

Motion carried at STUC Black Workers Conference 2023

2023 – The 75th Anniversary of the Nakba

“Conference acknowledges the importance of the Nakba in the Palestinian experience and its significance cannot be overstated. Between 1947 and 1949, Palestinians were forced from their homes, land, villages, towns, and cities, never to be allowed to return; thousands of people lost their lives, whilst many more lost their livelihoods and homeland. Hundreds of villages were destroyed during this time and that some two-thirds of all Palestinians were displaced, giving birth to a Palestinian refugee population that now numbers nearly six million.

“This year the Israeli government has stepped up its bombardment of Gaza which remains under a tight land, sea and air blockade cutting off over 2 million Palestinians from the outside world. “A brutal assault was also launched on Jenin, the most serious military incursion in the West Bank for two decades, killing to date 12 Palestinians, seriously injuring hundreds, bulldozing whole streets and cutting off electricity, the internet and access to emergency health services.

“Illegal settlements continue to colonise the land, destroying property and segregating the Palestinian population behind walls. “Conference pays tribute to the Palestinian people and the lesson in the power of resistance to colonial oppression. People who have endured so much yet remain so united and determined to exist — determined that they will return, are an inspiration to us all.

“Conference calls on the STUC Black Workers Committee to intensify its campaign to end the illegal occupation and the oppression of Palestinians and to continue to support and promote the work of the Palestine Solidarity Campaign.”