



Ambassador

PERMANENT MISSION OF PAKISTAN
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No. Pol/OIC/2007

Muhammad
2 October 2007

Excellency,

I have the honour to enclose the following two communications:

- i) A letter dated September 21, 2007 from H.E. Dr. Mohammad Abu-Koash, Ambassador of Palestine to the United Nations, addressed to the Most Reverend Desmond M. Tutu, Anglican Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town.
- ii) The reply dated September 28, 2007 given by the Anglican Archbishop to the Ambassador of Palestine.

It is requested that these two communications may please be posted on the website of the Human Rights Council.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Masood Khan)
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
Chairman of the OIC Group in Geneva

His Excellency,
Mr. Doru Romulus Costea,
President of the Human Rights Council,
Permanent Representative of Romania,
Geneva

**Permanent Observer
Mission of Palestine
to the United Nations
Geneva**



البعثة المراقبة الدائمة
لفلسطين
لدى الأمم المتحدة في جنيف

2/3

21 September 2007

Dear Archbishop Tutu,

I am writing to you in connection with your letter of 31st August 2007 addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council stating *inter alia*: “*unfortunately, owing to prior commitments, it had been impossible for both myself and Professor Chinkin to find the time required to travel to Beit Hanoun before the next session of the Council*”.

This particular sentence was selectively referred to by the Secretariat in its oral report before the Council on 20th September, and depicted by the Ambassador of Israel as the real reason behind the non-implementation of the mission.

I would be grateful if you could kindly clarify to the Human Rights Council whether you have secured, this time, the cooperation of Israel for the implementation of your mission, after it had aborted two missions before, and thus would be able to carry out the mission after fulfilling your prior commitments.

Please accept, Archbishop, the assurances of my highest esteem and consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Mohammad Abu-Koash
Ambassador of Palestine to the United Nations
Geneva

The Most Reverend Desmond M. Tutu
Anglican Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town
Leader of the Fact-Finding Mission on Beit Hanoun
Cape Town
South Africa

CC: H.E. Mr. Doru Costea, President of the Human Rights Council

NATIONS UNIES



UNITED NATIONS

3/3

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
HIGH LEVEL FACT FINDING MISSION ESTABLISHED UNDER RESOLUTION
S-3/1

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Friday, 28 September 2007

Excellency,

I am writing in reply to your letter of 21 September which was faxed to my office in Cape Town.

As I said in my letter to the President of the Council, both Professor Chinkin and I were unable, owing to prior commitments, to commit time to a mission to Beit Hanoun in the months between the adoption of the latest resolution on the issue in late June and the September session of the Council. This was despite our efforts to find a window of time needed to carry out the mission.

As neither member was available, the Fact-Finding Mission did not approach the Government of Israel seeking their cooperation for a mission, including on the issue of visas. The Mission thus did not seek - and has not secured - the cooperation of Israel since the June session of the Council.

That said, you will recall that in December 2006 and in May 2007, the Fact-Finding Mission sought the cooperation of the Government of Israel in fulfilling its mandate to travel to Beit Hanoun. On each occasion, no substantive reply was received, leading us to conclude that cooperation had been refused by the Government of Israel.

In my letter to the President, I urged the Council to consider the various recommendations made in our report to the Council dated 13 June 2007.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

God bless you

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Desmond Tutu", with a horizontal line underneath.

Desmond Tutu
Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town
Leader of the Fact-Finding Mission established
under HRC resolution S-3/1

H.E. Dr Mohammad Abu-Koash
Ambassador of Palestine to the United Nations, Geneva
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CC: Mr. Costea, President of the Human Rights Council, fax: +41 22 917 0334
CC: Professor Chinkin, Member of the High Level Fact-Finding Mission, email:
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