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PROPOSED BID FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS

The Chairman,
 Portfolio Committee on International Relations and Cooperation.

Dear Mr. Magama,

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to your Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on behalf of The International Christian Embassy Jerusalem, SA Branch. (ICEJ RSA)

The present Palestinian Bid for full membership of the UN, without being declared a fully recognized independent Palestinian State, does not comply with the core principles and Constitution of the UN as a legal body, representing accepted independent nations in accordance with the policy framework and agreed principles thereof, as embedded in the Founding Document and resolutions of the United Nations.

From a legal point of view it is out of order and must be seen as an attempt to try and manipulate the General Assembly and the Security Council of the UN to obtain voting and attendance rights which is ultra vires. It begs the question why this deviation from obtaining a Palestinian Statehood is suddenly the highest priority. It will only cause immense delays until the required route is followed.

ICEJ SA supports the UN Security Council Resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) as the only framework to achieve mutual negotiations and to promote agreement and assist efforts to achieve a meaningful and final accepted settlement for a permanent two State Solution between Israel and the Palestinians.

Such a performance based roadmap to solve the Israeli – Palestinian conflict and deadlock was adopted by the International Quartet (UN, USA, Russia and the EU) and was endorsed by the Security Council resolution (SCR 1515 2003) which rejects any unilateralism in dealing with disputes between Israel and the Palestinians.

The all-encompassing South African Codesa negotiations of 1994 led to the birth of a new democratic Republic of South Africa, built on a comprehensive National Constitution as the foundation stone for our Nation, which all citizens embrace with pride. It was not an unilateral declaration. This is truly a roadmap to solve all disputes on Statehood and conflicts.

The important essence of negotiations is the acceptance of the juristic person or legal entity of each of the negotiating parties, without it it is doomed to failure. The present scenario where the Palestinian parties of Hamas in Gaza and Fatah in Ramallah representing a small minority of the population of Israel,

1. Blatantly refuse to acknowledge the existence of the State of Israel as an independent democratic Jewish State, is a serious obstacle and blockage to transparent legal negotiations and
2. It nullifies and delays the Oslo 2 agreement of 1997.
3. The continuous hate utterances and war cries by Hamas, supported by Syria, to exterminate the Jewish Nation of Israel serves no purpose.

SA Board Members: Mr DV Wilken (National Director/Chairman), Mr WA Jones (Christian Zionist Education), Mrs JE Slabbert (Annual ICEJ national and regional outreaches and liaison), Mr H Turkstra (Publications of the RSA Edition of the Word from Jerusalem)

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The Covenant of God, The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, with the land and the people of Israel and the nations of the world, is for ever and ever. God will ultimately uphold His Promise also to bless Egypt, Assyria and Israel together with all believers from all nations that believe in Him and turn to Him.

The Palestinians in Ramallah (Fatah) are prospering and have strong economic ties and agreements with Israel while Hamas in Gaza is a war torn community firing thousands of rockets indiscriminately into Israel. Palestinians in Israel enjoy full membership and representation in the Israel Parliament (Knesset).

The conundrum question is when and how Fatah and Hamas will accept one leadership to represent and speak with one voice.

The demographic area and size of Israel is the same as our National Kruger Game Park. Only an international agreed further Statehood in the land of Israel will stand the test of time. The boundaries are close and the citizens work across borders. All violence and intolerance will have to end. If war is the preferred option, then the consequences are too devastating to contemplate. The Middle Eastern countries are experiencing a tsunami of revolutions against ruthless dictators where the people are seeking true freedom and democracy.

In closing Mr Chairman, any unilateral declaration to obtain an illegal right to be a member of the UN without Statehood or by means of a unilateral Statehood will make a mockery of the UN and is doomed to fail.

South Africa, we trust, will take an informed decision to abstain in voting on any unilateral proposals.

Thank you for the opportunity to make these submissions.



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