



MISIÓN PERMANENTE DE MÉXICO

**Explanation of vote by the Delegation of Mexico on the General Assembly resolution entitled  
“Status of Jerusalem”.**

New York, 21 December, 2017

Mr. President,

Mexico abstained in this resolution because it is worried for the distortion that the legitimate pursuit of peace between Palestine and Israel is suffering. Today we are farther than ever from this goal; not closer.

Mexico does not deem a unilateral declaration recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel as neither positive nor useful for the peace process. It is also not useful, but disproportionate to have a “Uniting for Peace” emergency session of the General Assembly with the objective of rejecting such a declaration.

The United States must be part of the solution of the conflict between Palestinians and Israelis and avoid becoming an additional obstacle that complicates progress. We call upon all parties to keep calm and sensible.

Mexico supports dialogue as the means to solve the conflict between Israel and Palestine, based on a Two-State solution, that is to say, on the right of both Israel and Palestine to live in peace within secured and internationally recognized borders, as agreed in the Oslo Accords and ratified by several UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions.

Israel must respect the special character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, and preserve the unique spiritual and religious features of the city’s sacred places.

Mexico will keep its embassy in Tel Aviv, as it has been the case for all the countries that have diplomatic relations with Israel, in accordance with Security Council resolution 478 of 1980, as well as with relevant General Assembly resolutions concerning the status of the city of Jerusalem.

Let us recall that Jerusalem is also Palestine, for which the eastern sector should be its capital.

Mexico reiterates its unwavering conviction that a political and peaceful solution of the conflict must be reached through direct negotiations, without any precondition, between the parties, aiming to solve the substantive problems, including the ultimate status of Jerusalem.