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Secretariat General

Press Release on the Second Meeting of the Arab Ministerial Committee on Taking Actions to Stop the Illegal Israeli Policies and Measures in the occupied Jerusalem Cairo: Thursday, 9th September 2021

The Arab Ministerial Committee on Taking Actions to Stop the Illegal Israeli Policies and Measures in the occupied Jerusalem, which consists of Tunisia (Chair of the Arab summit and the Arab Member of the UN Security Council), Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Palestine, Qatar, Egypt, Morocco, and the Arab League Secretary-General, convened its session on 9th September 2021, chaired by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan at the headquarters of the Secretariat General of the League of Arab States, on the sidelines of the 156th Ordinary Session for the Council of the League of Arab States at the Ministerial Level.

The Committee convened its Second Meeting pursuant to Resolution 8860 adopted by the Extraordinary Session of the Council of the League of Arab States at the Ministerial Level on 11th May 2021, concerning the Israeli aggression against the occupied city of Jerusalem and its people, including the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood, which decided to form an Arab Ministerial Committee to take actions and liaise with the permanent Members of the UN Security Council and other influential countries on the international arena.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Ayman Al-Safadi, reviewed the efforts exerted by the Committee since its first meeting, and the actions taken by its Member States in this regard.

The Committee was also briefed by Dr. Riyad Al-Malki, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants of the State of Palestine with regard to the Israeli violations in the occupied city of East Jerusalem, the capital of the State of Palestine, including the escalation of the Israeli aggression against the city of Jerusalem through the increased escalation of house demolition and forced displacement of citizens in the neighborhoods and towns of the Occupied Jerusalem, as well as the escalation of Israeli settlement plans and projects in the City, including the so-called "City Center" project, the Silicon Valley project, the City of David project, Settler's Light Rail project, Jerusalem Reborn Project and the Real Estate Settlement Project in the City, which aim at dispossession of Palestinian lands and properties in the Old City and its environs, obliterating the Arab presence in the Occupied Jerusalem, altering its identity, demolishing homes and causing forced displacement of Palestinian people;

During the Second Meeting of the Committee, the Ministers of Member States discussed the efforts and coordination and follow-up mechanisms to address the

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Israeli measures and violations in the Occupied Jerusalem. At the end of the Meeting, the Ministers emphasized the need to continue their joint effort to support the people of Jerusalem and to confront all Israeli violations, which target the Occupied Jerusalem and its resilient people and the people of the Sheikh Al-Jarrah and Silwan neighborhoods.

The Ministers reaffirmed their rejection of the policy of house demolition, construction and expansion of settlements, and the procedures adopted by the Israeli occupation authorities within the (E1) project aimed at separating the north of the West Bank from its south, which shall undermine the establishment of a contiguous and viable Palestinian State, in addition to confronting the so-called Land Registry and Settlement of Rights project, aiming at the seizure of Jerusalemites' property and confiscation of their real estate, and "the City Center" project, which is an integral part of the plans to Judaize Jerusalem, obliterate its identity and alter its features and historical and cultural character.

The Ministers emphasized the importance of supporting the resilience of the people of Jerusalem and exerting all efforts to confront the Israeli measures that aim at altering the historical and legal identity of the Occupied Jerusalem.

The Ministers stressed the importance of the role of the Hashemite custodianship over the Arab, Islamic and Christian holy places in Jerusalem, and its role in protecting these holy places and preserving their Arab, Islamic and Christian identity, and the historical and legal situation thereto.

At the end of the meeting, the Ministers also agreed to convee intensive consultation meetings with the Foreign Ministers of the Security Council Member States and international actors, on the sidelines of the upcoming meeting of the United Nations General Assembly, to be held this month, with a view to providing international support for Arab efforts in addressing all Israeli measures and violations in Holy City of Jerusalem.