

Palestine Liberation Organization, PLO
Palestine National Authority
Embassy of the State of Palestine
Ethiopia – Addis Ababa



منظمة التحرير الفلسطينية م.ت.ف
السلطة الوطنية الفلسطينية
سفارة دولة فلسطين
أثيوبيا – أديس أبابا

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

**Speech of H.E. Mahmoud Abbas
In the African Union Summit “29-30/01/2012”**

**Honorable President Teodoro Obiang Mbasogo,
President of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea,
Chairman of the 18th Session of the African Union
Honorable Presidents,
Excellencies Ministers,
Ladies and Gentlemen;**

I extend to all of you and to your people my best greetings and profound thanks, on behalf of the Palestinian people and leadership, I regret not being able to attend in person the important work of your conference, because of the articular developments in our region, and international efforts to save the peace process on the Palestinian-Israeli track, that facing challenges and significant risks, because of the Israeli government's denial of the peace process references, and its insistence on challenging the international community by continuing settlement policy and Judaization of Jerusalem.

We are proud of our brotherly, historical and common struggle relations with the African Continent, peoples and governments; we value highly your embracing the Palestine Liberation Organization as a permanent observer in the African Union, and your principled and consistent support in all Forums to the right of our people in ending the Israeli occupation which took place in 1967, and the establishment of our independent Palestinian State with its capital east Jerusalem.



It is time to put an end to the longest and last occupation, practicing all forms of violence and discrimination and which can not be compared but the policy of the defunct apartheid which was in South Africa.

Excellencies;

There are many achievements of the African Union on the way of reconstruction, development and conflicts resolution; we share you the hope of a bright future for a young continent, grounded in the rules of security and peace among its peoples, making all efforts to fight disease, hunger and poverty.

Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia has provided the potentials that enabled the African Union to do its responsibilities, and I would like to take this opportunity to salute my friend H.E. Meles Zinawi, his government and people for their achievements, attitudes and the warm reception and hospitality.

Dear friend leaders;

In the name of every Palestinian citizen “females and males”, I express my gratitude for the recognition of African States for the State of Palestine, and voting in the International Organizations to our just cause.

We are now going through a highly sensitive phase, the present Israeli government insists on the rejection of the decisions, the international references and the signed agreements, and halted all rounds of dialogue and negotiations by continuing its settlements, and lack

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of responsiveness to the demands of the international Quartet by submitting proposals on security and borders.

Our people are looking for freedom, peace and justice, and it is time, after sixty three years of suffering under occupation and in the camps of Diaspora, that Palestine enjoys its position as a member in the United Nations, lives in peace and security, side by side of Israel State, and contributes by its people's potential and capacity in the process of the human Philanthropy.

Excellencies;

I repeat, thanks for inviting us to participate in your conference, wishing you best of success in accomplishing goals of your peoples, long live Africa, long live Arab-African brotherhood.

Peace, mercy and blessings of God.