



Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN
Geneva

Statement, delivered on behalf of OIC by Ambassador Tahir Hussain Andrabi, Deputy Permanent Representative, during Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 under Agenda Item 7 at the 44th session of Human Rights Council

(16 June 2020)

Madam President,

The OIC thanks Special Rapporteur Professor Lynk, for his report. We deplore once again Israel's non-cooperation with his mandate. Such non-cooperation should not be allowed to continue and we call for the necessary action to be taken by the UN to remedy this grievous situation and bring Israel into compliance.

The report highlights blatant human rights violations by Israel, the occupying power, in the Occupied State of Palestine.

The OIC condemns the illegal Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory that continue to expand in addition to the advancement of plans for settlement construction at a higher rate than last year, in particular in Occupied East Jerusalem and the surrounding areas. All this to advance its annexationist scheme in contradiction of international law.

Moreover, Israel also persists with racist, demographic tactics, including by renewal of its ban on Palestinian family reunification in Jerusalem, and the ban of entry to worshippers to Al-Aqsa Mosque, while facilitating provocative raids by illegal Israeli settlers.

The OIC condemns the blockade imposed on Gaza for 13 years now affecting all aspects of lives for more than 2 million people. As indicated by the Special Rapporteur the blockade of Gaza, and the actions of Israel towards the protected population of Gaza amount to collective punishment under international law.

Further more, Israel, the occupying power continue with its collective punishment policy towards the Palestinian population, including the demolition of houses, the extended curfews, blockades and withholding of bodies in flagrant violation of international law particularly the Hagueregulations of 1907 and article 33 of the Fourth Geneva convention.

The OIC once again emphasizes that allowing impunity to continue when it comes to Israel's crimes against the Palestinian people normalizes these crimes



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worldwide. Ending the occupation is an international responsibility the world cannot ignore any longer. In this regard the OIC would like to ask the Special Rapporteur what measures should be taken by the international community within their third state responsibility to put an end the 53 years colonial occupation?

I thank you.