
Cuba supports Palestinian resolution to end Israeli occupation

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Cuba today expressed its support for the draft resolution presented by Palestine to the UN Security Council to ensure a swift end to the Israeli occupation, in place since 1967, Prensa Latin reported.

We fully support the initiative to set a deadline for the end of the military occupation, and to enable the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to an independent State, with the pre-1967 borders and East Jerusalem as its capital, the Secretary of the Cuban Council of State, Homero Acosta, stated.

The senior official spoke in a debate of the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly on the work of the Special Committee responsible for investigating Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the inhabitants of Palestine and other occupied Arab territories.

According to Acosta, the construction and expansion of illegal settlements and a wall in the West Bank are unacceptable, as is the destruction and confiscation of land and property and the forced displacement of hundreds of thousands of families.

He noted Cuba's condemnation of the recent announcement to build more than two thousand new Israeli settlements in occupied East Jerusalem.

"These are aggressive colonial policies and practices that deliberately contravene UN resolutions, International Law and International Humanitarian Law and constitute a threat to

international and regional peace and security," he warned.

Similarly, he reiterated Cuba's solidarity with the Palestinian people, who in July and August suffered 50 days of bombing and ground incursions in the Gaza Strip, killing nearly 2,200 and wounding 11,100 mostly children, women and elderly.

The Secretary of the Cuban Council of State cited the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Gaza, where bombs have devastated the civilian infrastructure, and the need for Israel to end the eight-year blockade of the territory to allow aid to be delivered to victims.

The day before, the Palestinian Ambassador and Permanent Observer to the UN, Riyad Mansour, told reporters of his hope that the Security Council would submit the initiative to a vote this month in order to stop the occupation within a given time frame.

The diplomat urged the body of 15 member states to act with responsibility, given their mandate to guarantee world peace.

"The moment to recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to put an end to 47 years of occupation has arrived, those who continue to deny this are responsible for what happens and the violence that this could generate in the future", he added.
