



**Position of the General Delegation of Palestine to Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific towards the Israeli Occupation plans to annex West Bank settlements, Jordan Valley and North of the Dead Sea**

**Canberra, 5 June 2020**

The Prime Minister of the Israeli Government, Benjamin Netanyahu, unveiled his plans for the advancement of annexation of illegal West Bank settlements, the Jordan Valley and North of the Dead Sea, starting this annexation process in July 2020, within the context of what is so called Trump's peace plan (Peace to Prosperity). In light of this, the General Delegation of Palestine in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific issues the following position:

1. The unilateral modification of borders by occupying forces, through the annexation of land, is illegal by international law and is in direct violation of all agreements and United Nations Security Council Resolutions, in particular, Security Council Resolutions 242, 334 and 2334.
2. The Palestinian leadership remains dedicated and committed to the two-state solution on 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital, as a just and sustainable solution to the Palestine-Israel conflict. Annexation would ultimately abolish this solution and subsequently undermine any genuine advancements for peace, not only within the context of Palestine and Israel, but would further lead to regional instability. A sustainable and just solution to the Palestine-Israel conflict requires a multilateral approach through an international conference based on United Nations Security Council Resolutions, in particular, resolutions 242, 338 and 2334.
3. Due to the Israeli government's abrogation of its obligations and violations of agreements towards the Middle East peace process, the Palestinian Leadership are absolved of all agreements and understandings, including their commitments, with both the US and Israeli governments.
4. Subsequently, and based on the Palestinian Leadership decision and in accordance with international law, Israel now holds the responsibilities and obligations as the occupying authority over the OPT.





5. The Palestinian leadership will continue to shoulder its responsibilities towards the Palestinian people, by protecting national institutions, asserting sovereignty, as well as affirming the State of Palestine on the international stage.
6. The Palestinian Leadership reaffirms its firm commitment to international legitimacy and condemning and fighting international terrorism and in keeping in line with its commitment to international law and relevant United Nations resolutions.
7. The Australian government must do more, including, yet not limited to declaring its position regarding the Israeli annexation plans by aligning its position with upholding its commitments to support international law and United Nations Security Council Resolutions.
8. In response to the Israeli annexation plan we call on the Australian and New Zealand Governments to recognise the State of Palestine on 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

