



Statement on behalf of OIC by Mr. Afaq Ahmad, Counsellor during General Debate under Agenda Item 7

51st HRC Session
30 September 2022

Mr. President,

The OIC reiterates its support for Agenda Item 7 as an integral part of the IB package.

We reject any effort which aims to undermine this Agenda Item and reaffirms this Council's responsibility towards the realization of the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people and ensuring accountability for decades long occupation.

We also echo OIC's support for the work of the COI and SR on OPT.

Mr. President,

The Israeli settlements are at the core of colonial occupation and are only made possible through the commission of war crimes, crimes against humanity and the crime of Apartheid. Unfortunately, the occupying power continues to expand settlements in complete defiance of international law.

The OIC once again urges the High Commissioner to continue updating the database of companies operating in settlements as mandated by resolution 31/36 of 2016.

The OIC strongly condemns the continuous illegal policies and actions in Occupied Palestine, resulting in extrajudicial killings, land confiscation, forcible transfer, demolition of homes, torture of prisoners as well as abuse and brutalization of children with utter disregard for rule of law, justice and accountability.

In addition, blockade of Gaza for 15 years has forced Gaza's inhabitants to live in deplorable humanitarian and socioeconomic conditions, with repeated military strikes and suffocating restrictions.

The policy of appeasement and continued absence of independent accountability have emboldened Israel continue with its grave human rights violations, war crimes and crimes against humanity against defenseless civilians. We call for upholding the universal human rights values and abandoning the policy of appeasement.

The OIC condemns the shutting down of prominent civil society organizations which comes in the wake of yet another wave of military aggression including raids on Al-Aqsa.



Mr. President,

We urge this Council to urgently uphold its legal and moral obligations, hold Israel accountable for its illegal occupation in accordance with international law, in order to pursue the path for achieving a just two states solution on the borders of June 4, 1967 with East Jerusalem as its capital.

We also reiterate long standing global demand for ending the illegal occupation of All occupied Arab territories, including the occupied Syrian Golan and the Lebanese territories, and the continuing violations of the human rights of its people.

I thank you.