1st Spanish State Meeting in Solidarity with Palestine.

Conclusions.

More than 40 organizations are coordinated along the Spanish State in order to stimulate solidarity with Palestine, and they fix a date (4th June 05) for a State-level united demonstration.

During the 5th and 6th Mars, the 1st State Meeting in Solidarity with Palestine was held in Madrid: an open space for coordination, following the proposal of Malaga’s Social Forum (which took place last December). 66 people, related to 41 social organizations coming from each corner of Spanish State, came to put jointly different experiences and unite efforts facing the great challenges that solidarity movements must deal currently about Palestine.

The EU-Palestine and EU-Israel relationship were subject of strong discussions, and some joint commitments could be achieved on this matter: starting up united campaigns related to the weapons sales to Israel, an State that commits blatant violations on human rights, keeping a whole people under occupation; another compromise achieved is a call to suspend the Trade Preferential Agreement (EU-Israel) on the basis that EU privileges Israeli exports. In order to strengthen the Solidarity Movement with Palestine in the european field, it has been reached an agreement to move all initiatives included in both campaigns framework to the European Coordinating Committee of NGOs on the Question of Palestine (EPCC), which is already working following the agreements reached on Porto Alegre’s World Forum: to force political and economic sanctions on Israel, as far as Israel keeps on its violation of Human Rights and breaking international law.

The organizations attending the 1st Meeting are well aware of the increasing level on Spain-Israel trading exchanges (noting gunboats selling to Israel and several ways on military cooperation masked under “scientific” and “advising” terms). The organizations attending this 1st Meeting have established an stake: to stop the weapons selling to Israel, applying the so called Spanih Code of Conduct.

Relating to trade relations with Israel and the Israeli goods imports, besides the afore mentioned preferential agreement suspension, in this 1st Meeting we took into account the possibility of boycotting as well several goods that break the international law about goods labels; i.e. dates coming from the Palestinian Occupied Territories, labeled as “made in Israel” and being sold on firms like El Corte Inglés: i.e. the bottled water firm “Edén”, whose 25 lts. bottles – of a very extended use on spanish factories and offices- are labeled as Israeli and actually took their water from the occupied syrian Golan Heights

Another remarkable agreement reached in the 1st Meeting has been the fixing of a date (June 4th) to call for a global day against Palestine’s Occupation. All the proposals and initiatives will be evaluated on the 2nd Solidarity Net against the Palestine Occupation Meeting, to be held in Barcelona, on the framework disposed on the Mediterranean Social Forum, next June 17th and 18th.

Finally, the 1st Meetins approved a resolution to be addressed to Spanish Government, calling for it to provide the immediate return to Palestine with no conditions to the three palestinians deported by Israel after de siege of Belen’s Nativity Basilica, three years ago.

Madrid, March 5th 2005.

(Spanish State) Solidarity Net against Palestine’s Occupation.