National Model United Nations
Week A

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General Assembly Fourth Committee Documentation
General Assembly Fourth Committee

Committee Staff

Director                Jenna Gleaton
Assistant Director   Hallen Korn
Chair                  Taylor Thompson
Rapporteur          Daniella Smith
Rapporteur          Marko Petric

Agenda

1. Israeli Settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Assistance to Palestinian Refugees
2. The United Nations and 21st Century Information Governance
3. Promoting the Peaceful Use of Outer Space and Preventing an Arms Race

Resolutions adopted by the committee

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Summary Report

The General Assembly Fourth Committee (Special Political and Decolonization) held its annual session to consider the following agenda items: I. Israeli Settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Assistance to Palestinian Refugees; II. Promoting the Peaceful Use of Outer Space and Preventing an Arms Race, and III. The United Nations and 21st Century Information Governance.

The session was attended by representatives of 142 states and 2 non-member state observers.

The session opened with several statements concerning the adoption of the agenda. After much deliberation at its first meeting, the Committee adopted its provisional agenda in the order of Topic 1, Topic 3, and then Topic 2; and decided to proceed with its work in Working Groups.

During subsequent committee sessions, working groups formed to work on several key sub-topics- the most predominant of which was the multilateral call for a two-state conclusion to the Israel-Palestine conflict. By the end of the third session it was evident that delegates were concerned most about improving the lives of refugees, which was seen in the first working papers with topics covering encompassing refugee aid, the status of Israel's ongoing settlement occupation of Palestine, and improving the methods of assistance available to refugees. Delegates approved a motion to shorten the speakers time from 90 seconds to 60 seconds.

The fourth session was opened with speeches announcing developments on papers covering the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA). With almost twenty working papers under review, several mergers were called for, and delegates continued to push the matters of improving standards of living of Palestinian refugees through increases in infrastructure and accessibility of food and medical attention. By the end of the sixth session delegates were encouraged to merge the existing papers.

Ten draft resolutions were accepted by the dais at the end of the seventh session. At the beginning of the eighth session, the body moved to approve the closure of debate, and the committee moved into voting bloc. Seven draft resolutions carried friendly or unfriendly amendments, of the unfriendly amendments, all failed. Out of the ten draft resolutions that were on the floor, the body voted to adopt eight of them. The first draft resolution was adopted by a roll call vote of 69/30/36; the second was rejected with a roll-call vote of 33/64/38; the third passed with a count of 65/42/28; the fourth was adopted with a vote of 62/38/35; the fifth was resoundingly adopted with a vote of 69/30/31; the sixth passed with a vote of 56/42/37; the seventh was rejected with a vote of 28/54/48; the eighth was adopted with a vote of 59/36/40; the ninth was passed by a count of 69/30/36; and the tenth was adopted with a vote of 56/41/38. Each of the resolutions adopted reaffirmed the mandate of the General Assembly Fourth Committee to address the issues of the Israel-Palestine conflict and the unwavering commitment of the international community to ending the ongoing occupation of the Palestinian Territories.
Reaffirming the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Bearing in mind the total number of people who are considered refugees surpasses five million,

Conscious of the need of Palestinian refugees to receive financial and material support to ensure that the situation does not become exacerbated,

Acknowledges the right of the Palestinian refugees to have access to adequate food, water, shelter, medical and educational facilities,

Inspired by A/RES/67/120 entitled Assistance to Palestine Refugees,

Recognizing the work of the United Nations Reliefs and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) in providing aid to refugees in UNRWA sponsored camps,

Recalling the Emergency Appeal published in May 2012, which highlights the extreme deficits of several refugee camps, especially the Gaza Strip Camp and the West Bank Camp,

Alarmed that as of April 2012 the cash funding deficit of the UNRWA stood at 69.4 million USD,

The General Assembly Fourth Committee,

1) Invites all Member States and private members, including corporations, wealthy individuals, and NGOs, to attend a Palestinian Refugee Donor Conference that will:
   a. Be held in Doha, Qatar;
   b. Be overseen by the commissioner general of the UNRWA;
   c. Be held no later than December 2013;
   d. Be organized for the purpose of raising funds for the UNRWA;
   e. Discuss the budget of UNRWA and how the budget deficit can be bridged;

2) Calls upon the creation of the New Deal for Refugees (NDFR) programme as a tool to raise the standard of living for Palestinian refugees and increase the economic activity within those host nations, by helping the Palestinian refugees develop job skills via training programmes for Palestinian refugees, which will:
   a. Operate in the ten most populated refugee camps;
b. Be administered by the UNRWA Education Department;

c. Be funded by voluntary donations of the participants of the Palestinian Refugee Donor Conference, and by United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UNHABITAT);

d. Provide a stipend to participants of the programme based on the amount of funds gained through donations;

e. Be developed only in willing Member States hosting Palestinian refugees;

3) Requests that a bi-annual report of UNRWA spending be made publicly available that will:

a. Act as a public record of how donations to the UNRWA are being distributed and allocated;

b. Build the confidence of UNRWA’s current donors, which frequently express discontent with the lack of knowledge as to the allocation of donated funds;

c. Encourage other states and private parties to become stronger donors;

d. Be administered by the UNRWA internal accounting practices;

4) Recommends the implementation of mandatory background checks against the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) criminal database, to be administered by INTERPOL in conjunction with local police forces, for all newly hired UNRWA staff in order to:

a. Increase transparency of the UNRWA to gain the confidence of the international community;

b. Prevent the indirect funding of criminal activities and organizations in an effort to increase further security and transparency across the region;

5) Expresses its belief that through increasing trust in, and awareness of, UNRWA will help to decrease the budget deficit of UNRWA and thereby improve the situation of the Palestinian Refugees.
Recognizing that there are over five million Palestinian refugees,

Further recognizing the unequal status of Palestinian refugees based on their origin,

Concerned by the deteriorating conditions in Palestinian refugee camps located in the Middle Eastern region, in addition to conditions in the Gaza Strip, and the West Bank,

Noting with deep concern that 90% of the water pumped into the Gaza Strip is undrinkable,

Noting further the overall devastating humanitarian situation throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

Taking into account the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) in the Near East mandate, founded by General Assembly resolution 302 (IV), in providing vital programs and shelters for displaced Palestinians throughout the Middle Eastern regions,

Appreciating the programs run by the UNRWA, including microfinance loans to encourage Palestinian entrepreneurship, essential healthcare throughout the region, as well as aiding in rebuilding refugee camps,

Bearing in mind how UN Global Compact has helped to further the knowledge and expertise of various UN agencies and believing that such cooperation will be beneficial for the Palestinian refugees as well,

Noting with regret that the UNRWA is grossly underfunded and inefficiently allocated,

Having reviewed the work on the green job creation program commissioned by UNRWA and its positive effects on the economy in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

Taking into consideration the 2010 Food Security and Nutritional Survey of Herding Communities in Area C, commissioned by UNRWA, is the most recent data available on food security in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

Reaffirming the UN Convention on Discrimination against Women,

Understanding that female refugees are disproportionately affected by the tension in this region and unequal allocation of foreign aid, in addition to unstable economic conditions,

Keeping in mind the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is an absolute for all,
The General Assembly Fourth Committee,

1) **Urges** the UNRWA to amend the working definition of Palestinian refugees to include the following conditions:

   a. All refugees must be given equal status regardless of their origin,
   b. Those born after the initial 1948 Arab-Israeli Conflict must also be given this status if they are directly affected as a result of the conflict:
      i. These specifications are those put forth under the UN Convention on the Status of Refugees,
      ii. Conditions for what constitutes refugee status may change based on UNRWA determinations;

2) **Recommends** the UNRWA to seek out the generation of nontraditional funding in order to ensure the continuation of UNRWA programs:

   a. Nontraditional contributions being financial aid or technical assistance from emerging States, NGOs, and TNCs depending on their resources,
   b. Nontraditional donations would be earmarked for specific uses including, but not limited to, rebuilding of refugee camps, providing water filtration systems, and improving existing education systems for refugees within the Occupied Palestinian territory;

3) **Encourages** UNRWA to create a new framework for trade deals and guaranteeing that these deals would be protected from any, and all, obstructions:

   a. Establishing a framework for sustainable, and environmentally friendly, trade deals with neighboring countries, and the international community though UNRWA,
   b. Securing necessary infrastructure in the Occupied Palestinian territory,
   c. And ensuring employment and the possibility of a livelihood for Palestinian refugees residing in, or originating from, the Occupied Palestinian territory,
   d. Therefore, obstructions would hinder building the necessary foundations for a sustainable Palestinian economy;

4) **Invites** UN Global Compact members to support Palestinian refugees by providing assistance, being technical assistance or financial aid, to the UN body, NGOs, and other actors where it is feasible;
5) **Encourages** Member States to continue assisting the job creation program of UNRWA due to the importance of job creation to facilitate green economic growth and development in the Occupied Palestinian Territories;

6) **Endorses** a regularly commissioned report on the status of food security and nutrition within the Occupied Palestinian Territory:

   a. Highlighting the European Union Instrument for Stability to improve food security to refugees as an example of an encouraged route of actions for the report,

   b. Requesting that UNRWA carries out regular data collection such that a new report can be released yearly,

   c. Funding for these reports will be allocated from aforementioned earmarked contributions;

7) **Calls for** immediate attention to the worsening water crisis and urges substantive efforts to resolve it:

   a. With particular emphasis placed on the water crisis in Gaza:

      i. Through utilization of earmarked donations to the UNRWA, water filtration systems will be installed in the most at risk areas within Gaza,

      ii. At risk areas will be determined through UNRWA statistics on the status of Gaza;

   b. Implementation of a water filtration program in other areas will be determined by UNRWA statistical analysis;

8) **Further urges** international community to focus attention on the depleting aquifers in Gaza and Jordan:

   a. Resources will be allocated from Member State donations in order to explore short and long term solutions to this issue,

   b. UNRWA will oversee the proper allocation of these resources and present a comprehensive report within six months;

9) **Supports** the initiatives of The Palestinian Working Women for Development, in particular the attention paid to high female refugee unemployment rates within the Occupied Palestinian Territory:
a. Continues backing of this organization’s work towards female equality,

b. Encourages further growth of the cooperatives within this organization to reach international markets and create more employment opportunities for female refugees.
Acknowledging the first article of the Charter of the United Nations in regards to the development of friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination and bearing in mind A/RES/37/194 in which the UN states the Medical Ethical precepts and conditions for effective health care operations,

Concerned about the latest United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) 2011 Donor Report which states that more than 20 children die every day on refugees camps, one doctor attends more than 117 patients a day and most of the Refugees Camps lack of appropriate medical centers,

Recognizing the importance of water as an essential component of life and its significance as a human right,

Emphasizing A/RES/ 57/254 which declares 2005-2015 as the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development with special emphasis on the promotion of universal and sustainable education and drawing attention to General Assembly A/RES/65/98 which states the importance of guaranteeing Palestinian refugees the right for higher education,

Taking note of A/RES/66/82 and its command to increase the UN General Assembly Fourth Committee’s oversight to upsurge the efficiency of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA),

Guided by the principles of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)’s Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) and considering the need for higher education in the Gaza Strip, West Bank, and other relevant Near East regions,

Acknowledging the European Union’s ongoing contributions to alleviating the quality of Palestinian public services within the Pan European Grid Advanced Simulation and Estate Estimation (PEGASE) framework,

Noting with satisfaction Ethiopia’s “out-of-camp scheme” within the Dollo Ado Region and the desire to adapt of this model to the Palestinian refugee situation,

Noting with concern that according to the UNRWA 2011-2015 Report 57% of Palestinians live under extreme poverty and approximately 80% of people in Gaza live below the poverty line (EC 2010b),

Desiring to promote different types of education in Palestine, especially in the areas of agriculture, civil engineering, simple mechanics and basic health care,
Having studied the possibility for developing industrial and technical support to promote a spirit of self-improvement for the Palestinian people through direct cooperation with the local Ministry of Education and Higher Education of the Palestinian Authority,

Praising the efforts of the UNRWA's Technical Vocational Education and Training program (TVET) which has successfully operated academic and technical training opportunities and enhanced technical creative human capacities,

Further noting the UNRWA 2011-2015 Educational Reform Strategy Reform Report in its attention to the lack of vocational training centers in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, Lebanon, and Jordan,

Having considered the important refugee population and infrastructure that the UNRWA has in Burj El-Shemali Refugee Camp in Tyre, Lebanon; Amman New Refugee Camp in Amman, Jordan; Aida Refugee Camp in Bethlehem, West Bank,

Acknowledging the desire of Iran, Ethiopia, France and Spain to contribute their expertise including but not limited to financial and technological aid,

Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution A/RES/65/140 which encourages the cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the United Nations on shared goals of which the Palestinian issue is one,

The General Assembly Fourth Committee,

1) Calls for the restructuring of the UNRWA by:

a. Providing 15% of UNRWA funding to the Middle East Regional Advisory Board (MERAB) who is responsible for distributing funds to the local advisory boards, which, in turn, distribute funds within their respective refugee camps;

b. Increasing the MERAB’s share 15% every five years, at which time, a mandatory review occurs, carried out by an ad hoc committee convened by the GA Fourth Committee to investigate the success of this program, requiring the GA Fourth Committee’s approval for further implementation;

c. Transferring funding for the first 20 years uninhibited, allowing 75% of total UNRWA funds to be controlled by the regional advisory board, at which time, an ad-hoc Committee convened by the GA Fourth Committee will investigate the success of this program, requiring the GA Fourth Committee’s approval for further implementation;

d. Incorporating local and regional dialogue in the UNRWA oversight board by allocating one-quarter of its seats to members of countries who host Palestinian refugees;
2. **Encourages** the UNRWA to work with UN member states, NGO’s and private collaborators to assist in establishing and working with the regional advisory board composed of actors from the Middle East whose duty is to allocate funding through compromising local advisory boards of neighboring politicians and representatives from a local refugee camp, which fosters Palestinian self-sufficiency and self-determination, by managing individual camps through funding allocation for resources necessary for camps to function; such as food, water, and shelter;

3. **Strongly recommends** that Palestinian refugee camps’ governing authority will be transferred from the UNRWA to Palestinian refugees residing within the camps, by:
   
   a. UNRWA authorities creating a Future Palestinian Refugee Leaders (FPRL) program, which will train Palestinian refugees on the requirements of daily administration of refugee camps;
   
   b. Evaluating the program every two years by the regional oversight board, who must verify and approve the implementation methods;

4. **Strongly suggests** the termination of the blockade of humanitarian resources, including but not limited to, healthcare equipment and materials, food and nutrition supplements, clean and safe drinking water, energy with specific regard to oil, gas and electricity;

5. **Urges** the reopening of the Israeli blockade on the Jordan River in order to increase availability of water for drinking and agricultural usage to the Palestinian refugees so as to increase self-reliance;

6. **Calls upon** the OIC with the agreement of its Member States to provide immediate assistance to Internally Displaced Palestinian Peoples within the Occupied Palestinian Territories and Palestinian Refugees located within other OIC Member States:
   
   a. For the purpose of all humanitarian needs as designated by the OIC potentially including; health care, education, nutrition, and all other humanitarian needs;
   
   b. Using existing contacts with local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that have access to Palestinian communities, and in cooperation with the current operations of the UNRWA, until the point in time which neither organization is needed;
   
   c. Providing material and financial aid in non-self-governing territories, including: the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, Palestinian refugee camps, and all other communities where Palestinian refugees request assistance;
d. Using the pre-existing OIC funding structure, and within the current humanitarian operations of the OIC, to finance the initiative;

e. Expanding the two main types of Technical and Vocational Courses (TEVOC) offered at Vocational Training Centers (VTC), including:

i. Courses of one-year duration, with training in skilled labor in the areas of

ii. Agriculture, Basic Health care, Mechanical Technicians;

Semi-professional courses of a two-year duration are offered at the post-secondary school level for those who have successfully completed the one year duration in Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Nursing;

iii. Recognizing the cultural and religious particularities of Palestinian communities, which OIC affiliated organizations can most effectively assist;

7. **Strongly urges** OIC member states to voluntarily contribute additional funding;

8. **Calls upon** the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO) to fund and establish the Medical Mentoring Program (MMP), which provides medical training to refugees currently residing within refugee camps, in order to sustain and improve their situation through medical assistance and infrastructural capacity building within Palestinian refugee camps by:

a. Collaborating with the UNRWA and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to determine what medical professionals and materials are needed within the refugee camps, with special emphasis on war-torn areas;

b. Fostering short and long term medical infrastructure by the training of medical staff and the creation of medical facilities within the refugee camps;

9. **Recommends** the installation of additional VTCs in the Burj El-Shemali Refugee Camp in Tyre, Lebanon; Amman New Refugee Camp in Amman, Jordan; Aida Refugee Camp in Bethlehem, West Bank for the purposes of assessing the viability of the VTCs before the expansion of the program;

10. **Further encourages** the increased opportunities for employment of Palestinian refugees through:

a. The establishment of local and regional advisory boards’ job assistance program providing Palestinians employment opportunities beyond their refugee camp;
b. Increased job opportunities within UNRWA refugees camps beyond the scope of the currently employed job system through installation of Career Opportunity Centers;

c. The creation of local micro-financing organizations to further the self-sustainability of the employment of these refugees;

11. **Further encourages** the VTC to create valid certificates that will act as documentations that prove that the refugees have received the relevant training programs, which will eventually help the refugees gain specific jobs in which they were trained in through the camps;

12. **Reiterates** the need for UN member states to actively cooperate in aiding Palestinians refugees by:

   a. Providing economic contribution to the VTC initiative;

   b. Donating technical equipment, such as: agricultural, engineering, and health care technology;

   c. Recruiting educators for the express purpose of professional training;

13. **Calls upon** the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to conform a VTC Supervisory Committee (VTC-SC) whose responsibilities include;

   a. A two-year review of the initiative’s effectiveness based on the following indexes through:

      i. Proportion of graduates in the local population;

      ii. Percentage of employed alumni;

      iii. Social acceptance of the initiative;

      iv. Increase in income for the participants of this program on annual terms;

14. **Emphasizes** the technical and vocational programs with the end result being:

   a. A skilled labor force capable of self-sustainability;

   b. Improved infrastructure within Palestinian refugee camps, including: water distribution and purification infrastructure, power generating systems, roads, and sanitation facilities;
c. Improved living conditions for refugees through utilization of local materials for shelters better suited to the local climate, better sanitation, clean water, and access to urgent medical care;

d. Enabling them to become self-sufficient, pay taxes, and cooperate within the nation in which they are seeking refugee status;

15. Further calls for the use of microfinance with the aid of the UNRWA to help refugees in local entrepreneurship and enterprise through training obtained from the Vocational Training Centers (VTCs) by:

   a. Creating information and help centers held by the UNRWA with staffs in aiding the Palestinian refugees;

   b. Making careful documentation of the progress of micro-financing within the Palestinian refugee population;

16. Strongly Encourages the UNRWA in collaboration with local partners to ensure the fair and equal representation of Palestinian refugee camps within the VCT program via:

   a. Local anti-corruption agencies;

   b. UNRWA’s Department of Internal Oversight;

   c. UN Board of Auditors.
Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the *Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War*,

Recalling its resolution 194(III) on the right of the Palestinian people to return to their homes and lands,

Recalling the Advisory Opinion on the Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory of 2004 of the International Court of Justice,

Noting with regret the deadlock in the Israeli-Palestinian peace talks and reaffirming its belief that dialogue and negotiation based on relevant United Nations resolution is the ultimate solution to the existing conflict,

Further noting that the ability of a state to influence its own economic policy facilitates growth and reduces unemployment and therefore directly, reduces poverty, increases self-sufficiency, improves health, housing, and education, and would ultimately ease tensions between Israelis and Palestinians,

Taking into account the role of education and tolerance as an important step for a permanent alleviation of hostility, and that the empowerment of youth and children promotes inclusion and participation toward peace,

Bearing in mind that Israel and the Palestinian conflict has evolved since 1948, and peace has not yet been reached,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 26 that affirms the importance of education to the development of nations and the settlement of conflicts, as well as the promotion of freedom and international security,

Emphasizing that the Universal Declaration of Human Right’s vision pertains to both Israel’s and Palestine’s peoples,

Recalling A/RES/66/79 for the progress in conversations and understanding between Israel and the Palestinian people, building trust and promoting a better environment for the people involved in the conflict,

Deeply concerned with the welfare of the children and the intrinsic rights to education sponsored by UNESCO,

Acknowledging the active role of the UNRWA in the improvement of educational services such as curriculum, teaching methods, community participation, school management, and remedial classes,
Emphasizes the dangers of unemployment and dependence, especially among young Palestinian refugees, as well as the importance of economic empowerment in order to participate in the marketplace and provide for themselves in the long term,

The General Assembly Fourth Committee,

1) Requests that Israel and Palestine take into consideration the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as the rights of education for the establishment of peace and cooperation among all peoples;

2) Advises both parties to propagate and encourage positive messages of peace and cooperation when communicating with one another and the international community as a whole;

3) Recommends the incorporation of UNRWA into the Office of the High Commissioner of Refugees, retaining its current staff, management and organizational structure, in order to fully include Palestinian Refugees under the UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (CRSR);

4) Accepts the statement of purpose to donate funds to UNWRA from the following countries (for the following amounts): Canada ($5m), New Zealand ($3m), Finland ($5m), Saudi Arabia ($5m), Australia ($6m), Norway ($7.5m), Qatar ($5m and an additional $30m in case of a donor conference hosted by Qatar 2013), Germany ($4m), France ($7m), Costa Rica ($1m) and Nicaragua ($1m);

5) Recommends that once nominally part of the UNHCR, UNRWA continue its operation with an expanded mandate of:

   a. Monitoring and implementing in full the rights outlined by the 1951 Refugee Convention to all Palestinian displaced peoples,

   b. Increasing the focus on combating the worsening health care situation among refugees, particularly with regards to the mental health problems such as, but not limited to, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder;

6) Further suggests that UNRWA implement targeted programs towards particularly vulnerable groups, such as women, children, the elderly, and the mentally ill or traumatized, including:

   a. Women’s leadership and public engagement courses aimed at increasing female public participation,

   b. Raising awareness of mental health issues among UNRWA staff and the wider community, training UNRWA staff in recognizing and providing basic care for refugees with mental health issues;
c. Confirming financial support of a $3 million annual contribution for the implementation of GPP from each of the following nations:
   i) Australia,
   ii) France,
   iii) Germany,
   iv) New Zealand,
   v) Qatar,
   vi) Any other state willing to make a commitment;

7) 

Invites Palestine and Israel to cooperate under the guidance of a new program named Generation of Peace Program (GPP) in order to alleviate tension and hostility through education and extracurricular activities, as well as foster financial capabilities for future generations by:

a. Promoting tolerance in the region among children and youth from ages 6 to 17 who are either starting to develop their understanding about the conflict or exposed to the situation, creating extracurricular and educational activities based on research conducted by UNESCO and UNHCR on education levels,

b. Introducing them to topics ranging from tolerance and acceptance to global trade and affairs comprehension,

c. Confirming financial support of a $3 million annual budge from Australia, France, Germany, New Zealand and Qatar for the implementation of GPP, and inviting other nations to contribute to the project,

d. Designating UNESCO and its office in Beirut, UNICEF, as well as UNHCR office in Qatar to oversee the budget and evaluate the outcomes of GPP after five years of its implementation,

e. Requesting that leaders from local communities in Palestine and Israel recognized by the United Nations and their governments engage in this program and give constructive criticism for its implementation,

f. Supporting qualified training for youth under the coordination of UNESCO and UNRWA, fulfilling their academic abilities and guiding them toward a professional career, thus diminishing the vast unemployment in the region,

g. Approving the creation of an educational system under the supervision of UNESCO in which children are educated according to their abilities and career preferences,
h. Facilitating economic empowerment and self-sufficiency by providing business and entrepreneurship classes for students affected by the conflict;

8) Calls for greater coordination between different aid agencies, IGOs, NGOs and the governments of Israel and Palestine to be achieved under the auspices of the UNHCR and its subsidiary body UNRWA in order to:

a. Harmonize the existing policies, programs and procedures of the various organizations,

b. Ensure that relief efforts are implemented effectively, allowing for the optimal allocation of humanitarian aid resources and eliminating any needless program overlap,

c. Establish a more comprehensive emergency response framework;

9) Invites UN bodies, NGOs and IGOs as well as all relevant member states to share information on refugee and Internally Displaced Peoples statistics and conditions reciprocally, using the model of the existing coordination efforts of UNRWA’s own programs under the Da’am Program of 2011;

10) Recommends UNRWA to establish an information sharing mechanism to aid NGOs operating in the region in order to provide access to UNRWAs current databases;

11) Encourages UNRWA to make use of modern means of communication such as mobile technology and social media to make the work of UNRWA more visible;

12) Suggest the utilization of modern technology to expand an consolidate UNRWA’s current database into fully digital database in order to improve the cataloguing, analysis and dissemination of information among agencies working to help Palestinian refugees and IDPs with a view to:

a. Ensure that all have an equitable access to humanitarian aid, microfinance, and legal assistance,

b. Allocate aid more quickly and efficiently,

c. Facilitate the medical assistance to refugees,

d. Remain actively seized on issues in refugee camps in order to better implement measures that prevent a potential humanitarian crisis,

e. Enable better communication between refugees, IDPs and the aid agencies helping them,
f. Raise awareness of the plight of Refugees and IDPs among the international community,

g. Ensure the enhancement of emergency response deployment,

h. Mobilize the donor base more effectively for activities supporting Palestinian refugees and IDPs;

13) Recognizes the need to increase protection and recognition of rights of refugees in their current host countries, through measures such as permanent refugee visas and extended citizenship rights, such as the right to property and to conduct trade and business;

14) Calls for increased legal protection for Palestinian refugees through bodies such as UNRWA by working to ensure that the principles outlined in the Declaration of Universal of Human Rights and the Refugee Convention of 1951 are extended to all refugees and to eliminate the current protection gap between the rights of Palestinian refugees and other refugees;

15) Reiterates the urgent need to ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid and lawful goods to promote the economic growth and self-sustainability of the Palestinian territories;

16) Suggests that Member States, NGOs, private enterprise and the international community cooperate in order to increase the funding of UNRWA and the UNHCR by 1% over the next five years;

17) Encourages all Member States, NGOs and other organizations to continue to support humanitarian relief and development efforts in Palestine, including funding for UNRWA and the UNHCR, while respecting the sovereignty of both Israel and Palestine, through:

a. Donations, grants and funds,

b. Material assistance or the provision of advisors,

c. Regional organizations such as the Islamic Development Bank,

d. International organizations such as the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.
Deeply concerned by the occurrences in the Middle East Region and especially by the situation of Palestinian refugees,

Convinced of the importance of article 73 of the UN Charter referring to the issue of Palestinian refugees,


Further recalling the importance of General Assembly resolution 67/23 for any further steps,

Believing in the responsibility of the international community and Quartet of Middle East Mediators to play a leading role in the resolution of the conflict and especially stressing the importance of the United Nations within the Quartet,

Recognizing that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict builds up a milestone in the work towards peace in the Middle East Region,

Emphasizing that Israel and Palestine are both sovereign nations capable of determining their fate and that the international community should work towards facilitating discussions between them,

Declaring that the IASC’s definition of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, that it is a “complex emergency” which “requires international response that goes beyond the mandate or capacity of any single and/or ongoing UN country program,” should be the basis for any further work on this issue,

Considering that more than 4.8 million refugees struggle today to survive and get their basic needs covered such as access to education, health service, food security and water,

The General Assembly Fourth Committee,

1) Requests the convention of an international conference for the relief of Palestinian refugees with the hope building confidence between the State of Israel and Palestine to be held in Bandung following General Assembly resolution 67/23 hosted by the UN and the Quartet of the Middle East on June 2013;

2) Encourages the participation of the international community as a whole to demonstrate its support for the advancement of refugee welfare, with the aim to:
a. Provide assistance to Palestinian refugees and provide a neutral stage for further
negotiations between the conflicting parties on the issue of refugees, requiring with
the hope that this will facilitate the resumption of direct contact between them,

b. Inviting civil-society to the dialogue by promoting the participation of Israeli and
Palestinian NGOs while hearing the people and the government during the
conference;

3) Advises that the meeting should be held under the Chatham House Rule to provide a
greater dialogue on topics referring to aid for Palestinian refugees and to ensure the
security of its participants and recommends reports to be submitted to the General
Assembly and be preserved as part of the historical record;

4) Suggests the agenda for the Conference to be set one month prior to it, taking into
account the following recommendations: the responsibility to protect refugees and the
definition of borders as key to finally provide Palestinian refugees with a permanent and
dignified residence;

5) Encourages both parties to negotiate peacefully with each other regarding Palestinian
refugees and Israeli settlements as they relate to the refugees;

6) Further Encourages the Security Council to address the issue of Palestinian refugees if
the conference is not sufficient to reach an agreement between both parties.
Recalling the resolution 194(III) of 11 December 1948 which established a precedent recognizing the plight of refugees and their right to return to their ancestral homes,

Recalling also its more recent resolution 66/72 of 9 December 2011, which noted with regret the lack of efforts made to repatriate or compensate the displaced persons, the lack of basic services available to refugees in the camps, and the lack of progress in achieving a conciliation between Israel and Palestine,

Aware of the report contained in resolution A/67/331 in which Israel defended its voting policy as a matter of national security and affirmed its past and present support for programs providing aid to Palestinian refugees,

Reminding the committee that, in order to be practical and effective, any solution must be considered agreeable to both Israel and Palestine,

Aware that, as per S/RES/1397, the ultimate solution to the refugee crisis lies in bilateral negotiations on the topic of Palestinian sovereignty and right to return,

Noting with deep concern that 1.4 million refugees are distributed across 58 camps in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic, and the Occupied Palestinian Territory as documented in the Registration Statistical Bulletin 2010 by the Relief and Social Services Department (RSSD),

Aware of the ongoing settlement of the Occupied Palestinian Territory by the state of Israel and presence of nearly seven million Palestinian refugees worldwide,

Noting with approval the continuous cooperation of NGOs such as Know Thy Heritage with the funding of Palestinian organizations,

Acknowledging the importance of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in providing aid and camp services to Palestinian refugees, as well as the need for more funding for this organization,

Recognizing that the need for aid is greatest among refugees in Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon, as well as the Gaza Strip and the West Bank,

Deeply concerned by the policies of neighboring host countries, which grant few or no legal rights to refugees and deny them access to basic resources including clean water, education, medical care, construction permits and employment,
Expressing gratitude to humanitarian aid already given to the Palestinians from states, NGOs and additionally commends the work of the UNRWA,

Bearing in mind that many Member States, NGOs, and private donors are concerned that aid sent to Palestinian refugees may be intercepted and used by militant groups on either side,

The General Assembly Fourth Committee,

1) Asserting that the faction found between Hamas-led Gaza and the Fatah-led Palestinian State will only serve to exacerbate regional tensions within a newly created Palestinian State serving to deepen the cleavages found in Palestine:
   a. Promotes progressive dialogue between Fatah and Hamas forces through mutual understanding and mediated discussions leading towards face-to-face communication, these discussions beginning immediately through established means and methods with the express goal of having both factions represented at a negotiation table;
   b. Reduces the dependency of Hamas-led Gaza on financial aid from parties whose interest is not conducive to progressive, peaceful inter-dialogue between Palestinian political elements;

2) Expresses its hope that regional States take an active role in refugee relief efforts in affected areas with the goal of empowering the main actors to achieve stability and sustainable development in the region by engaging:
   a. Relevant UN organizations in order to collaborate with these states as the situation dictates;
   b. Regional states that would include: Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Egypt, Syria, and oPt;

3) Requests that host countries grant residential rights to Palestinian refugees living in their territory according to their existing policies and laws including access to medical care, access to education, access to employment, access to building permits, and access to clean food and water;

4) Resolves that the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC), and UN Watch (UNW) compile and publish a biannual fact-finding report:
   a. To determine the specific resources that the Palestinian refugees in different areas need most, including, but not limited to, food, water, medical supplies, and construction materials;
b. To measure the progress of the host countries in applying the residential rights outlined in Operative Clause 3 to the refugee populations in their territory;

c. Conducted in refugee camps in the surrounding host countries of Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Egypt;

d. Which will be submitted to the General Assembly Fourth Committee and made available to NGOs and the general public;

5) *Requests* the improvement of the security systems and protocols providing protection to aid via the UN Department of Political Affairs in order to ensure that aid sent to the Occupied Palestinian Territories is properly transported in order to facilitate the:

a. Oversight of Israeli military check points and border control programs by UN observers to restrict the transportation of conventional arms and illicit materials into oPt to ensure that relief aid is transported properly;

b. Investigation into the use of physical aid materials to prevent supplies from being used by groups other than those designated by the donor;

c. Greater transparency in the use of funds with respect to relief aid for Palestinian refugees and to ensure that the funding is allocated as originally intended;

6) *Emphasizes* the need to educate people to the importance of bilateral negotiations for reaching a lasting positive peace by working along with UNESCO and Univeralia in order to provide education for refuges through cultural awareness programmes which would also:

a. Call on the European Commission, the World Bank, or Islamic Development Bank to enhance the financial budget of the UNRWA Education Reform Strategy to broaden the funding that has cost an estimated $4 million between 2011-2015;

b. Implement over a five year period, 2011-2015, the UNRWA Education Reform Strategy at an estimated cost of $4 million dollars;

c. Enhance the budget of the Education Reform Strategy in order to create the new cultural awareness programmes to build on mutual workshops, cultural events, and festivals;

7) *Suggests* that the Security Council extend the mandate of the UNTSO in Palestine to cover humanitarian aid, economic development, and the provision of the mediation between UN advisors in addition to its existing duties, in cooperation with the UNRWA;
8) **Recommends** that the Security Council reconsider the damaging effects of restrictions that prevent humanitarian and construction supplies from entering the Gaza Strip, which are vital for the maintenance and repair of refugee camps within that area and cause the prolonged and unnecessary suffering of Palestinian refugees;

9) **Encourages** the continued cooperation between existing regional NGOs and UNRWA in the Palestinian Occupied Territory and surrounding host countries through the consolidation and reconciliation of their structure and operations;

10) **Urges** member states to begin, resume or expand provision of aid to UNRWA for the purpose of continuing the provision of funds to Palestinian aid programs;

11) **Requests** the expansion of the UN Refugee Agency in order to further tailor to the needs of the Palestinian refugees including the improvement of conditions in camps to ensure human rights are met;

12) **Encourages** Israel and Palestine to engage in mediated bilateral negotiations on the issue of a two state solution and the Palestinian right of return, thereby providing a permanent home for displaced Palestinians and in order to prevent future hostilities between Israelis and Palestinians;

13) **Requests** that the mandate of the UN Relief and Works Agency be renewed for another 5 years to prevent an imminent interruption in their efforts to provide aid to Palestinian refugees;

14) **Further Requests** that the mandate of the UNHCR in Palestine be extended to allow greater legal and physical protection for the Palestinian refugees;

15) **Commends** the persistency of the United Nation’s decisions towards Israel and Palestine and deeply affirms that there is great hope for the Palestinian refugees.
Reaffirming the Geneva Convention, the United Nations Resolutions on the
condemnation of the Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories and the
resulting violations of Palestinian basic human rights,

Recalling also the Human Rights Council resolutions and the International Court of
Justice condemnations on the violations of International Humanitarian law and of the
Human rights of the Palestinian people,

Encouraging the resumption of the Middle East peace process based on the Madrid terms
of reference (1991), the Quartet Road map, the Arab Peace initiative (2002),

Calling upon chapter 4 article 13b and chapter 9 article 59 of the UN Charter, which calls
for the UN’s direct support and facilitation of negotiations to create stability and well-
being among member states,

Further recommending that the need for religious and cultural cooperation has never
been greater particularly noting Ban Ki-Moon in SG/SM/11702 calling for the creation of
platforms for international religious discussion as well as other UN member states such
as the Alliance of Civilizations initiative in 2005 and the Jerusalem Peace Makers,

Acknowledging the ongoing struggle for Palestinians to achieve an acceptable quality of
living in the refugee camps; in regards to not being able to attain a suitable standard of
living in the refugee camps or upon exit from the camps due to lack of education, job
training, and available resources conducive to an acceptable quality of living.

Recognizing the work that the United Nations Relief Works Agency has done so far in
providing humanitarian aid to the Palestinian refugees, and noting with deep concern that
UNRWA has a history of inconsistent financial oversight within its own organization
particularly with field offices,

Reaffirming A/RES/57/251, which sought to assist Palestinian refugees by providing
them with long-term goals like aid, education and health care,

Calling upon the countries sheltering Palestinian refugees to improve the living
conditions in the refugee camps, including access to transportation, to education, to
housing rights, to medical assistance and insurance and to all basic needs for better living
standards,

The General Assembly Fourth Committee,
1) **Reaffirms** the need to provide a peaceful environment for effective peace negotiations between Israel and Palestine in order to promote a two state solution, further affirming the importance of regional stability and peace and facilitating the way to better address the needs of the Palestinian refugees:

a. Whereby the negotiations ought to be held in a neutral ground, and with the support of the UN to facilitate these negotiations,

b. Through a temporarily halt of the construction of the current Israeli settlements to encourage a good and peaceful environment for the negotiations and support peace talks,

2) **Recommends** the creation of a UN council overseen by the General Assembly to report to UNESCO that shall address the lack of religious and cultural representation among refugee communities to help facilitate and especially maintain an air of peace within and between Palestinian and Israeli communities to:

a. Work closely with the UNRWA or other complimentary UN bodies to ensure that Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and refugees receive the necessary humanitarian aid they need to ensure that their human rights requirements are met including a better education;

b. Encourage dialogue that reconciles religious and cultural tensions by sending a representative from each religious and cultural faction to meet in a neutral zone determined by the UNRWA where the council will discuss the effects of policy to their respective communities;

c. Promote education for refugees in sheltering countries. Focusing on the cultural side of the conflicts, as many young generations of Palestinian refugees and Israeli settlers have little idea about the cultural differences and this might help bringing the young generations of the two parties together;

d. Encourage the receiving of voluntary monetary funds from any and all willing member states to ensure that this council is fully functional;

3) **Reaffirms** the importance of promoting a two state solution, according to the road map to peace:

a. To ensure the end of hostilities and border conflicts between Palestine and Israel, and achieve sustainable peace between the two states;

b. To give the Palestinian refugees a state to come back to or to refer to;

c. To ensure that human rights are respected by both parties;
4) **Strongly requests** the implementation of a natural resources management specifically a water resource mechanism between Israel and Palestine in order to ensure equal access to drinking water by establishing joint coordination activities for water resources through a “bi-national commission” to monitor the equal distribution of potable water;

5) **Stresses** the importance of supporting UNRWA organization through:
   a. Extending the mandate of UNRWA for 3 more years, and increasing the funding of the organization;
   b. Increasing the efficiency of all bodies and bureaucracy of UNRWA by reassessing the importance of each program running under the UNRWA to better address the needs of the Palestinian refugees;
   c. Increasing humanitarian aid into the Gaza Strip;
   d. Improving the allocation of funds given to UNRWA by specifying the purpose and the destination of each financial support, also with the help of the UNHRC to conduct an external audit on the UNRWA’s allocation practices to ensure the efficient distribution and accurate reporting of relief aid to refugees;
   e. Emphasizing that both Israel and Palestine should welcome and support the work of UNRWA;
   f. Extending the possibility and ability of the UNRWA to maximize the benefits of Medicare, education, infrastructure and health care, for the Palestinian refugees;

6) **Endorses** continued funding to the UNRWA for the Near East to promote education within the Palestinian territories and countries sheltering Palestinian refugees, which would specifically address:
   a. Training Palestinian refugees in marketable skills to further enhance their ability to attain jobs subsequently allowing for higher standard of living;
   b. The allocation of funds to education and further educational efforts of intercultural and interreligious teachings, in order to promote the education of children within the affected regions and in the hosting countries; to encourage a tolerant view of other cultures and religions.
Alarmed by the impoverished situation of 5 million Palestinian refugees located in sixty-one refugee camps,

Noting with deep concern ongoing conflicts and political instability in the Middle East and its effect on Palestinian refugees in refugee camps,

Recognizing Emergency Appeal issued by the UNRWA highlighting the increasing deficit of the West Bank and Gaza Strip camps amounting to over 100 million USD,

Reaffirming A/RES/57/251 which sought to assist Palestinian refugees by providing them with things such as health care and social services,

Viewing with appreciation the work of the UNRWA to alleviate the suffering of refugees since 1950, by providing education, health and social services to Palestinian refugees including the enrollment of 67,000 children in school, 24-hr Operation Centers, and 230,000 refugees served in UNRWA clinics,

Noting that the UNRWA is predominately funded by donor states and some voluntary contributions through civil society and individual donors,

Noting further that the UNRWA reported that over 360,000 or 69 percent of Palestine refugees are in need of urgent assistance and that the previous assessment was highly underestimated,

Recognizing the need to access civil society networks in order to meet Palestinian refugee needs,

The General Assembly Fourth Committee,

1. Recommends that the UNRWA provide options for non-governmental donors to provide non-monetary funding, such as basic clothing, hygiene supplies, and health products, in order to meet the needs of Palestinian refugees that are not currently being met by monetary donations;

2. Further recommends that the UNRWA work with individual Palestinian refugee camps to refine its assessment of Palestinian refugee needs into two categories; What can only be provided through monetary donations and what can be provided through non-monetary donations;
3. Encourages UNRWA to compile a list of non-monetary needs and make it available to civil society organizations such as charity organizations, NGOs and others willing to make material donations to Palestinian refugee camps;

4. Further requests the UNRWA to work specifically with Islamic Relief, the Red Cross, LDS Charities, and current non-governmental donors, which have strong and efficient donor mobilization networks;

5. Designates that the UNRWA should facilitate and coordinate the protected transportation of material donations to refugee camps both within and without the Occupied Palestinian Territory by coordinating with NGOs and necessary member states;

6. Affirms that these steps will access untapped networks which have the ability to seriously improve the situation of Palestinian refugees and also reroute monetary funds to necessary areas;

7. Urges the UNRWA to put additional focus on private donations from the private sector by coordinating with the United Nations Foundation to connect with CEOs of large corporations, such as the Fortune 500, in an effort to overcome UNRWA’s 69 million USD deficit;

8. Reminds the international community of the importance of convincing Israel to further ease its blockade on the Gaza Strip in order to facilitate the transfer of needed goods;

9. Recommends that the Advisory Commission of the UNRWA facilitate an information and coordination meeting between the UNRWA and NGOs and private corporations held in NYC, NY no later than August 2013.