

<u>Statement by Like-Minded Group of States, delivered by Amb. Zaman Mehdi,</u> <u>Deputy Permanent Representative, during General Debate Item 7</u> <u>54th HRC Session</u> <u>4th October 2023</u>

We have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Like-Minded Group of states, the list of cosponsoring states would be updated on the extranet.

We express our serious concerns over violations of international human rights law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Deprivation of the right to self-determination, extrajudicial killings, restrictions on freedom of movement and assembly and illegal settlements are some of glaring manifestations of human rights violations of the Palestinian people.

These unlawful acts aggravate the sufferings and pain of the Palestinian people.

We call for immediate end of all human rights violations including Israel's policies that are aimed at perpetuating the decades long illegal occupation.

This Council and the international community at large must do more in bringing an end to the grave violations of international human rights and humanitarian laws in OPT and hold perpetrators accountable.

Mr. President,

We echo our unwavering support for the realization of the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people and other people living under foreign occupation in accordance with UN resolutions including of the General Assembly, Security Council and Human Rights Council.

We reiterate our call for ending the Israeli occupation and reaffirm our support for the two State solution on the pre-1967 borders, based on a free and secure State of Palestine.

List of Cosponsoring States:

Bangladesh, Belarus, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea Egypt, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen.