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**Statement on behalf of the OIC by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi, Permanent Representative of Pakistan during the General Debate under Item 2**

**8 March 2022**

**Mr. President,**

The OIC thanks the High Commissioner for her oral update.

The OIC highly values the role of this Council in advancing universal respect for human rights in line with the principles of universality, impartiality, non-selectivity and transparency.

The OIC expresses its deep concerns over the human rights impact of conflicts, inequalities and vulnerabilities across the globe. Of equal concern to the OIC are the rise of hyper nationalism, racism, religious intolerance and demographic changes which undermine the enjoyment of fundamental rights and freedoms of millions.

The OIC calls for consistent applications of human rights principles and meaningful actions to counter socio-economic inequalities and growing prejudice as well as hatred.

The OIC reiterated its call on this Council to fulfill its responsibility in addressing systematic and widespread violations of human rights of people suffering from long-running conflicts and unresolved disputes on the UN and OIC agenda, namely, Palestine, Myanmar and Jammu and Kashmir.

**Mr. President,**

The OIC remains gravely concerned over the continuing violations of international law in the Occupied Palestine Territory including East Jerusalem. We reiterate our support to the work of the Commission of Inquiry (COI) and call on international community to cooperate and extend all possible support to it. We also urge the OHCHR to continue publishing data on business enterprises involved in activities related to Israeli settlements in OPT.

The human rights situation in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir remains a matter of serious concern to the OIC. We urge the Council to implement the recommendations addressed to it in the OHCHR's two Kashmir reports. In line with the resolution adopted at the 47<sup>th</sup> CFM in Niger, the OIC reiterates its demand for revocation of all illegal measures taken since 5 August 2019 including those designed to alter the demographic structure of the occupied territory and denial of basic rights of the Kashmiri people. We remind the international community of its obligations to ensure the implementation of UNSC resolutions on Jammu & Kashmir in fulfillment of the rights of the Kashmiri people.

The OIC calls on this Council to work towards securing justice and accountability for the Rohingya people, including through their safe, dignified and voluntary return to their homes in Myanmar. In this regard, the OIC reiterates its full solidarity with Bangladesh; urges the international community to provide assistance to Bangladesh and to remain actively seized of the matter until a durable solution is achieved.



The OIC condemns the damage and loss of properties, including religious sites by Armenia in the territories of Azerbaijan recently liberated from occupation. The OIC reaffirms its full support to the Government and people of Azerbaijan in their efforts to rehabilitate and rebuild the de-occupied territories. We call upon the international community to extend assistance to Azerbaijan for safe and dignified return of Azerbaijani IDPs.

The OIC reviews its solidarity with the people of Afghanistan and reaffirms its call for respect, promotion and protection of human rights for all including women, children, elderly and minorities. We underline the importance of wide-ranging dialogue among all parties and representatives to ensure an inclusive and representative government, lasting peace, stability and development. The OIC is concerned over the deteriorating economic and humanitarian situation in Afghanistan and calls for international community's sustained engagement with Afghanistan on political, economic, human rights and humanitarian tracks.

**Mr. President,**

The OIC expresses its serious concerns over the growing incidents of racism, Islamophobia and religious intolerance. We reiterate our call for a legally binding instrument aimed at preventing and combating religious intolerance. I thank you.