The Secretary General of the Party for Progress and Socialism

Subject: Explanatory letter regarding the latest progress on the Moroccan Sahara issue and on our country's relationship with the Palestinian cause and with Israel

It is within the framework of the bonds of fraternity and friendship that unite our two parties and also in accordance with our principles aimed at preserving stability, peace and the promotion of cooperation between nations as well as our shared values of democracy, liberation, justice and human dignity that the Party for Progress and Socialism of Morocco addresses you through this correspondence.

Your party may be aware of the official decision of the United States of America Recognising the Sovereignty of the Kingdom of Morocco Over the Western Sahara, announced on December 10, 2020.

Our party considers that this declaration is a positive historical turning point towards the final settlement of the Moroccan Western Sahara issue, on the basis of the autonomy of the Southern Regions under Moroccan Sovereignty, the only option that has been considered by the international community as a realistic, serious and credible proposal.

At the Party for Progress and Socialism, we have adopted this position, in accordance with our patriotic, progressive and democratic orientations. These principles have been essential to us since the birth of the party in 1943 and as a continuation of our incessant struggle to consolidate the territorial integrity of our country, especially since the emergence of the artificial conflict over the Moroccan Western Sahara in the mid-1970s in a particular context at the international and regional levels.

Your party has, without a doubt, learnt of our country's intention to adopt measures of openness towards Israel. It is necessary to point out that the King of Morocco made a telephone call to the President of the Palestinian National Authority on the same day, 10 December, in which he assured him of Morocco's commitment to continue supporting the Palestinian cause on the basis of political negotiation and a two-state solution, preserving the special status of Jerusalem. His Majesty also assured him of the equal place given to the issue of territorial integrity arising from the Palestinian question and Morocco's determination to

devote all these sovereign measures towards Israel with a view to promoting a just peace in the region.

In the same context, the Party for Progress and Socialism assures you of its firm determination to pursue the defence of our territorial integrity as a matter that is subject to a national consensus for the entire Moroccan people, its institutions and its living forces. It is with the same determination and resolution that our party will continue to support the cause of the Palestinian people, which we also consider as a national cause, until the Palestinian people obtain their rights - first and foremost the right to establish their own national and independent state, within the 1967 borders, with Jerusalem as its capital.

At the same time, the Party for Progress and Socialism considers that all the declared measures of openness towards Israel require the latter to put an end to all its violations, its policy of settlements, racism and aggression and its occupation of the Golan Heights and to act for the implementation of a truly peaceful political approach that would lead to the recognition of all the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people.

The Party for Progress and Socialism also considers that these essential actions necessarily require Israel to move towards a normal State that respects international legality and adheres to international law.

This is a fundamental condition for the establishment of peace, coexistence, stability, development and prosperity in the region.

The Party for Progress and Socialism thus makes these elements available to your party, hoping that they will provide useful insights for the positions you might take on this matter.

Please accept, dear friends and comrades, our sincere militant greetings.

For the Political Bureau of the Party for Progress and Socialism

The Secretary General: Mohammed Nabil Benabdallah