



Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN

Geneva

Statement

43RD SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Draft resolution A/HRC/43/L37-Rev-1 - "Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan"

Introduction by Pakistan on behalf of OIC

Madam President,

On behalf of the OIC member states and co-sponsors, Pakistan has the honor to introduce the draft resolution on "Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan", as contained in document A/HRC/43/L37-Rev-1.

The construction of settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, persists, in violation of international humanitarian law and human rights laws. This draft text seeks to address the dire humanitarian and human rights challenges, arising from this illegal policy in the occupied territories.

The preambular part of the text reaffirms the established legal framework on the illegality of the settlements in the occupied territories, with reference to the UN Charter, the Fourth Geneva Convention, relevant UN resolutions as well as the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on the Wall. It affirms that population transfer by the Occupying Power into the territory it occupies constitutes a violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention and relevant provisions of customary law, including those codified in Additional Protocol I to the four Geneva Conventions.

Madam President,

The Operative part of the text reaffirms that the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan are illegal and an obstacle to peace and economic and social development. It condemns the continuing illegal settlement and related activities, including the expansion of these settlements and demands that all such activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, should immediately cease.

It also condemns declarations by Israeli officials calling for the annexation of Palestinian land, and reaffirms the prohibition of acquisition of territory through use of force.



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It calls on Israel to put an end to its human rights violations linked to the presence of settlements, especially of the right to self-determination, and to fulfill its international obligations and provide effective remedy for victims.

The resolution requests the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to present a report, at its 46th Session, on the consequences of the intensification of settlement activity and other steps taken towards formal annexation of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, particularly in and around East Jerusalem and the so called "E1" area, on the contiguity of the Palestinian Territory and their implications on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people.

We hope that in addressing the illegal settlement in OPT, including East Jerusalem, which has been widely condemned by the international community, the Council will uphold international humanitarian and human rights laws and support consensual adoption of the draft resolution.

I thank you.