



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

### **Geneva**

### **National statement, delivered by Ambassador Tahir Hussain Andrabi, Deputy Permanent Representative, during Interactive Dialogue with Special Rapporteur on Occupied Palestinian Territories at the 44<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council**

**(16 July 2020)**

Madam President,

We thank the Special Rapporteur for his report.

The question of Palestine today represents a prime example of a dispute left unresolved; not only betraying hopes and aspirations of many generations but also sowing seeds of endless hostility and discord in the region. In that sense, it is classic case of human rights violations, cascading to threaten regional and international peace & security.

Palestinian people continue to face well-entrenched and systematic violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms. They have been subjected to an ongoing collective punishment; driven from their homes and their homeland; militarily occupied; and obliged to live in a land resembling apartheid Bantustan.

Illegal Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, characterized by demolitions of houses, forced evictions of families and communities, building new colonies and accompanying settlers' violence, in grave violation of UN Security Council Resolution 2334 (2016), continue with impunity.

Madam President,

We urge the SR to remain seized of the ongoing and systematic 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 halt the continuing human rights violations in these territories.

I thank you.