



Statement on behalf of the OIC by Ambassador Zaman Mehdi, Deputy Permanent Representative during the Introduction of Draft Resolution “Human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem and the obligation to ensure accountability and justice”

A/HRC/49/L26

49th HRC Session

Mr. President,

On behalf of the OIC Member States and co-sponsors, Pakistan presents the draft resolution entitled "human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the obligation to ensure accountability and justice, as contained in document L26.

The draft text continues to demonstrate commitment of OIC Member States to remain engaged in a spirit of constructive dialogue and build consensus among the Council members and the broader UN membership.

The draft resolution exposes Israel's serious human rights violations and grave breaches of international law in the OPT, including East Jerusalem and emphasizes upon the imperative of holding the occupying power to account and end decades long culture of impunity.

Mr. President,

The Preambular part of the resolution recalls principles of international human rights and humanitarian laws, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, which is applicable to the OPT including East Jerusalem.

Reaffirming the principle of inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, the text expresses concern at the fragmentation of the occupied territory and deplores widespread violations of the human rights of Palestinian civilians by Israel. It expresses grave concerns over the dire human rights, humanitarian, socioeconomic and security situation in the Gaza Strip, resulting from the prolonged blockades and arbitrary physical restrictions.

The operative part of the draft resolution calls upon Israel to withdraw from the occupied territory and stresses the imperative of credible, timely and comprehensive accountability for all violations of international law for cause of justice and sustainable peace.

It affirms that no State shall recognize any situation as lawful which is created by a serious breach of international law, nor render aid or assistance in maintaining that situation.

Deploping the persistent non-cooperation of Israel with the Special Procedures and other UN mandated investigative mechanisms, it calls for full cooperation and demands cessation of all illegal actions including the establishment and expansion of illegal settlements.

The resolution calls upon all States to comply with international law and urges them to refrain from arms transfer to the occupying power, in accordance with international obligations. This is very important since such arms are being used to commit serious violations of international human rights and humanitarian laws.

As this resolution calls for upholding basic human rights of Palestinian people, and ensuring accountability for Israel's violations of international law, we trust Council members would join consensus on L26. I thank you.