



General Assembly

A/RES/36/15
28 October 1981

36/15. Recent developments in connexion with excavations in eastern Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, is applicable to Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem,

Recalling its resolutions [2253 \(ES-V\)](#) of 4 July 1967, [2254 \(ES-V\)](#) of 14 July 1967, [3092 \(XXVIII\)](#) of 7 December 1973, [3240 B \(XXIX\)](#) of 29 November 1974, 3525 B (XXX) of 15 December 1975, 31/106 B of 16 December 1976, 32/91 A of 13 December 1977, 33/113 A of 18 December 1978, 34/90 B of 12 December 1979 and 35/122 of 11 December 1980,

Recalling Security Council resolutions [252 \(1968\)](#) of 27 May 1968, [267 \(1969\)](#) of 3 July 1969, [271 \(1969\)](#) of 15 September 1969, [465 \(1980\)](#) of 1 March 1980, [476 \(1980\)](#) of 30 June 1980 and [478 \(1980\)](#) of 20 August 1980,

Bearing in mind the need to protect and preserve the unique spiritual and religious character and dimensions of the Holy City of Jerusalem,

Expressing its very grave concern that Israel, as the occupying Power, persists in excavating and transforming the historical, cultural and religious sites of Jerusalem,

Noting with alarm that the excavations and transformations in progress seriously endanger the historical, cultural and religious sites of Jerusalem as well as its over-all configuration and that these sites have never been as endangered as they are today,

Noting with satisfaction and approval the decision of the World Heritage Committee of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to include the Old City of Jerusalem and its walls on the World Heritage list,

Noting with appreciation the recommendation of the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization during its one hundred and thirteenth session that the World Heritage Committee should speed up the procedure for including the Old City of Jerusalem and its walls on the List of World Heritage in Danger,

1. *Determines* that the excavations and transformations of the landscape and of the historical, cultural and religious sites of Jerusalem constitute a flagrant violation of the principles of international law and the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time

of War, of 12 August 1949;

2. *Decides* that such violations by Israel constitute a serious obstruction to achieving a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East as well as a threat to international peace and security;

3. *Demands* that Israel desist forthwith from all excavations and transformations of the historical, cultural and religious sites of Jerusalem, particularly beneath and around the Moslem Holy Sanctuary of Al-Haram Al-Sharif (Al Masjid Al Aqsa and the Sacred Dome of the Rock), the structures of which are in danger of collapse;

4. *Requests* the Security Council to consider this situation in case Israel fails to comply immediately with the present resolution;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly and the Security Council no later than 23 November 1981, on the implementation of the present resolution.

Source: *United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine, Security Council Resolutions*, <http://domino.un.org/UNISPAL.NSF/vGARes>

Source of Voting Records: *United Nations Bibliographic Information System, Dag Hammarskjold Library*, <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/unbisnet/index.html#voterecords>