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It's a victory for Palestine, says PM

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Landmark resolution: Members of the UN Security Council voting against the expansion of Israeli settlement in Palestine. — AP

UN move to stop Israeli settlements lauded

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KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak has called the United Nations Security Council vote to halt Israeli settlements in Palestine a “victory” for the long oppressed Palestinians.

Malaysia, along with 14 other member nations of the council, voted yesterday in favour of the resolution demanding the halt of settlement activity by Israel on occupied Palestinian territory.

The resolution was put forward by Malaysia, New Zealand, Venezuela and Senegal a day after Egypt withdrew it under pressure from Israel and US president-elect Donald Trump.

Despite calls from Trump and Israel for the US to veto the resolution, the superpower abstained from voting.

“Although initially faced with challenges when Egypt withdrew their proposed draft resolution, the fate of the Palestinian people will still be taken care of.

“Not only from the point of religion, it also signifies the strong support of the international community against violations of international law committed by the Zionist regime through illegal settlements,” Najib wrote on his blog yesterday.

“Not only from the point of religion, it also signifies the strong support of the international community against violations.”

Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak

He called the resolution a victory for Palestine and a blow to Israel, and hoped it would be a stepping stone for Palestine to secure more land and ultimately, its independence.

The resolution was adopted with 14 votes in favour. It is the first resolution the Security Council has adopted on Israel and the Palestinians in eight years.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, however, said he would not abide by the UN resolution.

Watch the video
thestartv.com

