



**Statement on behalf of OIC Group, delivered by Mr. Jawad Ali, Minister, during  
General Debate under Item 5  
57<sup>th</sup> HRC Session  
1<sup>st</sup> October 2024**

Mr. President,

As a consistent supporter of this Council's mandate, the OIC Group has always maintained that the HRC's allied mechanisms and bodies carry an important responsibility in advancing universal respect for human rights.

In the discharge of their respective mandates, the principles enshrined in the IB (*Institution Building*) package, and the Code of Conduct must always be upheld.

We appreciate the work of SPMHs and Treaty Bodies for their expert support to the important conversation on advancing the international human rights agenda.

We regret, however, the tendency of some experts to overlook or ignore serious human rights in developed countries; ingrained racism, systemic Islamophobia and increasing resort to majoritarian violence all merit attention.

Mr. President,

Speaking out against glaring disregard for human rights remains a vital part of the mandate of SPMHs. The OIC appreciates that many mechanisms have added their voice to the growing international chorus of condemnation at the utter horrors being perpetrated in illegally occupied Palestine and now, Lebanon.

The OIC will continue to condemn in the strongest terms attempts to vilify or silence them.

The mandate holders' stark warnings are a wake-up call for states with influence over the illegal occupying power to act finally and decisively.

Mr. President,

The establishment of new human rights, standards and norms by consensus is the outcome of rigorous intergovernmental discussion and debate. However valuable, expert instruments can only complement – but never substitute – intergovernmental agreement.

This process is the best safeguard for upholding the universality, indivisibility and inter-relatedness of all human rights. States cannot outsource or delegate it.

Human rights bodies and mechanisms – and their secretariats – are therefore mandated to support states in the implementation of obligations, norms and standards. We regret attempts to instrumentalise such important mandates to promote contentious and divisive concepts that are neither inter-governmentally agreed nor universal.

The OIC reiterates its call to ensure that the appointment of mandate holders reflects the diversity of legal systems and ensures equitable geographical representation.

Thank you.