



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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**Statement**

**by**

**H.E. Dr. Khiane PHANSOURIVONG,**

**Permanent Representative of the Lao People's  
Democratic Republic to the United Nations**

**on the Agenda Item 38 : "Question of Palestine"**

**During the 70<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly**

**New York, 23 November 2015**

**Mr. President,**

I wish to express my deep appreciation to the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon for his tireless efforts to bring to an end to this long overdue "Question of Palestine."

The question of Palestine has been on the United Nations agenda for more than 6 decades and the dream and aspiration of the Palestinian people for an independent statehood and freedom is not only not materialized but it seems to be further apart. It is time for us to take a historic step towards putting an end to the occupation of the Palestinian land and paving the way for the peaceful solution to the conflict. We believe that to achieve peace between Israelis and Palestinians needs a sustained and active international involvement. We must acknowledge that the acquisition of the United Nations status and the right by the Palestinian people as a recognized State has demonstrated their firm commitment to resolving the conflict through constructive dialogue and peaceful means. We welcome the raising of the flag of the non-member observer state of Palestine at the UN Headquarters in September this year which signified the growing support to the Palestinian cause for independence. We also welcome countries that have recognized the State of Palestine and hope that more countries will follow suit in the near future.

**Mr. President,**

We are deeply concerned over the ongoing conflict and violence in the Gaza Strip, West Bank and Jerusalem. We call on parties concerned to exert their utmost efforts necessary to avoid further exacerbating the already fragile situation and take all possible steps in order to create conditions that will be conducive to the resumption of the peace negotiations.

**Mr. President,**

The Lao PDR wishes to see a just, lasting, comprehensive and peaceful solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, in keeping with relevant United Nations resolutions and major initiatives undertaken in the past decades which envisage a sovereign, independent and viable State of Palestine with East Jerusalem as its

capital, living side by side in peace with Israel based on the Arab Peace Initiative and recognized borders as stipulated in the UN Security Council Resolutions. We, therefore, call upon the parties concerned to resume the direct peace negotiations in order to reach the final peaceful settlement on this basis and urge the international community to redouble its efforts to help Palestine back to normalcy as soon as possible. To this end, I commend the work of United Nations agencies, especially the United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) for assisting the Palestinian people during all these years amid multiple difficulties.

The Lao PDR has recognized the State of Palestine. I wish to reaffirm our continued support to the Palestinian people in attaining their long-delayed goal of a viable, peaceful and prosperous State of Palestine that is a full-fledged Member of the United Nations.

I wish the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People every success in its noble tasks of searching for a peaceful, just, comprehensive and lasting solution to the Question of Palestine.

**I thank you Mr. President**