



**Statement on behalf of the OIC, delivered by Amb. Bilal Ahmad, during the
General Debate under Item 2
57th HRC Session
10 September 2024**

Mr. President,

The OIC Group thanks the High Commissioner for his oral update at a time of grave challenges facing the global human rights agenda.

For nearly one year, the Palestinian people have faced a dire and rapidly worsening humanitarian situation in the face of unrestrained Israeli aggression that has claimed the lives of more than forty thousand (40,000) Palestinian civilians and caused wide-spread destruction in the besieged Gaza Strip.

We call upon all countries to act urgently to put an end to the crime of genocide committed by the Israeli occupation against the Palestinian people and to implement the interim measures ordered by the ICJ, as well as the reversal without delay of Israel's unlawful occupation of Palestinian territory. It remains incumbent on all parties not to assist in the maintenance of the illegal situation created by Israel in the OPT.

We reaffirm our support to the work of the Special Rapporteur and Commission of Inquiry. Those responsible for the unfolding genocide of the Palestinian people must be brought to account.

While noting the OHCHR's report (A/HRC/57/21) on the implementation of the Database on businesses activities in Israeli settlements in the OPT, the OIC requests the OHCHR to implement in full the mandate entrusted by HRC resolution 53/25, and in line with the ICJ's advisory opinion on the occupation's illegality. Overcoming delays in updating the database and putting forward clear recommendations are essential for ensuring accountability. The OIC reiterates its longstanding call for upholding respect for human rights and international humanitarian law in the OPT including in East Jerusalem.

We call for an immediate ceasefire to save the Palestinian people from further atrocities and the launch of an inclusive dialogue process for a lasting and just peace for all parties and throughout the region.

Mr. President,

The human rights situation in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir remains a matter of deep anguish for OIC countries and has been well documented, including in observations of SPMHs and successive reports of the OHCHR, which need to be updated. We urge India to comply with the applicable UN Security Council resolution. We also draw this Council's attention to India's persistent human rights abuses of the occupied Kashmiris stemming from the denial of their inalienable rights.

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. We are deeply concerned by the escalation of hostilities in Rakhine State and, reaffirming our abiding solidarity with Bangladesh, call for supporting Bangladesh's efforts to find a lasting solution.

The OIC condemns the damage and loss of properties inflicted by Armenia including cultural heritage and religious sites in the territories of Azerbaijan liberated from the occupation. The OIC reaffirms full support to the Government and people of Azerbaijan in their efforts to rehabilitate and rebuild the liberated territories and calls upon the international community to extend assistance to Azerbaijan for the safe and dignified return of Azerbaijani IDPs.

We call on Armenia to establish good-neighbourly relations with Azerbaijan based on mutual respect and recognition of sovereignty, territorial integrity and the non-violability of the international borders of both countries.

I thank you.