*Unofficial Transcript*

BAHRAIN

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Mr. President, my delegation has the pleasure to recognize the crucial and important role played by the Committee on the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. We would like to thank the Chairman of the committee, Mr. Abdou Salam Diallo, the Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations and the other members for the efforts that they have made under the noble mandate. We also would like to thank the Department of Public Information of the United Nations for establishing an information program in the issue of Palestine.

Mr. President, the in-depth consideration of the report before us leads us to considerable disquiet, given the tension in the occupied Palestinian territories and the serious worsening of the situation. The picture it gives leads to consternation, given the humanitarian economic situation caused by the occupation and the settlement policy, which is in opposition to international conventions, particularly the Hague convention and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

Despite the difficult conditions of the occupation, the Palestinian authorities have made progress to establishing a state with the considerable support of the international community. This is in line with the report of the committee. The committee's report is based on the World Bank's report on the institutional-building, enhancing reforms in the public sector as well. It's also been expressed by the Secretary General the desire that there should be efforts to establish and independent and democratic and contiguous Palestinian state living side by side with Israel in security in conformity with international legality.

Yesterday, the King of Bahrain stated in a message of solidarity with the Palestinian people and in the context of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, the following: "We call upon the international community to be in solidarity with the Palestinian people to step up political, moral and financial support and to alleviate the crisis being experienced by these people and to alleviate the serious humanitarian suffering caused by the occupation and by the annexation of Palestinian land and the Judaization of land through colonies and by the settlers."

The committee should fulfill its mandate given by the General Assembly and particularly defining the parameters for settling the Palestinian issue and dealing with the problem of the occupation and support for the efforts of the Palestinian people to establish their independence and establish their institutions and to enjoy dignified existence.

The UNESCO meeting's decision of admitting Palestine as a fully-fledged member of UNESCO is a very important step forward towards recognizing similar status for them in other UN bodies. There is international unanimity on this and that means that it is time to recognize an independent Palestinian state under its 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital.

There is, therefore, a solid basis for establishing the international legality and through the GA and the Security Council. There is also a broad international support and support from the Arab world. There is the Arab initiative and the roadmap and many other initiatives which recognize this right of the Palestinian people.

We therefore assert that Palestine's membership, fully-fledged membership of the United Nations in no way contradicts the efforts being made to return to the negotiating table. The celebrating of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People embodies the international recognition of this responsibility of the international community and the need to strive to ensure the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. Thank you Chairman.