

The People's Assembly released the following statement :

As representatives of the people who express their will, we support President Anwar Al-Sadat and bless his initiative which aims at asserting our sincere desire for peace. We consider it a positive and non-conventional step that opens broader horizons for peace.

« We bless his initiative in expression of our desire that the whole world should witness our intentions for a just peace with Israel, embracing the whole region, and not a peace at any price, nor a separate one. President Sadat announced that Egypt had rejected both. The only peace Egypt advocates today is the peace which restitutes the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and the occupied territories of the Arab nation.

« Whilst Egypt proposes this historic initiative, it does so from a strong and not a weak position, with courage and not hesitation, aiming at peace and not war and to the benefit of the entire Arab nation and world peace.

« Egypt is taking this initiative to prove to this generation and coming generations that for the sake of peace we have not left one door unopened, one road untrodden nor one favourable opportunity unsought. Egypt has faced four wars and braved the challenges of war with patience, and will now brave the challenge of peace with equal patience.

« Operating the battle of peace requires the same potency, capacity, boldness and flexibility required in war. We realise that some Arab oppositions have been raised against the initiative which did not surprise Egypt. If these oppositions are in the nature of relapsing into the trivialities of Arab political phraseology, Egypt rises above such conduct. If they are of the nature of trusteeship, Egypt rejects them.

We announce for record, the fact that Egypt has settled more than its share towards the Arab cause in the only currency not liable to outbiddings, hypocrisy or falsification — it was paid with the blood of her sons.

But if these oppositions are of the nature of fear or anxiety, Egypt considers them as reservations which results will determine at the end. Since the Arab Nation has trusted the Egyptian will to fight its wars for peace, it stands to reason that it should trust it to engage in the challenges of peace.

President Sadat has announced that the Egyptian initiative is a decisive step representing in the end a final test of intentions, which Egypt presents to the world, in its desire to establish just peace in the region. Within

