

DRAFT RESOLUTION ON ISRAELI CENSORSHIP BY THE C.I.C.

passed Action Council Jan. 1990

Whereas there is ample documentation from Article 19 and other organizations showing massive and stringent Israeli censorship in the Occupied Territories of the West Bank and Gaza and within pre-1967 Israel itself, and

Whereas this censorship, administered by the Israeli military and justified on grounds of Israel's alleged security needs is in reality aimed at suppressing information about and criticism of Israeli treatment of the Palestinians under occupation, and

Whereas this censorship is also aimed at suppressing awareness of Palestinian national and cultural identity and serves to undermine Palestinian academic freedom and education, and

Whereas this sweeping and arbitrary censorship is in violation of universally accepted principles of intellectual freedom and human rights, including Article 19 of the United Nation's Declaration on Human Rights, and

Whereas the United States has maintained a special relationship with the State of Israel, which receives upwards of \$3 billion annually in U.S. military and financial assistance, while claiming to be the most democratic country in the Middle East,

Be it therefore resolved that the _____ condemns this massive and stringent Israeli censorship and calls upon the State of Israel to abide by universally recognized norms of intellectual freedom and human rights, and

passed Action Council June 1990

Be it further resolved that the _____ will continue investigating Israeli censorship and suppression of information and facilitating the publication of reports, bibliographies and documentation on Israeli censorship, to be regularly updated, and

Be it further resolved that the _____ will encourage and participate in the sponsorship of further ALA forums on this issue, inviting both Palestinians and Israelis to discuss the situation, and

Be it further resolved that the _____ deems it fitting to extend the investigation of Israeli censorship to the question of alleged gross inequities in the provision of library services to Palestinians in both the Occupied Territories and in Israel itself, and will encourage and assist in the collection of documentation on this matter, and

Be it further resolved that the _____ will encourage the sending of an official ALA fact-finding mission to the Occupied Territories and Israel if necessary to further investigate the above-stated issues, and

Be it further resolved that the _____ will suggest appropriate measures to the International Federation of Library Associations, UNESCO, and other international bodies, and

Be it further resolved that the _____ encourages libraries in the U.S. to enhance their coverage of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict in both its historical and contemporary dimensions.