



American Model United Nations
General Assembly Second Committee

GA Second/II/1

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Second Committee

The General Assembly Second Committee,

1 *Noting* that Palestine has been granted United Nations observer status since 2012,

2 *Reaffirming* that the United Nations is necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on
3 respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples. The United Nations shall promote higher
4 standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development. It shall also
5 commit to solutions of international economic, social, health, and related problems; and international cultural and
6 educational cooperation,” as noted in Article 55 of the United Nations Charter,

7 *Taking into account* that Article 55 has been used in the past as grounds for recognizing sovereign statehood
8 of Palestine by 137 out of 193 Member States, including 9 of the G20 members,

9 *Further observing* that Palestine, and specifically Gaza, has the right to territorial waters out to ten nautical
10 miles, and rights to an exclusive economic zone out to 200 nautical miles per the United Nations Convention on the
11 Law of the Sea, which is granted to any ratifying party of the Convention,

12 *Being guided* by Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), which establishes that
13 everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family,

14 *Recalling* that the Israeli National Water Carrier has diverted a vast majority of water away from the people
15 of Palestine,

16 *Noting* that the lower Jordan River has been reduced to 2% of the original flow,

17 *Bearing in mind* that the Palestinian people have been split off with no right of passage between the two
18 sections of Palestine,

19 *Favorably noting* that Article 13 of the UDHR states that everyone has the right to freedom of movement,

20 *Recognizing* the failure of Israel to act accordingly with demands to end the unlawful occupation of the
21 Syrian Golan Heights, as noted in Security Council Resolution 497 of 17 December 1981,

22 *Emphasizing* that 94% of the land in the West Bank cannot be developed by the Palestinian people due to
23 Israeli encroachment and 69% of water extractions are carried out by the Israeli government’s Mekorot program, as
24 outlined in Water Nakba in Palestine: Sustainable Development Goal 6 versus Israeli Hydro-Hegemony,

25 1. *Stresses* the urgency for Israel to cease the limitations placed upon Palestinian waters to a six nautical
26 mile span, ending the blockade of the Gaza strip:

27 (a) Creating the ability for resources to be exchanged freely through all parts of Palestinian territory;

28 (b) Building a trade network to expand the economy of Palestine;

29 2. *Urges* Israel to respect the economic rights given to Palestine by the United Nations as per the United
30 Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea so that it may utilize the natural gas resources found in Gaza Marine;

31 3. *Asks* Israel to moderate their water supply claims in the Jordan River Basin to stabilize the resource
32 economy of Jordan and Palestine;

33 4. *Develops* and expands the investment in infrastructure to further economic development:

34 (a) For Lebanon, Syria, Israel, Palestine and Jordan, with Saudi Arabia and Egypt as observers, to
35 convene and establish a special council amongst themselves for the purpose of regulating water allocation and water
36 quality of the Jordan River;

37 (b) That the special council and in particular Jordan, Israel, and Palestine work to complete the
38 Western Ghour Canal;

39 (c) The initiation of discussions on the renegotiation of the water and land resources and their access
40 and allocation;

41 (d) Israel and Palestine create a space for both parties to attend a monthly bi-lateral summit to
42 focus on joint stewardship on shared water resources;

43 (e) All involved parties work to build trust between Israel and Palestine on the allocation of these
44 resources, breaking down the restriction of movement and development in the Jordan River Valley;

45 5. *Develops* and expands the investment in infrastructure to further economic development;

46 6. *Provides* the necessary resources for economic development and prosperity of the people affected by the
47 scarcity of clean water in this region by:

48 (a) Implementing and utilizing the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Program developed by
49 the United Nations Development Program;

50 (b) Comprehensive education that covers WASH, sustainable methods of living to enhance quality
51 of life and desalination processes;

52 7. *Urges* Israel to build no further walls or other obstructions to prevent such movement between the sections
53 of Palestine for the purpose of increasing commerce and opening up new markets for the Palestinian and Israeli people
54 to profit from;

55 8. *Recommends* that Israel and Palestine negotiate a passage between Ezra and Ramallah be built to link
56 the West Bank and the Gaza Strip;

57 9. *Further calls* for Israel to rescind any claims to the resources in the Syrian Golan Heights;

58 10. *Requests* an end to future occupation of said territory to restore the economic opportunities denied to
59 the Palestinian people;

60 11. *Endorses* the construction and implementation of desalination plants by Non-Governmental Organiza-
61 tions in tandem with the governments of Israel and Palestine both in the Gaza Strip and West Bank, to be overseen
62 by the United Nations Development Program to:

63 (a) Ensure Sustainability Development Goal Six is met to the fullest extent possible for Palestinian
64 people through fair water distribution;

65 (b) Establish economic and resource rights to Palestine for water resources in the West Bank;

66 (c) Create desalination plants that are able to return economic revenue within six months of imple-
67 mentation;

68 (d) Increase Palestine's GDP by 20% through economic participation and employment of people in
69 industrial and agricultural sectors to reverse the effects of Israel's encroachment;

70 (e) Initiate collaborative planning between the industry, regulators and communities to face growing
71 challenges of climate change, population and quality of life;

72 (f) Break dependence on Mekorot water extractions in the Jordan River Valley;

73 12. *Recommends* the establishment of multilateral trade agreements among the states in the region so as to
74 promote trade and economic cooperation to build the Palestinian economy and safeguard their natural resources:

75 (a) A focus on foreign aid to Palestine utilizing grants and loans, so as to rebuild its financial state,
76 with the intention of moving Palestine towards a self-sustaining financial state;

77 (b) A removal of further remaining tariffs on industries which Palestine has a shortage of, including
78 but not limited to agricultural products, manufactured goods and/or international goods;

79 (c) The non-interference of Israeli troops at the Israeli-Palestinian border in this potential trade
80 agreements so as to respect the potential international trade tray which ma b created by states in the region.

Passed, Yes: 38 / No: 21 / Abstain: 22