

How to Cite:

Khalaf, H. R., & Kamer, H. Y. (2022). The position of Al-Ahram and Al-Gomhouria newspapers on the role of the Arab League towards the Lockerbie case (1994-2001). *International Journal of Health Sciences*, 6(S6), 1495–1503.
<https://doi.org/10.53730/ijhs.v6nS6.10060>

The position of Al-Ahram and Al-Gomhouria newspapers on the role of the Arab League towards the Lockerbie case (1994-2001)

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Abstract---The research (the League's position on the sanctions against Libya and the decisions of the Council of the League concerning the Lockerbie issue and the position of the Al-Ahram and the Republic among them 1994-2001). Highlighting the role of the Secretary-General of the Arab League, Ismat Abdul Majid, and discussions with Libyan President yan Muammar al-Qadhafi to find solutions to the Libyan problem.

Keywords---newspapers, league, lockerbie case.

Introduction

First: The League's position on the sanctions against Libya and the position of Al-Ahram and Al-Gomhoria newspapers on them (1994-2001)

Ismat Abdel Majid , Secretary General of the Arab League, visited Libya on April 30, 1994, accompanied by Ibrahim Al-Bashari (1990-1992), Libya's permanent representative at the League, to find a solution to the Western Libyan problem. The developments of the Lockerbie crisis, especially in light of the Western countries' rejection of the proposal submitted by the League on April 15, and work to solve the crisis . The Secretary-General of the Arab League announced on May 2 of the same year at the conclusion of his visit to Libya, when he met Gaddafi and officials. League is still proposing to try the Libyan accused before the International Court of Justice in The Hague, and in a Scottish court, in order to support the Libyan position, and to revive for mediation efforts after that .

Al-Ahram newspaper supported the position of the Arab League and its deep concern about the sanctions on Libya at the conclusion of the work of its 97th session, and the newspaper reported the Arab League Council's grumbling about

targeting Libya. of the Charter of the United Nations, which allows the organization to impose sanctions on states, and the Council affirmed that these sanctions are harmful to the Arab situation and the interests of the Libyan people. In its contacts with the international community, the Seven Committee carried new proposals, including Libya's approval to extradite the two suspects in the Lockerbie case to the Arab League or to one of the Arab or European countries, except for the three parties to the case. The United States, Britain and France before their withdrawal, in order to prosecute them with Libya's commitment to pay Compensation for the victims of the plane in the event of the court's conviction of the two suspects, and the demand for lifting the economic embargo imposed on Libya.

The statement of Libya's delegate to the Arab League, Salma Mohammed Rashid, came that the Seven Committee of the Arab League headed by Esmat Abdel Meguid discussed the projects and documents of the Arab Union submitted by the Libyan Jamahiriya and approved and referred to the Arab League for study. Next month), Salma Rashid explained that the summit's approval means approval of the union project, which receives the support of the majority of the member states of the League, and does not affect the political systems and entities. She also made clear that her country's efforts did not stop with the Organization of African Unity. The Non-Aligned Movement, the Arab League, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations General Assembly in order to lift the embargo on Libya, through three proposals for a solution, the first of which is to hold a trial for the suspects. The headquarters of the International Court of Justice in The Hague By Scottish judges, as for the second proposal, the trial shall be in one of the neutral countries, and the third proposal is a The establishment of a special court for a crisis for Zakirbi, such as what happened in Bosnia. It indicated that the material losses of her country as a result of the embargo amounted to more than (20 billion dollars), in addition to the human, social and economic damages, obstruction of development programs, and the high death rate due to lack of medicine .

The representative of the League of Arab States stated that within the framework of the international efforts exerted to reach a peaceful and just solution to the crisis on the basis of the provisions of Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations with regard to the activities of regional organizations consistent with the purposes and objectives of the United Nations. The League, in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, proposed three Proposals for the Security Council to be a basis for resolving the crisis, and those proposals included either trying the suspects in a neutral country or at the headquarters of the International Court of Justice or by a special court .

Second: The decisions of the League Council regarding the Lockerbie case and the position of Al-Ahram and Al-Gomhouria newspapers, including 1991-2001

The Arab League took upon itself the full responsibility to support one of the member states that was threatened by the major permanent members of the Security Council (the United States of America, Britain and France). All Parties. 1-

Resolution No. 5103: issued on September 12, 1991 by the League Council in its regular session, after the Council reviewed the memorandum of the General Secretariat, the Memorandum of the People's Libyan Jamahiriya and Economic and Social Council Resolution No. 1053 of February 3, 1988, as well as the recommendation of the Political Affairs Committee, and in which it expressed Expressing his concern for the United States of America extending economic sanctions on Libya, and calling for the United States to lift the economic siege on the Libyan Jamahiriya and release the funds to the frozen Libyan, and assign the Secretary-General to make possible efforts to persuade the American administration to cancel its decisions related to the economic blockade against the Jamahiriya, as the Security Council stressed In his decision on the continuation of cooperation in international forums and organizations to make efforts to defend the rights of the Libyan Jamahiriya, as well as his affirmation of solidarity with the Jamahiriya to confront the US economic blockade .

Dr. Ismat Abdel Majeed held a press conference for the most important topics discussed by the ministers in the meetings of the 96th regular session of the Council of the League of Arab States, in which 21 Arab countries participated in the presence of 18 foreign ministers. Purifying the atmosphere in the Arab arena, and during its working sessions, the council discussed the council's agenda prepared by the general secretariat. 2- Resolution No. 5156: issued on January 5, 1991 by the League Council, which met in its extraordinary emergency session at the request of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, and based on Article VI of the Charter of the Arab League and the Mutual Defense Treaty, to follow up on the situation between it and the Western countries, and affirmed in it Solidarity with the Libyan Jamahiriya in order to reveal the truth, and also called for avoiding military and economic actions that would escalate the situation against Libya, and also called on the Council to form a joint committee from the Arab League and the United Nations and to implement cooperation between the two organizations, to study and discuss all matters and means related to the subject, with Provide all means that facilitate the committee's task.

3- Resolution No. 5158: issued by the Council of the League of Arab States in its resumed session on Thursday, January 16, 1992 in an extraordinary session, in which it praised its standing with Libya and its keenness to reveal the truth of the incident and resolve the dispute through negotiations and judicial settlement as stipulated in Article 33 of the Charter The United Nations in Chapter VI, through which he worked to urge the conflicting parties to exercise restraint and resort to the law by taking legal measures to reach the truth . Al-Ahram newspaper reported on the decision of the Arab League Council in its extraordinary session to stand by Libya to reveal the facts related to the American plane incident, entitled (The Arab League Council renews its support for Libya). The Secretary-General of the Arab League mediated with all parties to find a peaceful settlement of this problem, and called on the Security Council to resolve the dispute through negotiations, mediation and judicial settlement .

Al-Jumhuriya newspaper praised the position of the Arab League and its decisions regarding its support for Libya, and its announcement of the formation of the Arab League and the United Nations team to investigate the incident, and tasked the Secretary-General of the United Nations with ending the American-

Libyan conflict through mediation and negotiations. 4- Resolution No. 5161: The Council issued it on March 22, 1992 as part of its work in the extraordinary session, based on the charter of the League of Arab States and its complementary charters and treaties, and welcomed Libya's willingness to cooperate with the Secretary-General of the United Nations regarding the legal aspects of Security Council Resolution 731 In a neutral or international court and a neutral investigation, in which it decided to confirm its condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and to welcome Libya's readiness to cooperate with any international effort to eliminate this crisis, as well as to make good offices not to direct any threats to Libya and to try to resolve that crisis by peaceful means, as well as urging the Security Council to avoid Issuing any decision that takes diplomatic, economic and military measures that negatively affect the region, and the International Court of Justice awaits its decision regarding the case submitted to it on March 3, 1992. Article 33 of Chapter VI of the Charter of the United Nations, considering the Council in permanent session, and assigning the Secretary-General to follow up the decision and submit a report to the Council that includes Situation developments.

Al-Jumhuriya newspaper reported to us the emergency meeting of the Council of the League of Arab States at the level of foreign ministers entitled (The Libyan crisis in front of the emergency meeting of the Arab League today, a Moroccan summit with the participation of Gaddafi to discuss the crisis), the Council of the League of Arab States held an emergency meeting to discuss the developments of the conflict between Libya and the United States, France and Britain And reaching a unified Arab position towards the Western draft resolution before the Security Council imposing sanctions against Libya, and Libyan Prime Minister Abu Zeid continued his tour in Arab capitals, as he arrived in Amman from Damascus and delivered a letter to King Hussein from Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, as mentioned by sources. Diplomacy in New York that the leaders of the five Arab Maghreb Union countries will hold an emergency summit with the participation of Gaddafi, aimed at persuading the Libyan president to hand over the Libyan suspects to the United Nations.

5- Resolution 5373: The Council of the League expressed its deep concern about the human and material harm inflicted on the Libyan people and the peoples surrounding them through the coercive measures imposed on them by virtue of Security Council resolutions (748 / 883), and to escalate the crisis by imposing additional sanctions and threatening the use of force as a method of dealing between In the resolution, he praised the efforts of the Seven Committee and the Secretary-General of the Arab League to find a peaceful solution to the crisis. He also expressed full appreciation for the positive initiatives made by Libya to resolve the crisis by peaceful means, and its full response to the Security Council resolution (731/1992), and after reviewing the latest developments of the crisis and briefing him on the memorandum of the General Secretariat, he decided to emphasize his previous decisions represented in solidarity with the Libyan Jamahiriya, and to support its efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the crisis and respect for Libya's sovereignty and the principles of international law. He also affirmed support for the General Secretariat's proposal to conduct A fair trial of the two suspects by Scottish judges and in accordance with Scottish law and at the International Court of Justice in the Scottish city of The Hague, and urged a

magazine The Security Council sought to search for a peaceful solution to prevent any escalation in the situation, and the League Council also confirmed the assignment of the Secretary to follow up on the implementation of that decision.

6- Resolution No. 5431: The Security Council issued it on September 15, 1994 in a regular session, expressing its appreciation for the efforts of the Seven Committee, and the efforts made by the Secretary-General of the League to find peaceful solutions to the crisis, and mentioned what is stipulated in Articles (33) and the period (52) The Charter of the United Nations with regard to the peaceful settlement of disputes through judicial settlement without endangering international peace and security, and expressed its concern about the human and material damage suffered by the Libyan people and the peoples surrounding them during the implementation of Security Council resolutions (748/1992) (883). 1993), and expressed his regret for the continuation and continuation of the three Western countries to impose and extend sanctions, despite Libya's response to Security Council resolutions, as well as the initiative of the Council of the League of Arab States and Libya's response to it. Escalate the situation, and emphasized the call of the Arab Seven Committee to intensify its efforts, follow up the crisis and contact the concerned parties to urge the Security Council to re-examine the new proposals, and assign the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of the resolution and submit a report on it to the Council at its next session.

Al-Ahram newspaper clarified what happened about the opening session of the Arab League Council on the Libyan crisis. To add it to the League Council's agenda, and the ministers agreed in the session to include it, and also called on the Security Council to reconsider its position and to try the two suspects in accordance with Scottish law and with Scottish judges at the headquarters of the International Court of Justice. 7- Resolution No. 5689: issued by the League Council on September 21, 1997 in its regular session, in which it referred to the final statement of the Arab Summit Conference held in Cairo for the period (June 21-23, 1996), and emphasized paragraph 163 of the final document issued by the session. The Eleventh Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement, held in Colombia on October 20, 1995, in which the Council expressed its appreciation for the solidarity of regional and international organizations with Libya in such a crisis as the Organization of African Unity, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and also expressed its deep concern about the damages inflicted on the Arab people As a result of the sanctions and coercive measures imposed by Security Council resolutions (748/1992) and resolution (883/1993), in which it decided to support the right of the Libyan Jamahiriya to obtain compensation for the damage and human and material losses incurred as a result of Security Council resolutions, and stressing the call on Arab countries to take measures to ease the embargo on Libya and to reach a final, peaceful and just solution to the crisis. Saniya related to treatment and import of medicines, trips of a religious nature and trips for transporting workers and nationals of foreign countries, and providing facilities for obtaining modern technologies such as pumping stations, spare parts for greenhouses and production requirements that need to be imported by air.

The resolution also emphasized coordination between the Seven Arab Committees and the African Five. To follow up efforts to ensure that the Security Council

accepts the options set by the League of Arab States and the Organization of African Unity, represented in trying the suspects in a neutral third country chosen by the Security Council, and trying the suspects at the headquarters of the International Court of Justice in The Hague in accordance with Scottish law and Scottish judges, as well as establishing a special criminal court for the trial of the two suspects at the International Court of Justice in The Hague. 8- Resolution 5738: The Arab League Council recalled the final statement of the Arab Summit Conference held in Cairo in the period (21-23 June 1996) and affirmed its decisions on the subject and the statements of the Non-Aligned Conferences, and the final statement issued by the emergency session of the Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference held in Sirte, Jamahiriya

The Libyan government for the period (14-15 December 1997) and the decision issued by the 67th session of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for the period (25-27 February 1998), also expressed its appreciation for the solidarity of countries, regional and international organizations and groups with the Libyan Jamahiriya in that conflict, and through The Council regretted the failure of the United States of America and the United Kingdom to respond to regional and international endeavors to find a just settlement of the crisis, which led to the Security Council extending the embargo measures imposed on Libya. Libya regarding the interpretation of the Montreal Convention of 1971 on the safety of civil aviation regarding the Lockerbie accident and as a legal reference for the settlement of the dispute, and decided to consider The ruling of the International Court of Justice issued on February 27, 1998 requires the Security Council to reconsider the sanctions imposed on Libya and its demand to reconsider the nature of the conflict. As well as affirming Libya's right to obtain appropriate compensation for human and material damages and losses as a result of the sanctions imposed on it.

Al-Ahram newspaper's position in support of the decisions of the Arab League Council, especially at the conclusion of the 109th session's meetings, came in the special statement on peace, through an article entitled (Demanding the Security Council to suspend sanctions on Libya and affirm its right to compensation), as the Arab foreign ministers decided to emphasize the decisions The Ministers also considered the ruling of the International Court of Justice compelling the Security Council to reconsider the sanctions imposed on Libya, and demanded the Security Council to immediately suspend the sanctions it had taken under Resolutions 748 and 883 until the case is settled, as well. For their affirmation of Libya's right to obtain appropriate compensation for the damages and material and human losses that it sustained as a result of the economic sanctions imposed on it.

Al-Ahram newspaper supported the position of the Arab League regarding lifting sanctions on Libya in an article entitled (The Arab League coordinates with international organizations to lift sanctions on Libya), as the Secretary-General of the Arab League, Amr Moussa began to coordinate with international organizations that have a supportive stance for Libya, to lift the sanctions Immediately and permanently, coordination included the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Organization of African Unity, the Non-Aligned Movement

and the Community of Sahel and Sahara States, to support the direction of the supportive position of the Arab League and Libya. Al-Arabiya, and that the final lifting of sanctions is required, after Libya fulfilled its obligations towards the Security Council, and this was confirmed by the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan to the Security Council .

The League of Arab States continued its endeavors and efforts towards conducting a fair trial for the accused in that case. The League was based on what was decided by the Seven Committee at its meeting in New York in October 1995 AD, which confirms the dignity and sovereignty of the Libyan state, and its position in that case embodies the position The Arab vis-à-vis Lockerbie, and not only the position of Libya alone, but also of the Arab countries that stood by it, and the General Secretariat of the Council of the Arab League confirmed that it had undertaken this initiative on legal grounds, as well as very sound political foundations, and made it clear that Libya for the first time showed its acceptance of the precise political legal situation, The League Council continued its contacts with the United Nations and the concerned countries, and during that period the Conference of Non-Aligned Countries was held in Cairo and took a position in support of the Arab initiative. Contacts continued with member states of the UN Security Council and with the European Community, and those contacts and discussions confirmed that the atmosphere helped to discuss the means that Lead to a peaceful settlement of this crisis, and avoid escalation of it, especially since a number of European countries that have relations and joint cooperation interests with Libya do not Accept the escalation and the goal of the Libyan state and the League is to reach a just solution to the crisis .

Conclusion

The Arab League supported Libya and supported its position by issuing resolutions through which it expressed its adoption of the issue and finding appropriate solutions to it, and it appears through those decisions that there was no obligation to implement the decisions issued in favor of Libya in its crisis with Western countries, and that the Arab countries fear its interests with Western countries, especially neighboring countries. The League of Arab States worked according to quiet diplomacy in order to achieve its goals, especially with regard to its role in helping its members when they were exposed to any external threat, by resolving disputes by peaceful means and not resorting to force, and that one of the biggest obstacles faced by the League of Arab States to reach a peaceful settlement of the Lockerbie crisis , The current Arab situation and the hegemony of the major powers over the United Nations, and that these obstacles made the Arab countries closely resemble the United Nations in protecting its members, as a result of the American hegemony over the Security Council, especially after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

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