovereign state."



Cote d'Ivoire

The proceedings of the 45th Conference of the African Parliamentary Union (APU) concluded on December 15, 2023 in Abidjan, and H.E. the President of the National Assembly of Côte d'Ivoire, Mr. Adama Bictogo was chosen as the new President of the APU. During this Conference, debates focused on "The fight against insecurity and terrorism, factors of political instability and recession", on the one hand, and on "The development of intra-African trade with a view to effective implementation of the African regional integration agenda",

on the other hand. In addition, regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the APU Conference issued what was termed the Abidjan Declaration, which condemned Israel's military activities against the civilian populations of Gaza as well as its "disproportionate military response", in the Gaza Strip. It aligned with the resolution of the UN General Assembly calling for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire. The next APU Conference, which will be the 46th, will be held in April 2024 in Chad.



H.E. Dr. Hanafi Jabali, Speaker of the House of Representatives, affirmed the Council's categorical rejection of coercing Palestinians into internal displacement or forcibly displacing them outside their lands, specifically towards the Egyptian lands in Sinai. All Egyptian state authorities must cooperate in confronting any attempts to forcibly displace Palestinians to Egyptian territory. The Council called on the international community to exert serious and effective pressure to reach an immediate ceasefire and ensure full access to humanitarian and relief aid for the Palestinian population in Gaza, ensuring the restoration of the basic necessities of life. The House of Representatives addresses international parties who operate with double standards, who publicly present themselves as supporters of human rights, and yet support the occupying state in its shameful actions against the occupied Palestinian people, thereby sharing responsibility for the violations and crimes committed against the Palestinians.



The 9th Consultation Meeting of MIKTA Speaker was held in Jakarta, on 20 November 2023, between parliamentary speakers of MIKTA countries that include Mexico, Indonesia, South Korea, Turkey, and Australia. Her Excellency, Mrs. Puan Maharani, Speaker of the House of Representatives of Indonesia and the chair of the MIKTA Speakers reaffirmed its commitment to supporting peace in Palestine. "How we in the MIKTA session can encourage the opening of humanitarian corridors and continue to fight for independence in Palestine," Maharani noted at a press conference in Jakarta.

Maharani believed that their support for Palestine could be echoed throughout the world, and stressed that the Israeli attacks in Gaza need to be stopped immediately and a ceasefire should happen soon. We need to solve the root (cause) of the problem as soon as possible, the Indonesian Speaker added.



The Climate Change and Security Conference concluded successfully, in the Iraqi Parliament on 21 May, 2023, under the patronage of the Acting Speaker of Parliament and the Research Directorate, and was organized by the Sanad Organization for Economic Development, which represents an important step towards a more sustainable environmental future. The Conference began with opening remarks by Mr. Mohsen Al-Mandalawi, Acting Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Dr. Sameh Wisam Al-Muqdad, Executive Director of the Sanad Organization for Economic Development, who both emphasized the need for cooperation between different sectors to confront the imminent danger of the effects of climate change. During the conference, the speakers also stressed the complexity of the climate system and its overlap with sensitive sectors such as water security, food security, economic security and national security, as well as the need for comprehensive solutions that enhance the ability to adapt, through local, regional and international cooperation in order to provide applicable strategic solutions on the long term. Experts stressed the close link between climate change and water scarcity, which makes it a pivotal issue that requires urgent attention to address the challenges related to managing and preserving water, and taking decisive steps towards a more sustainable future.



H.E. Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mr. Ahmed Al-Safadi, received on January 16, 2024, South African Ambassador Tselani Mokoena, expressing the House of Representatives' appreciation and support for the case filed by her country against the occupying state in the International Court of Justice on charges of genocide and violating the 1948 Convention on the Prevention of the Crime of Genocide. Al-Safadi said: This stance is not surprising

coming from the descendants of the late leader Nelson Mandela. This stance will be recorded in history, as a victory for the just cause of the Palestinian people and their legitimate rights despite the Zionist war machine, destruction and massacres. Al-Safadi and Ambassador Mokoena stressed that Jordan and South Africa consider the Palestinian Cause as their own, sharing aligned positions in supporting the Palestinian people until they obtain their legitimate rights. They emphasized the need to stop the massacres targeting civilians and hindering the delivery of urgent aid, and prevent genocide.



The National Assembly, in its special session on first November 2023, approved 13 recommendations to stop the Zionist violations in the Gaza Strip and support the just cause of the Palestinian people. The recommendations emphasized the unity of the official and popular ranks in Kuwait and their unified efforts to support this central and just cause and called for establishing a fund for the reconstruction of Gaza and supporting its steadfastness, as well as calling on governments, chambers of commerce and businessmen to support this fund and launch a boycott against the Zionist entity. The recommendations also involve establishing the "Kuwait Humanitarian City" in the Gaza Strip, providing the necessary residential, educational and health facilities to support the steadfastness of the people and prevent their displacement.



"The Parliamentary Committee on the Environment of the National Assembly of Lebanon held a session on 7 November 2023, to discuss the issue of the Israeli enemy's use of missiles and bombs that contain the internationally banned substance white phosphorus. The committee reviewed the dangers and effects of this current and future use on green cover, groundwater, and humans, in presence of experts from Amnesty International, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Agriculture. Based on the documented reports issued by the Evidence Laboratory of Amnesty International, and the reports and photos that prove this use and the violation of Protocol III of the Convention

on Conventional Weapons, the Rome Convention, and many international conventions and treaties. The Environment Committee recommended to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to prepare an integrated, documented file and deposit it as a document condemning the Zionist entity in international references and request that it be prosecuted before the competent international authorities.



Morocco

The Speaker of the House of Representatives, H.E. Mr. Rachid Talbi El Alami, and the President of the Senegalese National Assembly, Amadou Mamy Diop, signed, on December 20, 2023 in Dakar, a protocol to strengthen parliamentary cooperation between the two legislative bodies. The agreement was initiated as part of the working visit made by Mr. Talbi El Alami to Senegal at the head of an important parliamentary delegation. The protocol aims to continue strengthening policies aimed at developing appropriate strategies regarding best practices for organizing and managing Parliament, conducting studies and drafting technical documents in various fields, as a basis for exchanges between representatives and senior officials in the legislative bodies of the two countries. It also aims to organize seminars and training courses for senior employees and provide the necessary technical assistance to both institutions. In accordance with the Protocol, the two parties also agreed to establish permanent consultations at the level of all parliamentary organizations of which they are members and to coordinate their positions in this regard.



Oman

The Shura Council of the Sultanate of Oman said that it is following the continuation of the brutal Israeli aggression against the State of Palestine in general and Gaza in particular, and the acts of forced displacement practiced by the usurping occupying entity against civilians in Gaza, and the crimes of genocide, including the killing and abuse of children, women, the elderly, and infants, and the crimes of systematic destruction of mosques and churches, places of worship, residences,

hospitals and relief headquarters. The Council affirmed, in a statement issued on November 11, 2023, that this constitutes a blatant violation of human values and international laws and conventions, and what is astonishing and surprising is that all these crimes occur under the watchful eyes of the world and international organizations, most notably the United Nations, without doing anything despite the enormous capabilities it possesses. This represents a double standard that equates the executioner with the victim, which heralds the loss of people's trust in this organization and in international laws and conventions.



Qatar

H.E. Speaker of the Shura Council Hassan bin Abdullah Al Ghanim expressed his strong anger and denunciation of the heinous massacres and genocide against our Palestinian brothers in the Gaza Strip and in the occupied Palestinian territories, describing them as cleansing and barbaric crimes committed by the Israeli occupation forces amid shameful silence and in full view of the international community. This came during the speech His Excellency delivered during his chairmanship of the 17th meeting of Their Excellencies Speakers of the Shura, Representatives, National and Ummah Councils in the GCC countries, which was hosted by Doha on 7 November 2023. H. E. the Speaker of the Shura Council criticized some countries and human rights organizations, their claims to protect human rights, and their repeated condemnations of alleged violations in various regions around the world, while, simultaneously supporting the blatant violations committed by the occupation forces against humanity in Gaza.



Saudi Arabia

On behalf of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud - may God protect him -, His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, opened on December 27, 2023, the work of the fourth year of the eighth session of the Shura Council. His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman said in his speech:

Your country is continuing its development renaissance in accordance with Vision 2030 and its ambitious programs, which, God willing, will contribute to the Kingdom maintaining its advanced position globally, achieving further development and prosperity, and providing a decent life for citizens. The Kingdom also held the Extraordinary Joint Islamic Conference, to confront the painful events facing our brothers in Gaza, through which the Kingdom worked to create a joint Arab and Islamic movement, to pressure the international community to take serious and firm positions to stop the Israeli aggression and allow humanitarian aid to enter the Gaza Strip.



Tunisia

On January 13, 2024, H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Bouderbala, Speaker of the House of People's Representatives, accompanied the opening of the "Tunisia Forum to Support the Resistance", which is organized by the People's Movement at the Palace of Conferences, over two days under the slogan "A nation resists... a nation wins." The Speaker of the House of People's Representatives met on the occasion with a number of guests of the forum from various Palestinian factions and leaders and a number of national and Arab figures. The meetings were an occasion in which the Speaker of the Assembly of People's Representatives reiterated his personal belief in the justice of the Palestinian cause and the legitimacy of the struggle of the Palestinian people and their valiant resistance in order to recover their rights and establish their independent state with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital. He also affirmed the position of The Assembly of People's Representatives and its unconditional support for the brotherly Palestinian people are in harmony with the steadfast support of the Tunisian government and people by the Palestinian brothers and their struggles, out of belief in the justice and legitimacy of this issue.



Uganda

Speakers from across the Commonwealth have met in Kampala, Uganda for the 27th Conference of Speakers and Presiding

Officers of the Commonwealth (CSPOC) which took place from 3 to 6 January 2024. Thirty-three Speakers and Presiding Officers from more than 25 Commonwealth Parliaments were hosted by H.E. Mrs. Anita Among, the Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda. H.E. Mrs. Among said “The world has witnessed severe geopolitical changes, characterized by increased violence and wars, especially in the Middle East and part of Europe, and consensus building and parliamentary diplomacy is an effective remedy to disunity and a recipe for a more harmonious, tranquil, and stable society.



United Arab Emirates

His Excellency Mr. Saqr Ghobash, Speaker of the Federal National Council, opened at Expo Dubai, December 6, 2023, the parliamentary meeting accompanying the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28), which is organized by the Council in cooperation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union, with the participation of 30 Speakers of Parliament and 500 Parliamentarians and experts representing 100 parliaments and international organizations around

the world. His Excellency Saqr Ghobash said in his speech that the issue of climate change, since the founding of the UAE in 1971, has constituted a major priority in the state's policies and the directions of our wise leadership through the adoption of two parallel paths: the first of which is the move towards investing in clean and renewable energy sources and developing the infrastructure necessary to achieve carbon neutrality. The second is to provide sound and transparent legislative frameworks that regulate the transition process towards sustainable development in all its economic, social and environmental sectors.

In the 147th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union:

Islamic Group's Proposal on Condemning the Zionist Entity's Aggression Against Gaza Obtains Majority

The Consultative Meeting of the Islamic Group was held in Luanda (Republic of Angola), on the side-lines of the 147th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) on 23 October 2023.

The gathering was headed by Dr. Ousahla Mohamed Reda, who serves as the Vice President of the Algerian Council of the Nation (Senate), as Algeria currently holds the sessional presidency of the Parliamentary Union of OIC Member States (PUIC).

The meeting was attended by His Excellency Mr Adama Bictogo, President of the National Assembly of Côte d'Ivoire, as well as parliamentary delegations from a number of PUIC member states.

At the outset of the meeting, His Excellency Mr Mouhamed Khouraiichi Niass, Secretary General of the PUIC, delivered a brief speech in which he reviewed the agenda of the Consultative Meeting.

Following this, Mr. Adama Bictogo, Speaker of the National Assembly of Cote d'Ivoire, emphasized the importance of unity, particularly in the current critical circumstances affecting the Islamic world. He advocated a unified position on the situation in Gaza and stressed the need to support the Palestinian people.

Each delegation spoke and firmly denounced



the Zionist entity's hostile actions against Gaza, expressing their outrage regarding the criminal acts perpetrated by the occupation forces in Gaza and the other Palestinian territories.

It was agreed to submit an emergency item to the IPU on the aggression of the Zionist entity on Gaza. The PUIC Members succeeded in obtaining a majority in the

147th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, thus establishing a strong stance in defense of the Palestinian people and in support of their just cause, and condemning the brutal attacks and massacres perpetrated by the Israeli occupation forces against the unarmed civilians as well as the unjust siege, forced displacement and starvation they suffer from.

PUIC President Visits General Secretariat



H.E. the PUIC Secretary General, Mr. Mouhamed Khouraiichi Niass, hosted a Lunch banquet on 22 August, 2023, in honor of H.E. the Speaker of the National People's Assembly of Algeria, PUIC President, Mr. Ibrahim Boughali, who is on an official visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran. The banquet was attended, in addition to the Algerian delegation, by a delegation from Islamic Parliament of Iran, and a delegation from the Foreign Ministry of Iran, as well as ambassadors and diplomats of Islamic States accredited to Tehran. In the finale of the party, Mr. Ibrahim Boughali, Speaker of the

National People's Assembly of Algeria, underlined his happiness to be present at the PUIC Headquarters. He thanked H.E. the Secretary General for the good performance of the General Secretariat, and its persistent action to realize the PUIC objectives. He referred to the necessity of activating and enhancing the PUIC role in order to face the vilification of Islam and Muslims in some regions of the world. He also stated that PUIC members are seeking to establish a word characterized by respect of human rights. 23 August 2023

Signing MOU on the Forthcoming PUIC Conference

His Excellency Mr. Adama Bictogo, President of the National Assembly of Côte d'Ivoire, and His Excellency Mr. Mouhamed Khouraiichi Niass, Secretary General of the Parliamentary Union of OIC Member States, (PUIC) signed on Monday, 23 October 2023, in Luanda (Republic of Angola), a Memorandum of Understanding on the procedures for holding the eighteenth Conference of the PUIC in the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire. The MoU covers all organisational aspects of the Conference, which will be held in the city of Abidjan from the 2nd to the 5th of March 2024.



Editorial Board

Editor in Chief:

Mohamed El Hafed Maham

Senior Editor:

Ibrahim Ahmed Dirar

Managing Editor:

Zahra Khodaie

Address:

34, Pesyan St. Moghadas Ardabili,
Za'afaranieh -
Tehran - Iran

Tel: +9821 22418860-1-2

Fax: +9821 22418858-59

Email: g.s@puic.org

Site: www.puic.org

Signing MOU between PUIC and Association of Arab Secretaries General



H.E. the PUIC Secretary General, Mr. Mouhamed Khouraiichi Niass, and H.E. the Chairman of the Association of Secretaries General of Arab Parliaments, Dr. Ahmed Bin Nasser Al-Fudala, signed a Memorandum of Understanding stipulating that two parties shall cooperate in order to realize their common objectives. The signing took place on the sidelines of the 10th Conference of the Association of Secretaries General of Arab Parliaments, which was held in Doha, State of Qatar, on 12–13 September 2023.