

PLO - ISRAEL\*

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ISRAELI CABINET  
CONCERNING THE DECISIONS OF THE PNC

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(COMMUNICATED BY THE CABINET SECRETARIAT)

FOLLOWING THE WEEKLY CABINET MEETING TODAY, 20.11.88, THE CABINET MADE THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT:

"THE PNC DECLARATION IS AN ADDITIONAL ATTEMPT AT DISINFORMATION, A JUMBLE OF ILLUSIONS, MEANT TO MISLEAD WORLD PUBLIC OPINION. THE PLO HAS NOT CHANGED ITS CHARTER, ITS POLICY, ITS PATH OF TERRORISM OR ITS CHARACTER. THIS HAS BEEN DISCUSSED AT LENGTH PREVIOUSLY.

IT IS WORTH ADDING FOR THOSE COUNTRIES SEEKING TO PROMOTE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST THAT THE PLO WAS AND REMAINS THE MAIN OBSTACLE TO PEACE, AND THAT THEREFORE, IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR THEM TO REFRAIN FROM BACKING IT AND RECOGNIZING ITS DECLARATIONS.

PEACE BETWEEN ISRAEL AND ITS NEIGHBORS WILL BE ATTAINED ONLY THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS AND THE PNC'S LATEST PLOY WILL ONLY RESULT IN PREVENTING SERIOUS AND FRUITFUL NEGOTIATIONS. ALL THOSE WHO AID THE PLO IN THIS MATTER ARE PREVENTING PEACE IN OUR REGION AND MAKING IT MORE DISTANT."

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\*[This document was provided by Mr. Aharon Yaar, First Secretary, Embassy of Israel, Canberra]

REACTION OF THE ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN  
TO THE DECISIONS OF THE 19TH PNC

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ONCE AGAIN, THE ORGANIZATION WHICH CLAIMS TO REPRESENT THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE HAS PROVEN ITSELF UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO RECOGNIZE REALITY. IN ITS NEW STATEMENTS, AMBIGUITY AND DOUBLETALK ARE AGAIN EMPLOYED TO OBSCURE ITS ADVOCACY OF VIOLENCE, WILLINGNESS TO RESORT TO TERRORISM, AND ADHERENCE TO EXTREME POSITIONS.

HENCE, ANY RECOGNITION OR LEGITIMIZATION OF THE DECLARATIONS WILL NOT BE CONDUCIVE TO PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

NO UNILATERAL STEP CAN BE A SUBSTITUTE FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT.

NO GIMMICK CAN MASK THE TRAGEDY INFLICTED UPON THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TIME AND AGAIN BY THE ABSENCE OF A REASONABLE, REALISTIC, AND PEACE-SEEKING LEADERSHIP.

AS IT CONTINUES TO SHOULDER ITS RESPONSIBILITY FOR TRANQUILITY IN THE TERRITORIES, AND THE WELLBEING OF THE RESIDENTS, ISRAEL REMAINS COMMITTED TO THE PURSUIT OF A JUST, COMPREHENSIVE, AND LASTING PEACE WITH ALL ITS NEIGHBORS - FIRST AND FOREMOST JORDAN AND THE PALESTINIANS. ISRAEL'S POLICY REMAINS EQUALLY FIRM IN ITS ADHERENCE TO, AND INSISTENCE UPON, UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338 AS THE ONLY COMMONLY ACCEPTED BASIS FOR PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.