INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE QUESTION OF JERUSALEM

"Preserving the cultural and religious character of Jerusalem"

Convened by the
Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP)
with support of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)

Geneva, 27-28 June 2019

FINAL PROGRAMME

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27 June 2019

10.00 - 11.00   **OPENING SESSION**

Statements by:

USG Michael Møller
Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva
Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

Amb. Cheikh Niang
Chair of the Committee on the Exercise
  of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People
Permanent Representative of Senegal
  to the United Nations

ASG Samir Bakr
Assistant Secretary General for Palestine and Al-Quds Affairs
  of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

Ms. Carla Khijoyan
Programme Executive for the Middle East, WCC

Min. Ahmad Majdalani
Minister of Social Affairs of the State of Palestine

Recess

11.00 - 13.00   **PLENARY I**
The legal status of Jerusalem under International Law and in the context of a final peace settlement

Min. Ahmad Majdalani
Minister of Social Affairs of the State of Palestine
Recent political developments and prospects of a U.S. peace plan

Ms. Yael Berda
Assistant Professor at Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Israel's powers of legislation, taxation and judiciary under international law

Mr. Mohannad Gbara
Palestinian lawyer based in Jerusalem
Expropriations and demolitions & major Israeli infrastructure projects

13.15   **PRESS CONFERENCE**

15.00 - 18.00   **PLENARY II**
Challenges to safeguarding the cultural heritage of Jerusalem

Mr. Nazmi Al Jubeh
Associate Professor of History and Archaeology, Birzeit University
The protection of cultural sites under occupation

Ms. Yudith Oppenheimer
Executive Director, Ir Amim
Israeli settlement policy in the Old City and its environs

Mr. Wasfi Kailani
Director of the Royal Hashemite Fund for the Restoration of Al-Aqsa
Restoration of Islamic cultural sites and the Hashemite custodianship in Jerusalem

Ms. Shadia Touqan
Director of the Arab Regional Center for World Heritage
Needs assessment for the conservation and protection of architectural heritage and UNESCO action plan

18.30 - 20.00   **Reception by the Chair of the Committee**

28 June 2019

10.00 - 13.00   **PLENARY III**
                   Jerusalem: Holy to the three monotheistic religions

                   Mr. Bernard Sabella
                   Former member of the PLC, sociologist and Executive Secretary of the
                     Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (MECC)
                   Challenges in the free access to holy sites

                   Mr. Mustafa Abu Sway
                   Professor of Islamic Studies at Al-Quds University & Member of the
                     Islamic Waqf Council in Jerusalem
                   Custodianship of Muslim Holy sites

                   Ms. Leah Shakdiel
                   Representative of Oz V'Shalom and Rabbis for Human Rights
                   A Jewish perspective on the Holy sites in Jerusalem

                   Mr. David Wildman
                   Executive Secretary for Human Rights & Racial Justice, General Board of
                     Global Ministries, The United Methodist Church
                   *The role of Christian lobbies in the United States and abroad in
                   preserving the status quo of the holy sites*

15.00 - 17.00   **PLENARY IV**
                   Ways forward to preserve the character of the Sacred City

                   Mr. Ammar Hijazi
                   Assistant Foreign Minister for Multilateral Affairs, State of Palestine
                   Review of existing Palestinian protection measures

                   Mr. Khaldun Bshara
                   Director, RIWAQ – Center for Architectural Conservation
                   Preserving the City through education and community projects

                   Mr. Yonathan Mizrahi
                   Founder and Director of Emek Shaveh,
                   *Concrete suggestions on the protection and preservation of holy and
                   historic sites for the benefits of all cultures and faiths*

                   Mr. Geoffrey Aronson
                   Fellow, Middle East Institute
                   U.S. policy and ways forward

17.15 - 18.00   **CLOSING SESSION**

Chaired by:

Amb. Cheikh Niang
Chair of the Committee on the Exercise
  of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People
Permanent Representative of Senegal
  to the United Nations

Statement by:

Amb. Riyad Mansour
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine
  to the United Nations

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