

**252 (XXII). REHABILITATION AND ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
RECONSTRUCTION IN PALESTINE**

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,

Recalling resolution 237 (XXI) dated 11 May 2001 concerning rehabilitation of economic sectors in Palestine,

Recalling also the grievous conditions in Palestine under Israeli occupation and the resulting difficulties that hinder implementation of the aforementioned resolution,

1. *Affirms* the need urgently and at the earliest possible opportunity to convene an Arab-international forum on rehabilitation and reconstruction as a step towards the establishment of an independent Palestinian State;

2. *Requests* the secretariat to exert efforts to increase Arab participation in reconstruction and rehabilitation and link such participation to the relevant international programmes;

3. *Affirms also* the role of the Palestinian Authority and the institutions of Palestinian civil society in formulating the practical plan for reconstruction and rehabilitation, given that it is the body with true interest in that regard and represents all the economic and social sectors and, in particular, the transport and communications, trade, industry, agriculture, education, health, tourism and other damaged sectors, and has responsibility for alleviating the desperate situation of the refugee camps under occupation;

4. *Further affirms* the need for the secretariat to assist the Palestinian National Authority by delegating experts to evaluate the losses suffered in economic and social sectors and providing assistance in finding a relevant mechanism, through international organizations and institutions, for compensating such losses in the various sectors, in order to enable them to recover and undertake their duties in the future, thereby contributing to the development process;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to follow up implementation of this resolution, and to submit a report on progress achieved to the Commission at its twenty-third session.

6th plenary meeting
17 April 2003