



Statement on behalf of the OIC by Ambassador Zaman Mehdi, Deputy Permanent Representative during the Introduction of Draft Resolution “Right of Palestinian People to Self-Determination, A/HRC/49/L17

49th HRC Session

Mr. President,

On behalf of the OIC member states and co-sponsors, Pakistan presents the draft resolution entitled "Right of the Palestinian people to self-determination", as contained in document A/HRC/49/L17

The realization of the right to self-determination is key to upholding human dignity and advancement of other basic human rights. This right has been well codified in the UN Charter, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, international human rights law, human rights covenants and various UN resolutions.

The draft resolution reaffirms the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including their right to live in freedom, justice and dignity and the right to their independent State of Palestine.

While reaffirming the need for achieving a just, comprehensive and lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, it calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to immediately end its occupation of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, reverse and redress any impediments to the political independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Palestine.

The draft text expresses grave concern at the demographic changes in the OPT, resulting from Israel's continuing settlement activities, undermining the realization of the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people. It emphasizes the need for respect and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

It urges all States to adopt measures and render assistance to the United Nations in ensuring the realization of Palestinian peoples' right to self-determination.

As the draft resolution highlights the significance of the right self-determination including its applicability in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, we hope that Council members would join consensus on L 17.

I thank you