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There was prior agreement between the four organizations regarding our position towards Arafat. This was expressed in the joint communique issued right after the visit. As I mentioned, more important than the political declaration is the results reached that will unite and determine our tactics in the coming stage; the essence of this will be seen in the near future.

How do you define the platform of the broad national front mentioned in the declaration?

We should evaluate the Aden meeting in terms of two aspects: First, uniting the points of view of the Joint Leadership and the democratic trend in a way that guarantees the alliance between these forces, which was achieved. Second is the question of uniting the Palestinian arena and restoring the Palestinian revolution's central role in the confrontation against imperialism. In this respect, we found that the point of departure is confronting the deviationist policies. Doing this successfully will enable us to restore unity in the Palestinian arena, as well as the alliances needed at the present time. To confront, isolate and eliminate this deviation, we must unite the efforts of all forces: organizations, unions, nationalist personalities, etc... Therefore, we must form an active national front aimed at isolating and eliminating the deviation, and thereby protecting the unity of the PLO on a progressive nationalist basis.

It is known that the forces opposing deviation differ in

terms of the level of their opposition. Is the national front open to all these forces, or is it proposed for the more radical forces?

We are really aiming for the broadest possible national front to confront the deviation. In the next few days, we will be conducting dialogue with all organizations without exception: the uprising (Fatah rebels), Saïqa, General Command, the Palestinian Struggle Front, the mass organizations and nationalist personalities to discuss the formation of the national front against deviation. We want to establish the broadest possible front to accommodate all forces opposing the deviationist trend. Can this front avoid taking a position on the trend represented by Arafat and the steps he has taken on this path? The answer is no.

Yet for the sake of rallying the broadest front possible, we can probably meet on basis of political and organizational condemnation of this visit to Cairo, knowing well that when the front is asked about this subject, the answer will be in the way we have expressed earlier on many occasions.

As for the basis on which this front will be founded, be it its program or organizational bylaws, it is the right of all those who express their desire to join, to also participate in putting such programs. Perhaps we will propose a draft program, but it is not our right to impose any program on anyone. Yet there are some essential matters which must be taken into consideration in the initiation of any program or organizational bylaws.

1. That this front is not an alternative to the PLO, but rather a