



## **Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN** **Geneva**

### Statement

#### **43<sup>rd</sup> SESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

#### **General Debate on Agenda Item 7 -Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied**

#### **Arab territories**

#### **Statement by Pakistan**

(June 15 2020)

Madam President,

We align ourselves with the statements of the OIC and NAM.

Pakistan reaffirms the importance of this important Agenda Item. Lack of progress on the Palestinian issue has not only betrayed the hopes and aspirations of generations of Palestinians but has also sowed the seeds of endless hostility and discord in the region.

The Right to Self Determination is a fundamental human right of people living under foreign occupation or alien domination. This right is also enshrined in the UN Charter and Common Article 1 of the two Covenants. It is regrettable that not just in Palestine but also elsewhere, millions of people continue to be denied this fundamental human right decade after decade.

The long-suffering Palestinian people continue to face well-entrenched and systematic violations of their fundamental human rights at the hands of the Israeli occupation. During the past seventy years, they have been driven from their homes and their homeland, militarily occupied and obliged to live in conditions resembling apartheid

We are concerned that the illegal Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, characterized by house demolitions, forced evictions of families and communities, and building new colonies, in grave violation of UN Security Council Resolution 2334 (2016), continues with impunity. In this context we welcome the release of the database of companies operating in the Illegal Israeli Settlements and we look forward to the annual update by the OHCHR of the database of companies as mandated by HRC resolution 31/36.

Madam President,

To end this ongoing pattern of human rights violations, violence and insecurity, the international community must take urgent action to resolve the longstanding dispute of Palestine by supporting the two State solution on the pre 1967 borders, based on a free and secure State of Palestine with Al-Quds Al Sharif as its capital, living side by side and in peace with all its neighbours. We also urge Israel to end the illegal occupation of all occupied Arab territories and the continuing violations of the human rights of their people.

I thank you.