



CONFERENCE B

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Documentation of the Work of the Committee for the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP)

Committee for the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP)

Committee Staff

Director	Alfie Jones
Chair	Anthony Sutterman

Agenda

- I. International Actions for the Release of All Palestinian Political Prisoners
- II. Strengthening Partnerships with Civil Society
- III. Promoting Cooperation through Shared Water Resources

Report Segments adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
CEIRPP/1/1	International Actions for the Release of All Palestinian Political Prisoners	21 in favour, 0 against, 2 abstentions
CEIRPP/1/2	International Action for the Release of All Palestinian Political Prisoners	Adopted without a vote
CEIRPP/1/3	International Actions for the Release of All Palestinian Political Prisoners	18 in favour, 0 against, 5 abstentions
CEIRPP/1/4	International Actions for the Release of All Palestinian Political Prisoners	21 in favour, 0 against, 2 abstentions
CEIRPP/1/5	International Actions for the Release of All Palestinian Political Prisoners	19 in favour, 0 against, 4 abstentions
CEIRPP/1/6	International Actions for the Release of All Palestinian Political Prisoners	Adopted without a vote
CEIRPP/1/7	International Actions for the Release of All Palestinian Political Prisoners	21 in favour, 0 against, 2 abstentions
CEIRPP/1/8	International Actions for the Release of All Palestinian Political Prisoners	Adopted without a vote
CEIRPP/2/1	Promoting co-operation through Shared Water Resources	Adopted without a vote

Summary Report for the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP)

The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP) held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. International Action for the Release of all Palestinian Political Prisoners
- II. Strengthening Partnerships with Civil Society
- III. Promoting Cooperation through Shared Water Resources

The session was attended by representatives of 27 countries and one observer, the State of Palestine. During the first session, the committee adopted the agenda in the order I, III, II, beginning discussion on the topic of "International Action for the Release of all Palestinian Political Prisoners."

By Tuesday afternoon, the Dais received a total of eight proposals covering a wide range of sub-topics, including: Conditions of Women in Israeli Prisons, Facilitating Bilateral Negotiations regarding the Release of Prisoners, Recognition of the State of Palestine and Reintegration of Palestinian Political Prisoners. The committee combined excellent formal speeches with energetic and focused informal sessions, in a respectful and diplomatic atmosphere.

By Wednesday, eight draft report segments had been approved by the Dais. In keeping with the collaborative spirit of the committee, not a single unfriendly amendment was tabled. During voting procedure, all sections of the draft report passed by an overwhelming majority and three passed by acclamation. Following the conclusion of the first topic, the committee had 45 minutes to address the second agenda item, "Promoting Cooperation through Shared Water Resources." In this time, the committee drafted a second report addressing the issue. The document was adopted by acclamation. The committee concluded by hearing some substantive speeches on the third agenda item, "Promoting Cooperation through Shared Water Resources."



National Model United Nations • NY

Code: CEIRPP/1/1

Committee: Committee for the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People **Topic:** International Action for the Release of all Palestinian Political Prisoners

I. Introduction

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A. The violations of the fundamental human rights of the Palestinian Political Prisoners

- 1. The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP) reaffirms that the indiscriminate imprisonment of Palestinian Political Prisoners has heightened hostilities to unprecedented levels. The denial of basic human rights is among the atrocities committed by the Israeli Government against the oppressed Palestinian People. Israel has used the Unlawful Combatants Law, and Military Order 1651 to illegally detain hundreds of thousands of Palestinian men, women, and children.
- 10 2. Israel is in current violation of UN Charter Articles 5 and 9 in regards to treatment of prisoners. Israel has 11 systematically violated UN Charter Articles 5 and 9 by subjecting Palestinians to torture and arbitrary arrest. 12 CEIRPP acknowledges the Decision on the Situation in Palestine and the Middle East passed by the African 13 14 Union in 2010, which condemned the treatment of Palestinians and reiterated their support to obtain the latters inalienable rights. Further, CEIRPP recalls The Olive Declaration, which calls on UN member states to end 15 political and economic support for Israel's violations of international law and holding it accountable in all 16 aspects for its crimes through their own and international mechanisms. 17 18
- 19 Israel has continuously ignored the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the treatment of prisoners by 20 detaining Palestinians for months and years on end and subjecting them to physical assaults and forced 21 confessions. The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules provide a model system of penal institutions. 22 Palestinians are denied their right to self-determination and are subjected to overcrowded cells, unsanitary 23 facilities, physical and mental abuse, and restricted healthcare, including withholding medical aid, which can 24 last up to months at a time, clearly indicating medical negligence and conscious malice. The CEIRPP applauds 25 the work of the World Organization Against Torture (WOAT), an organization that provides legal, medical, and 26 social assistance to victims of torture.
- 28 Prisoners are subjected to torture, which is in clear violation of the Convention Against Torture, which Israel 4. 29 has ratified. A UN Human Rights Council Special Rapporteur, states that Once prisoners are detained, the rights of Palestinians are deliberately disregarded, as stated by the. In 2013, the Special Rapporteur's report found that 30 torture practices such as sleep deprivation, sexual assault, and home demolitions were applied on the Palestinian 31 32 prisoners. Furthermore, Amnesty International reports on the institutionalized and systematic terrorizing of the 33 Palestinians through hours of questioning. Recalling Article 2 of the Convention Against Torture, under no 34 circumstance is the mistreatment of prisoners justified. Israel's ratification of the CAT is in direct contradiction 35 with their own national law, which offers legal immunity to jail officials from prosecution for mistreatment of 36 Palestinian Political Prisoners. In addition, the restriction of social services, food, and water are examples of an 37 outright denial of human rights, and a violation of Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and 38 the Fourth Geneva Convention, which provides guidelines on how to properly treat prisoners. 39
- 40 The Committee highlights the importance of allowing for the observation of religious practices, as religion is 5. central to the dignity of detainees. Allowing for the open practice of religion is central to the process of 41 releasing all Palestinian Political Prisoners. Reiterating the findings of the Committee on Freedom of Religion 42 or Belief, It is imperative to lasting peace that Palestinians are free to practice their religion. The ability to 43 practice one's religion is universal and imperative to the dignity of every man, woman, and child. In addition to 44 45 restrictions on healthcare and human rights, Israeli institutions reject allowing for the practice of religion in a 46 communal setting. Further, denying access to religious scriptures contributes to growing animosity towards the 47 Occupying Power. Animosity toward the Israeli Government has threatened the stability of the entire region. 48
- Furthermore, the lack of transparency when detaining Palestinians has contributed to the ever-growing need for
 legal aids and translators. Palestinians are imprisoned in Israeli jails without charge or knowledge of the

51 supposed crime committed, and it is common practice for prisoners to be held for 60 days without legal aid. The 52 Committee recognizes the work of the Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association, which has 53 provided free legal services to Palestinian Political Prisoners. CEIRPP recognizes the oppressive denial of basic 54 rights, including the right to be formally charged with a crime, in accordance with international law. When 55 Palestinians from the West Bank stood trial in 2010, there was a 99.74% conviction rate, compared to a 92% 56 conviction rate for United States citizens.

B. Protecting Palestinian Children in Detention

7. It is necessary and urgent that all Palestinian children prisoners be released as soon as possible. Their incarceration in Israeli prisons and detention centers is in contravention with the 4th Geneva Convention. It is necessary that these children be released immediately due to the effects of prolonged torture and mistreatment taking place in Israeli jails, as observed in the report by UNICEF, "Children in Israeli Military Detention" published in February 2015:

- *a.* According to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child passed in the General Assembly in 1989, the mistreatment and torture of children is prohibited and should immediately cease.
- As stated by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, children are defined as people younger than 18 years old. In Israeli law, children are those under 16. However, Palestinian children over the age of 16 in the occupied territories are tried as adults. Israel must reform its policies so that all children, regardless of citizenship, are tried equally.
- 9. Palestinian child prisoners are held in the same detainment facilities as other political prisoners. This leads to
 many problems, including the lack of attention to child-specific needs. Currently, within the Israeli detention
 system, children are not given adequate access to family visits. Article 9 of the UNCRC expresses the right of
 children to be with their parents.
- 10. In 1999 the GA adopted the Declaration on the Rights and Responsibilities of Individuals, Groups and Organs
 of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. Since
 then, civil society organizations are playing an increasing role in the work towards the release of all Palestinian
 political prisoners, including children at both the local and international level. NGOs such as "Defense of
 Children International Palestine" provide legal aid for 25% to 35% of the arrested Palestinian children.
 - *a.* The international community can benefit from CSOs expertise and access to community networks through closer cooperation and sharing of information and ideas. CSOs such as World Vision, an international NGO that works in Palestine to bring education to children, benefit from a large network within the community. Building upon the work that CEIRPP does with more than 1000 CSOs from around the world, CEIRPP can benefit from the vast field knowledge and network that would allow for open communication about Palestinian Children's rights on a local scale. In this way CEIRPP could ensure its implementation in the affected communities.
 - *b.* A lack of communication is often evident at a local level. Families of child prisoners are not aware of their rights under international and national law. Moreover, the inequality between Israeli and Palestinian children extends into the law, such as the way in which Palestinian children are tried in military courts versus the way Israeli children are tried in civilian courts.
- 11. According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, since 1967 more than 650,000 Palestinians have been arrested, and 8% of those arrested were children. The majority of Palestinian children held in solitary confinement are between the ages of 12 to 17. Today 182 Palestinian children are detained and are currently experiencing harsh interrogation and general mistreatment during prosecution. According to the Defense for Children International-Palestine Report, these children are denied the right to family visits and can be denied access to a lawyer while under interrogation.
- 105 12. The statistics released by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics and the Military of Prisoners states that in
 106 January 2015, a total of 163 children between the ages of 14 to 18 were being held captive. Children within

- these facilities face a number of challenges such as the lack of education, unwarranted punishment, poor cell
 conditions, violations of human rights, and malnutrition. The Freedom Now, a campaign to release Palestinian
 child prisoners, was started in September 2001 and focuses on minors in detainment facilities, and protecting
 Palestinian children's rights, improving their conditions, ensuring they are not experiencing mental trauma and
 enforcing their rights to adequate legal defense.
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113 13. The legal inequality being demonstrated by the Israeli government in regards to the process of convicting and sentencing prisoners has to cease. Israeli and Palestinian prisoners are held for different amounts of time judged 114 115 by different courts, and Palestinians are denied legal rights, including representation and a fair and speedy trail. The conditions of arrest are inhumane and not appropriate for children; arrests often occur in the middle of the 116 117 night and officers rarely speak the same language as the children. All these amount to a clear breach of the 118 Convention on the Rights of the Child. Trials for many Palestinian children occur within the confines of a military court, which is not proportionate to the crimes being committed. Palestinian children are held until they 119 120 reach the age of maturity according to Israeli law, and are then tried as adults.

C. Conditions of Women in Israeli Prisons

- 14. Since 2010 over 140,000 people have been displaced from Palestinian territory by hostile Israeli police officers using various methods of torture in the process of detainment which include the following: sleep deprivation, water bearing, force-feeding, crude dehumanizing language during interrogation and excessive use of abusive force According to the most recent figures from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the UNFPA estimates that, among these displaced, there are 25,000 women of reproductive age and 5,000 pregnant women.
- 131 15. Since 1967 the occupation in West Bank and the Gaza Strip consist of 700,000 Palestinian women of all ages have been detained. Women face significant pressures in Israeli prisons, including strip searches, poor sanitation, sub-standard living conditions, severe restrictions on family visits, and long periods of isolation.
 134 According to the Palestinian Prisoners' Society, the treatment they are given is part of an overall strategy of punitive measures against Palestinian People.
- 137 16. According to the Addameer Monthly report, the situation in Palestine, women in Israeli Prisons are mostly held
 in overcrowded cells, with lack of access to hygiene or nutritious food. Moreover, Palestinian women are
 subjected to harsh conditions during their interrogation, including beatings, insults, threats, sexual harassment
 and humiliation by Israeli interrogators.
- 17. The United Nations Population Funds demonstrates the escalating health concerns pertaining especially for
 women mangled between Israeli-Palestinian political conflicts. Within 84% of the Palestinian population
 between the ages of 10-24 year old girls and women lack medical attention. The United Nations Population
 Fund (UNFPA) illustrates the escalating health needs for Palestinian women intertwined in Israeli political
 conflicts and unlawfully imprisoned. Solely focusing on the 47 per cent increase in the number of death during
 birth, maternal mortality ratio, within the imprisoned female Palestinian body, CEIRPP recognizes UNFPA's
 efforts for introducing psychological outreaches in the matter of voicing the silenced Palestinian women.

D. International Action on Facilitating Bilateral Negotiations to Facilitate the Release of Palestinian Prisoners

- 18. Recognizing that the imprisonment of thousands of Palestinians in Israeli prisons is a critical point of dispute in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, CEIRPP strongly supports continued efforts towards reestablishing bilateral talks between Israel, the occupying power, and the State of Palestine. These negotiations are crucial, not only as a mechanism for the release of Palestinian prisoners, but as a key step towards reestablishing substantial dialogue in the ongoing peace process. It is the committee's opinion that direct negotiations between Israeli and Palestinian authorities will prove to be the most effective means of securing the release of the prisoners, as well as serve as a method of building trust between the two parties.
 - E. Recognition of the State of Palestine
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- 163 19. Palestine's signing of the four Geneva Conventions of 1949, and other conventions and international treaties, 164 demonstrates the state of Palestine's willingness to cooperate with the international community and to use 165 global governance regimes and norms in order to achieve progress. The state of Palestine acts in many of the 166 manners and characteristics of an internationally recognized state. Palestine's membership in the Organisation for Islamic Cooperation, the Arab League, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Group of 77 demonstrates the 167 potential Palestine has for sovereign statehood. Palestine is, however, unable to secure the freedom of its 168 citizens, including Palestinian political prisoners. This is due to the continuing violation of its sovereignty by 169 170 Israel.
- 20. GA/PAL/1300 welcomes the new Palestinian national consensus government, which provides a legitimate
 representation for all Palestinian people. Uniting the Palestinian people under a consensus government
 recognized by the international community allows for more effective governance in returning political prisoners
 home. Successful legitimate governance allows state leadership to effectively use international discussion and
 agenda setting to gather regional and global support. In addition, the power to allocate internal resources allows
 for the protection of the Palestinian people's rights, including the prevention of unlawful detention of citizens.
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180 21. This committee is encouraged by the statehood granted to a number of new states in the last decade, as 181 legitimized by the United Nations. Following the recognition of East Timor as a state by the international 182 community, Indonesia, the former occupying power, has respected this recognition, and peaceful relations have ensued between the two nations. This transition was the product of United Nations support and the use of global 183 184 governance bodies to increase awareness for East Timor. Great progress has been made by this committee and 185 other United Nations bodies in raising awareness on the situation of the Palestinian people, and specifically the status of Palestinian political prisoners. With this model, one can look towards East Timor to see that it is now 186 187 unacceptable for Indonesia to detain East Timorese within their national borders. The development of a similar 188 awareness campaign resulting in statehood recognition for Palestine would result in the ability for Palestine to prevent its citizens from being taken into illegal custody. International recognition for Palestine provides the 189 190 legitimacy and the defined borders to ensure Palestinian jurisdiction over its people, preventing the continued 191 unjust imprisonment of Palestinian people. This international recognition is embodied by the 2014 International 192 Year of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, as proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/12. The work of the United Nations in GA/67/19 in granting Palestine non-member observer status is a step towards 193 full United Nations membership and must lauded. The General Assembly recognizes Palestine's self-194 195 determination and right to sovereignty, as well as the progress towards self-governance and recognition as a 196 state. 197

198 22. The occupying power repeatedly violates the rights of the Palestinian people in addition to refuting the 199 legitimacy of the Palestinian state, by refusing to acknowledge the governance and sovereignty of the 200 Palestinian political leadership. Meaningful steps cannot be taken until the issues of statehood are settled. The 201 relationship between Israel and Palestine is unequal. There exists a deficit of respect between the two 202 conflicting parties, which greatly inhibits Palestine from negotiating with its internationally recognised, stronger 203 neighbour. Boosting Palestine's status in the eyes of the international community, through recognition, would 204 increase the pressure on Israel to treat Palestine with equal respect and facilitate negotiations for the release and integration of political prisoners. Upon international recognition for Palestinian statehood, the governing entity 205 206 would require legitimacy and defined borders to ensure Palestinian jurisdiction over its people, preventing the 207 continued unjust imprisonment of Palestinian people. There is a great need to raise awareness that recognition 208 of statehood is the most effective and sustainable method for bettering Palestine's situation. In order to increase 209 the longevity of political prisoners' release, recognition of statehood provides Palestine with the governance 210 tools to maintain its citizens' freedom.

F. Politicians in Israeli Prisons

23. Since 1967, Palestinian leaders and activists have been subjected to unwarranted, coordinated raids,
administrative detention, and have been charged because of alleged affiliation with non-state actors or terrorist
organisations, as written in Israeli military legislation. According to Addameer, statistics as of 2009, an
alarming one third of Palestinian legislators were detained unlawfully in Israeli prisons.

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24. In the context of Israeli detention of politicians, the word 'politician' refers to political leaders or figures that
shape and influence public policy. Furthermore, these jailed politicians are major decision makers, being both
Palestinian Legislative Council members, Gush Shalom, and members of the Palestinian Liberation
Organization. Imprisonment of Palestinian politicians is directly contributing to elevated tensions as those who
have represented the interests of the Palestinian population at large have been removed and detained.

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- 225 25. Of particular concern is the detainment of politicians in Israeli prisons, as it is directly hindering the progress of 226 Palestinian government stability, and hence impeding the formation of a self-sustaining sovereign state. 227 Although politicians are not a vulnerable group, they nonetheless formulate the vital core of the Palestinian government. The absence of communication between detained political prisoners and the Palestinian leadership 228 229 continues to destabilize the power structure of the Palestinian authorities, making it unnecessarily difficult to 230 work towards achieving Palestine's state sovereignty. Furthermore, the negotiations process is stagnant, as 231 negotiators and politicians are unable to fulfil their parliamentary duty and engage in the negotiation process. 232 The imprisonment of Palestinian politicians is unlawfully preventing politicians from carrying out their 233 obligations to their people. 234
- 235 26. Society requires access to information to thrive, and there is an urgent need to allow imprisoned politicians 236 means of communication. It is of paramount importance that politicians have the ability to communicate to 237 their working groups and citizens. Civil Society Organizations have been instrumental to the development of 238 Palestinian society as they maintain the critical link needed been politicians and the Palestinian people. Keeping 239 open lines of communication is conducive to the proper function of the Palestinian Government, to the 240 negotiations process for the release of Palestinian political prisoners, and the imminent and ongoing international recognition of Palestine as a sovereign state. The international community support is exemplified 241 242 in their commitment to the 'Free Marwan Barghouthie' campaign promoting the basic rights of politicians in 243 prisons and highlighting the detrimental effect on the government in question. 244

G. International Law as the Foundation for the Release of All Palestinian Political Prisoners

- 247 27. CEIRPP, following the Fourth Geneva Convention, strongly condemns the continuous breaches of the Geneva
 248 Convention in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt). The problem of mass imprisonment is one of the main
 249 causes for the ongoing conflict in the region. Instead of tackling the symptoms, it is necessary to find
 250 sustainable solutions to the entire conflict.
- 28. CEIRPP is aware of the commitment of the international community to the Universal Declaration of Human
 Rights. Article 6 of the Declaration states that every person has the right to be recognized as a person before the
 law. With this in mind, we express our concern for the violations committed within Israel. Palestinians are
 deprived of access to legal representation for up to 60 days in Israeli prisons.
- 29. As stated in Article 93 of the United Nations Charter, the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice is
 designed so that all member states are automatically party to this Court's status. This specifically refers to the
 current situation regarding the Palestinian political prisoners held in Israeli prisons. Furthermore, the
 International Court of Justice has offered an insightful advisory opinion to the General Assembly in the past, for
 example, in 2004 with the "Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian
 Territory."
- 30. The Convention against Torture aims to abolish government sponsored torture. Article 2 of the Convention
 emphasizes that under no circumstances is the mistreatment of imprisoned human beings justified. CEIRPP sees
 a lack of anti-torture monitoring mechanisms, caused by the non-ratification of the Optional Protocol to the
 Convention against Torture (OPCAT) by the State of Israel. By adopting the OPCAT, the occupying power
 would agree to accept international inspectors to monitor their fight against torture. CEIRPP expresses its hope
 that the State of Israel signs this protocol, in order to more fully abolish torture.
- CEIRPP is also very concerned with the arbitrary detention and denial of due process of Palestinian civilians.
 Articles 9 and 10 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights set the framework for the minimum standards
 regarding detention and trial of prisoners. Palestinian prisoners have been denied these rights, which represent a
 clear disregard by Israel of the Universal Declaration.

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- 32. CEIRPP wishes to highlight the opportunities which would come with the signing of the *Amendment to the Geneva Convention*, relating to the Protection of the Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I). This
 Protocol expands the definition of war to include armed conflicts in which people are fighting against colonial
 oppression. This Protocol gives the Palestinian people further legitimacy in their resistance against the
 occupying power. Palestine is a signatory to this Protocol as of 2014.
- 33. 7. As stated in A/RES/64/10, article 5, CEIRPP reiterates the importance of the *Conferences of High Contracting Parties* held by the government of Switzerland, as the depositary of the Geneva Convention
 relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War. This Conference shall have the purpose "to
 enforce the Convention in the Occupied Territory", which should further aims and goals of this Committee
 related to its mandate.

H. Reintegration of Palestinian Political Prisoners

- 290 34. The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Right of the Palestinian People recognizes the importance of 291 reintegration of Political prisoners into society after their release. Since 1967, Israel has arrested more than 292 800,000 Palestinians, of which 5,271 are currently held in Israeli detention. The majority of Palestinian Political 293 Prisoners are men who are accused of conducting security threats. Also of particular concern is the condition of 294 women and children. Within this total, there are more than 20 women and 196 children that are imprisoned. In 295 order to help the reintegration process of the prisoners that have been released over time and have yet to be released, CEIRPP proposes to build upon the work of Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights 296 Association, Palestinian Human Rights Organization (PHRO), the International Committee of the Red Cross 297 298 (ICRC), Palestinian Trauma Center UK, UNICEF, United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, and 299 Project Hope.
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301 35. Addameer's work includes offering free legal aid to political prisoners, advocating their rights on both the 302 national and international level, and works to end the violations of prisoners through monitoring and solidarity 303 campaigns. The PHRO is a human rights NGO established in 1997. They promote, protect, and defend the 304 human rights of the Palestinian people. PHRO runs researching, monitoring, and documenting programs, which 305 include training workshops and seminars. The ICRC is the largest humanitarian network in the world. ICRC's mission is to mitigate human suffering and thus protect health and uphold human dignity. Their main fields of 306 307 operation are conflict areas and crisis regions such as the Middle East. The Palestinian Trauma Center UK, 308 which is a UK based charity with no political or religious background, has established a trauma center in Gaza. 309 The organization assists women and families to overcome the trauma related to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture is a program that sets out to help victims and their 310 families to rebuild their lives through a variety of assistance programs by NGO's to those victims that have been 311 faced with torture. Project Hope which was founded in 2003, for the purpose of fighting for the basic rights, 312 313 health, and safety of Palestinian children. This organization provides children and youth with educational 314 programs important for growth and development. 315

- 36. Ninety five percent of those in Israeli detention centers are men. As unemployment rates have increased, the
 demand for assistance and job training have also increased. Men constitute eighty percent of the work force in
 Palestine and therefore require a focused rehabilitation program with regards to employment. UN-HRC
 resolution 25/29 condemns a list of human rights abuses against Palestinians, which includes the detention of
 thousands of Palestinian men that are subjected to solitary confinement, lack of proper medical care, and denial
 of due process. All of these impair their well being and can increase aggression.
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37. At present there are no long-term, gender specific programs capable of meeting the specific needs of women in Israeli prisons. The lack of research with regards to women has led to insufficient development of their
rehabilitation programs. The imprisonment of women disrupts the social fabric of Palestinian families through
its impact on the psychological development of their children. Women are subjected to mistreatment, torture, and psychological abuse such as gender-based violence, physical and verbal assault, and degrading strip
searches, which are used as punitive measures. These actions are in clear violation of Article 76 of the Fourth
Geneva Convention and the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules on the Treatment of Prisoners. Some of the important necessities include medical treatment, psychological support, and employment training to easetheir reintegration into society.

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334 38. Children will play a vital role in shaping the future of Palestine as minors represent fifty three percent of the 335 Palestinian population. In the case of Palestine, the release of child prisoners in Israeli prisons is a major factor in aiding the peace process between both Israel and Palestine. Several studies have found that children that are 336 incarcerated may be a contributing factor to increase poverty, domestic violence, and low social economic 337 338 status. While imprisoned, they are abused, terrorized, and denied access to education and information from the 339 outside world. They are also subjected to sexual assault including molestation and threats of rape. Emerging 340 from these prisons traumatized, these children face mental and physical distress as they attempt to transition 341 into normal society.

344 **II. Mandate**345

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 39. The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People was established by the
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- 40. On 26 November 2013, the General Assembly renewed the mandate of the Committee (resolution 68/12),
 requested the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division for Palestinian Rights with the necessary
 resources to carry out its program of work (resolution 68/13) and requested the continuation of the special
 information program on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat
 (resolution 68/14).

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358 **III. Conclusions and Recommendations**

360 A. The violations of the fundamental human rights of the Palestinian Political Prisoners

- 361 362 41. The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People believes that it is of paramount importance to allow for a full, transparent evaluation of Palestinian prisoner facilities by an 363 364 independent non-governmental organization. Further, CEIRPP calls upon the WOAT to expand their noble 365 work to the Palestinian Political Prisoners. CEIRPP urges the partnership of International Red Cross and 366 B'Tselem, both of which have contributed greatly to the observance of human rights around the globe. These partnerships have the potential to lead to increased transparency, which can end the torture by the Occupying 367 368 Force. Increased pressure by the international community on Israel to treat prisoners humanely is of the utmost importance in pursuit of the release of all Palestinian Political Prisoners. 369
- 42. The Committee recommends that all Palestinian Political Prisoners have access to open lines of communication to legal aids and translators. The Committee applauds the work of the Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association, which has provided free legal services to Palestinian Political Prisoners, and urges the association to put all efforts forward toward expanding its mission.
- 43. CEIRPP urges The Palestinian Society for the Protection of Human Rights to intensify its efforts to alleviate the tensions and stresses of the Palestinian Political Prisoners. Such civil society organizations are instrumental to the observance of fundamental human rights and therefore, it is vital for the health of the prisoners to have the opportunity to seek out medical attention when the prisoner sees fit.
- 44. CEIRPP expresses the concern over the Israeli institutions that continue to deny open practice of religion,
 including restricting access to all religious scriptures, specialty food, and affiliated prayer items. The Committee
 urges the international community to apply pressure to all member states to ensure that the universal right to
 practice one's religion is adhered to.

386 45. The Committee requests that the international community, in collaboration with the United Nations Refugee 387 Working Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East advances the interest of Palestinian Political Prisoners 388 and shed light on the malpractice of the Israeli prison institutions. CEIRRP would like to acknowledge the 389 African Union's support for the inalienable rights of Palestinians and urges this influential, continental body to 390 bring international awareness and pressure to the issue. Further, the Committee calls for the European Union 391 and its Member States to fulfill their obligations under international law, as stated in the 2004 Advisory Opinion 392 of the International Court of Justice on the Wall, not to help to maintain nor to render aid or assistance to the 393 illegal situation coming from the breach of international law, and to play a greater role in ensuring 394 accountability and to take concrete steps to implement the human rights provisions of its association 395 agreements. 396

46. As transparency increases, it is the duty of Israel to recognize the crimes committed by their own jail officials.
 CEIRPP expresses its great concern over the Israeli law offering legal immunity to jail officials. The Occupying
 Power contains within itself the power to alleviate the tensions that have been elevated to unprecedented levels,
 beginning with launching a comprehensive investigation to Israel's own illegal jail practices.

402 **B. Protecting Palestinian Children in Detention**

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- 404 47. CEIRPP calls upon the international community to advocate for the release of all Palestinian children in Israel
 405 jails by any means necessary.
- 406 407 48. The Committee recommends that the Israeli government, the Palestinian Authority, and a coalition of NGOs, 408 including UNICEF, Defense of Children International Palestine, Addameer Prisoner Support, and World Vision create a separate detention facility to house Palestinian children who have been arrested and/or convicted under 409 the Israeli judicial or military systems. The facility should be within Palestinian territory, as deportation from 410 411 occupied territories is illegal under the fourth Geneva Convention. CEIRPP will, upon approval of the parties mentioned above, host a conference in Geneva to discuss the conditions inside the facility, including living 412 413 conditions, family visits, religious freedom, standardized education or Arabic and proper physical and 414 psychological health care.
- 416 49. CEIRPP recommends a strong collaboration between all civil society organizations and international institutions such as UNICEF, UNESCO, and the wider UN. Therefore CEIRPP proposes an annual summit "The 417 Palestinian Youth; the Future of Palestine," with the inaugural conference to be held in East Jerusalem on 418 October 26th, 2016. This will be a sign of goodwill from Palestine, Israel and the international community. This 419 420 will be the first of many annual conferences on the issue of detained Palestinian children. The ultimate purpose of the conference is the release of these children through raising awareness of the issue both locally and 421 422 internationally. The summit will provide communities directly affected by the conflict with information 423 regarding NGOs and global support. CEIRPP hopes to plan this conference with the assistance of the prominent 424 NGO Defense of Children International Palestine (DCIP), due to their dedication to the cause and their desire to 425 involve member states. CEIRPP believes that through the collaboration and communication between local, 426 international, and intergovernmental organizations all Palestinian political prisoners will be released, especially 427 the most vulnerable ones, the children. The summit will include the following workshops:
- 50. There will be a workshop on the topic of typical arrests and detention of Palestinian children. This workshop
 will include NGOs such as B'tselem, DCIP, and World Vision, which are working directly with Palestinian
 children.
- 51. There will be a workshop on the bond between Palestinian child prisoners and their relatives who are not
 imprisoned. This workshop will involve NGOs as well as medical professionals who have physiological
 training, in order to fully analyze and care for children in prison and their families.
- 52. There will be a workshop on the term "security prisoners" which defines political prisoners. To have a semanticapproach, with a Hebrew expert, Arabic Expert, and linguistic expert.
- 53. There will be basic Hebrew language training sessions for Palestinians to allow them to communicate withIsraeli people during arrest and detainment.

- 54. The summit will include a campaign at the local level during the summit to inform the community affected of
 their rights. There will be promotional materials printed in Arabic and Hebrew so both Israeli and Palestinians
 can understand the information, the information provided will be a reminder of the rights of the child in the case
 of arrest or detention such as, "You have the right to remain silent, you have the right to legal representation,"
 etc.
- 55. CEIRPP plans to work to bring awareness to children being detained and their need to receive a fair and speedy trial at the time of arrest regardless of nationality by encouraging the GA to adopt a resolution proclaiming 2017 as the "International Year of Child Prisoners." During 2017 CEIRPP will then focus on Palestinian children who should be tried at the age at which they committed the crime. Trials must occur within a civilian court with respect to the rights of the child as stipulated in Israeli law.

C. Conditions of Women in Israeli Prisons

- 56. CEIRPP encourages the General Assembly, and calls upon the wider International Community to advocate in
 favor of, a step by step release program for all female *Palestinian* political prisoners in a time frame of one to
 three and five years.
- 57. CEIRPP will instruct the DPR to organize seminars and workshops involving NGO's, representatives of both
 Israeli and Palestinian governments, former prisoners and international institutions. The focus of discussions
 should be on the following topics: adapting prisons for women, and assisting imprisoned women during
 pregnancy. Further, CEIRPP will form roundtable caucuses to address the following topics:
 - a. Facilitating family visits as a priority
 - b. Recommends certain adequate conditions which need to be fulfilled, namely the dimension of the cells and restrictions on overpopulation within Israeli prison cells.
 - c. Recognizing that women need and must have their personal hygiene needs met, especially with regards to monthly menstrual cycles. In the detention centers, CEIRPP believes it's essential to provide gynecological visits at a minimum of a yearly basis. This medical attention should be prioritized for pregnant women, and also include post-natal care.
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- 58. CEIRPP proposes in collaboration with UN Women a conference about Palestinian women, especially those
 falsely imprisoned. This Conference shall be called the '*Being a Mother in a prison, Being a Mother of a prisoner.*' This Conference will tackle to two issues simultaneously with the entire focus on women.
- 59. CEIRPP proposes to air the live roundtable caucuses with hopes to enlighten a global audience in promoting
 family visits in Israeli prisons and recognizing the specific health needs as well as adequate accommodations for
 Palestinian women. Telecommunication services such as radio stations and social media can successfully
 podcast the aforementioned topics:
 - a. Spread awareness through digital applications apps.
 - b. Make use of QR codes to educate the global audience.
- 487 c. Advertise the paramount subjects of Palestinian women in prison with television commercials and488 billboard ads.

D. International Action on Facilitating Bilateral Negotiations to Facilitate the Release of Palestinian Prisoners

60. Regarding the release of all Palestinian political prisoners, CEIRPP recommends that negotiations between
Palestine and Israel be facilitated and mediated, as they have in the past, under the auspices of a third party that
is naturally agreed upon by both parties. The committee recommends a process, subject to the consent of both
Palestine and Israel, of releasing detainees in stages, as this method has proved mutually acceptable and
effective in the past. The prisoners should be released under the supervision of an international agency, such as

UNRWA, and safely reintegrated into Palestinian society. CEIRPP proposes that the staged release process
 begin with the children, women, and elderly currently being held, as well as those prisoners who were due to be
 released under previous agreements that were not honored. The committee also suggests that the process
 proceed within a predetermined time frame, also subject to the agreement of both parties, to ensure that all
 prisoners are released in a timely manner and that the release process cannot be stalled due to changing political
 circumstances.

E. Recognition of the State of Palestine

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 61. The CEIRPP recommends an additional vote for Palestinian statehood to be held in the United Nations General
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511 62. The CEIRPP recommends that the DPR, Committee members, and various civil societies organizations should give further attention towards the campaign for Palestinian statehood. The "Question of Palestine" portal 512 513 currently being developed by the DPR should continue to be further developed and amplify the message of 514 Palestinian statehood to the international community, at both the state and individual level. Through the use of 515 digital and social media, the CEIRPP can boost the audience available to be informed of the situation of the 516 Palestinian people's plight, specifically that of political prisoners. Social media campaigns utilizing Facebook 517 and twitter, as well as the production of documentaries shedding light on the situation are all possible suggestions that may be adopted by the DPR. Similarly, CSOs should also include Palestinian Statehood in 518 future information campaigns to supplement the work of the FPR, coordinating with the FPR to maximize the 519 efficiency of such a campaign. Spreading the message of Palestinian statehood and boosting international 520 support for the State of Palestine, therefore strongly assisting in Palestinian efforts to free prisoners. 521 522

F. Politicians in Israeli Prisons

- 63. The committee encourages empowering politicians, working with Civil Society Organizations as a means of
 communication between Palestinian politicians detained in Israeli prisons and Palestinian governmental
 authorities. We propose that delegates from these CSOs would visit Israeli prisons in order to communicate
 with prisoners so they could provide their messages both to their working groups and to Palestinian society in
 general.
- 64. Firstly, this committee calls upon international affirmation of the inalienable human rights of Palestinian
 political prisoners in accordance with values enshrined in *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* and *Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners*. Secondly, this committee urges the international community to
 recognise and respect the role of political leaders as public servants entitled to the protection of Parliamentary
 Privilege, as are other full member states of United Nations. There is a reasonable expectation that state
 politicians are respected and protected both as leaders and citizens within their national borders. This courtesy
 ought to be extended to Palestinians just as Israel would expect it.
- 65. CEIRPP recommends collaborating with the Division for Palestinian Rights and other relevant Civil Society
 Organisations to ensure that politicians in prisons are aware of their rights under international law and Israeli
 law, and they align their treatment with those of political leaders from other member states of the United
 Nations.
- 544 66. The committee calls upon the member states of the EU to question administrative detainment of the Palestinian
 545 politicians during EU-Israel political engagement. We further propose seminars, workshops and courses in
 546 order to instruct Palestinian politicians of their rights under Israeli and international laws.
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 57. In order to attain sufficient knowledge of the conditions politicians in prisons are confronted with, an increase in transparency by the Israeli authorities is highly desirable. This would be a positive and constructive step towards breaking the cycle of revenge instilled in the Palestinian and Israeli conflict and create peace in the conflict-ridden region.
 - G. International Law as the Foundation for the Release of All Palestinian Political Prisoners

- According to the *Convention Against Torture* (CAT) passed by the General Assembly in 1984, CEIRPP
 recommends the international community to encourage Israel to sign the Optional Protocol to the CAT
 A/RES/57/199 that allows visits from the Subcommittee on Prevention to guide the state on preventive
 measures against torture of Palestinian prisoners.
- 69. CEIRPP urges the General Assembly to seek an advisory opinion at the International Court of Justice on the
 legal status of the Palestinian prisoners in Israeli territory. Further, CEIRPP would like the General Assembly to
 consider paying close attention to the violations of the Fourth Geneva Convention, article 76 that holds states
 signatory responsible for the dignity and integrity of all citizens under the occupying power. Therefore, CEIRPP
 recommends annual Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to tackle these issues.
- Due to the recognition of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and resolution A/RES/45/111 on the Basic Principles for the Treatment of Prisoners, CEIRPP recommends that the General Assembly
 encourages Israel to demonstrate their commitment to Article 10, stating that "Everyone is entitled to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal [...]" The committee also seek to ensure that Israel
 grants a free and fair trial to all prisoners, as is also stated in article 10 of the UDHR. Further, CEIRPP urges the General Assembly to pressure Israel to provide translation services for arrested Palestinians so that they may fully understand their charges and legal proceedings in their own language.
- 574 71. CEIRPP would like the international community to cooperate and collaborate especially with health-related
 575 NGOs, such as the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in order to improve and monitor the
 576 overall conditions of Palestinian prisoners within Israeli prisons.

H. Reintegration of Palestinian Political Prisoners

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- 580 72. CEIRPP aims to strengthen and expand the assistance programs for released Palestinian prisoners. Building 581 upon existing programs, such as PHRO, and encouraging other organizations to play an active role in offering 582 similar services, the Committee hopes to guarantee that all released Palestinian political prisoners have access to 583 rehabilitation programs. The international volunteers working for the PHRO could play a key role in 584 employment training to help former detainees transfer back into society. CEIRPP aims at enhancing cooperation with the Palestinian Trauma Center UK in order to aid the released prisoners process the traumatic experiences 585 586 and prevent mental illness. An additional recommendation to overcome aggressions includes the establishment 587 of anger management trainings, which experts from Addameer and PHRO can conduct.
- 73. Provided the right guidance through organizations such as Addameer, women have a better opportunity to be 589 590 reintegrated into society. The committee advocates the expansion of research mechanisms on the conditions of 591 women in Israeli prisons and the services provided by existing institutions. CEIRPP recommends the integration 592 of the following programs to help facilitate the specific needs of women: framing individually oriented services 593 focusing on past incidents, cognitive skills training, parenting skills programs, leisure education programs, and 594 community integration programs. Through an unbiased third party, such as the International Committee of the 595 Red Cross (ICRC), which provides humanitarian protection and assistance for victims of violence, CEIRPP 596 hopes to ensure the ethical medical treatment of women who have been released from Israeli prisons. Recognizing the work of the Palestinian Trauma Center UK, CEIRPP opts to cooperate with this organization in 597 598 order to guarantee that women are given the opportunity to overcome the trauma experienced in Israeli 599 detention through services such as psychological counseling, which will allow them to transition back into 600 society. 601
- 602 74. CEIRPP recognizes the crucial role played by UNICEF, which promotes rights and well being of every child while recognizing the particular importance of early childhood development and adolescence. CEIRPP 603 encourages working with UNICEF, which has already run a program in Liberia and Chad to reintegrate former 604 child soldiers into society. They provide psychological counseling and skills training for children to facilitate 605 their rehabilitation. CEIRPP emphasizes the educational aspect of this program and seeks to ensure that the 606 released child prisoners have access to tutoring, and can continue their academic career, which is not only 607 important in securing a living, but also for the future of their country. CEIRPP further recommends that the 608 609 international community continue to support and provide funds to the Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture,

and encourage Addameer to access this fund for psychological aftercare programs for children who have been
subjected to inhumane conditions and torture in Israeli prisons. CEIRPP also proposes to host an international
donor conference to support rehabilitation and reintegration to assist existing programs. CEIRPP recommends
that the International Community co-operate with Project Hope, in order to strengthen the youth with
educational programs important for growth and development, including classes in language, arts, technology,
and sports.

616 617 **ANNEX**

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75. CEIRPP is concerned with the need to increase the accountability of the Committee's initiatives. Therefore, the
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Code: CEIRPP/2/1

Committee: Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People **Topic:** Promoting Cooperation Through Shared Water Resources

I. Introduction

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A. Noting the Severity of Lack of Water for the Palestinian People

- 1. The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP) fully understands the importance of cooperation between nations to ensure the peace and security of the international community through shared water resources. Recalling GA Resolutions 3376, 66/255, 64/292, CIERPP seeks to emphasize the importance of equitable access to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as an integral component of the realization of all human rights. These conditions highlight the importance of shared water resources and cooperation between Palestinians and Israelis.
- Recognizing that CEIRPP has investigated the status of Palestinian water resources in the past, which included the problem of Israel preventing Palestinians from drilling wells, and working to ensure that people in the Occupied Territories have access to drinking water, and a functioning sewage system. The last report that CEIRPP has produced was produced in 1992.

B. Water Conference

- CEIRPP would like to bring attention to the water insecurity within the occupied Palestinian territory. Since
 Israel occupied the West Bank in 1967, it has categorically denied Palestinians access to this crucial source of
 water. Currently, their average domestic water consumption rate is approximately thirty liters below the
 minimum (100- 150 liters per person per day) recommended by the World Health Organization.
- Furthermore, CEIRPP draws attention to the H/RES/19/17, raises the precarious water and sanitation conditions
 of the Palestinians. This resolution outlines that the shortage of water is due to the Palestinian government's
 lack of control over their water resources.

C. Further steps to secure water resources for Palestine

- 5. The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People reminds the international community that water is a human right. Furthermore, according to Amnesty International, Palestinians have access to less than 20% of the annual available water. Therefore, CEIRPP condemns this inequality as an infringement to the rights of the Palestinian rights, which also embodies a threat to peace.
- 6. CEIRPP calls on the international community to recognize that the Joint Water Committee (JWC), created by
 the Oslo Accords II in 1995, is obsolete and has failed its original purpose, as the Palestinians are prevented
 from extracting even up to pre-Oslo-II-levels. The situation of the Palestinian people has changed since then,
 socially, economically, and demographically. Moreover, CEIRPP reminds the General Assembly of the role of
 the UN according its Charter, which states that "to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger
 freedom". The GA has also stated the right to development (A/RES/41/128) as "the exercise of [the people's]
 inalienable rights to full sovereignty over all their natural wealth and resources".

II. Mandate

- The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People was established by the
 General Assembly by its resolution 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, with the task of recommending a
 programme designed to enable the Palestinian people to exercise its inalienable rights and self-determination in
 accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, as recognized by the Assembly in its resolution 3236
 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974.
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8. On 26 November 2013, the General Assembly renewed the mandate of the Committee (resolution 68/12),
 requested the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division for Palestinian Rights with the necessary
 resources to carry out its programme of work (resolution 68/13) and requested the continuation of the special
 information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat
 (resolution 68/14).

III. Conclusions and Recommendations

A. Noting the Severity of Lack of Water for the Palestinian People

- 9. The committee is alarmed by the seventy percent of Palestinians with little or no access to a water network. CEIRPP urges the international community to turn its attention to a region engulfed by thirst.
- In order to effectively direct international funding and donations of new water projects, CEIRPP aims to publish
 a new report on the status of Palestinian water resources.
- 11. Through the example of the Senegal River Basin Mulit-purpose Water Resources Development project,
 CEIRPP seeks to develop a multipurpose water resource infrastructure that may lead to reduce poverty with the
 creation of new jobs.

B. Water Conference

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- In order to raise awareness of the Israel policies, especially settlement building that interferes with the access of
 water to the Palestinian people, CEIRPP proposes to hold an annual Conference on the rights of the Palestinian
 people to gain access to clean water within their own territories. This Conference should discuss the following:
 a. The impact of water polluted by settlers;
 - b. Adverse health effects caused by scarcity of water;
 - c. Violent tactics used by settlers to deter Palestinian attempts to access new sources of water, such as new wells
 - d. Opportunities for Israel and Palestine to cooperate on ensuring access to safe, clean water for Palestinians

C. Further steps to secure water resources for Palestine

- 13. In order to promote cooperation on the issue of water, CEIRPP would like to organize another IsraeliPalestinian-International Conference on water resources in the Middle East with the objectives to explore new
 possibilities for cooperation and to highlight investment opportunities for businesses. Therefore, the invitation
 to this Conference shall not only be granted to Israel, Palestine, and the riparian states of the Jordan River
 Basin, but also to a reasonable number of leading water experts and businesses.
- 14. Additionally, in order to promote further accumulation and transfer of knowledge on the issue of water in Middle East, CEIRPP wants to initiate an academic cooperation program between Israeli and Palestinian
 research centers and universities with additional support from the Israel-Palestine Creative Regional Initiatives.
 This program shall be named Israeli-Palestinian Cooperation Program (IPCP), and the funding shall be acquired through the International Hydrological Program of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural
 Organization.
- 15. CEIRPP recommends that a neutral third party will be sent to Mekorot an Israeli state company to ensure that the annual volume of available water will be monitored, to ensure that the reports on the annual water sent to Palestine are correct.
- 16. CEIRPP recommends the installment of all elements of the proposal by NGO Friends of the Earth Middle East,
 titled A Modern Agreement to Share Water Between Israelis and Palestinians: the FoEME Proposal. This

- proposal outlines a bureaucracy of committees dedicated to fulfilling the purpose of the JWC while at the same
 time providing oversight over each other.
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- 109 17. The first two bodies, each comprised of equal numbers of members of the Israeli and Palestinian governments,
 plus one member from outside the region, would be the Bilateral Water Commission (BWC) and the Water
 Mediation Board (WMB). The BWC would replace the JWC, but would be responsible for all shared water, not
- 112 only Palestinian water. These two bodies would base their actions on advice from a lower-level committee,
- called the Office of Science Advisors (OSA), with staff composed of members nominated by each government.
- A fourth body, the Local Water Management Board, would represent local bodies focused on water. Fifth and
- sixth bodies would be the Mountain Aquifer Authority and the Cross-border Streams Authority, which manage
- 116 the Mountain Aquifer and streams originating in the West Bank, respectively.