



**Statement by Minister for National Health Services Dr. Nadeem Jan on the Special Session of the Executive Board of WHO to discuss Health Situation in Occupied Palestinian Territory**  
**10 December 2023**

**Respected Chair and excellences,**

Pakistan aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of EMRO and OIC.

We deeply appreciate the leadership of DG WHO, Executive Board, members states and all stake holder for convening this special session and for providing health services to affected people in Gaza in such difficult circumstances.

On behalf of the people and Government of Pakistan, I would like to express our unwavering support to the people of Palestine.

We have also cosponsored the revised draft resolution.

Pakistan was among the first countries to send humanitarian assistance to our sisters and brothers in Palestine since the outbreak of current wave of violence.

We condemn targeted attacks on civilian infrastructure, which have resulted in the death of over 17,000 Palestinians of which more than 7000 are innocent children.

This scale of brutalities has placed the physical and mental health of the Palestinian people in serious jeopardy.

One of the most distressing aspects of this situation has been the continued attacks on health facilities, health workers, and ambulances.



The risk of infectious diseases is rising, and underlying health risks of people with existing conditions have also increased.

**Madam Chair,**

Targeted attacks on hospitals and ambulances carrying the wounded and the sick are serious violations of international law.

We therefore fully support the call for an immediate ceasefire and a consistent and reliable safe passage of humanitarian assistance, including medical supplies and their delivery to the affected people.

Pakistan is a passionate advocate of the motto of “health for all, by all, at all cost, everywhere and regardless of any discrimination”.

We in coordination with all actors, support and encourage WHO and other humanitarian agencies for sustaining and augmenting their humanitarian operation in Gaza, where the needs are enormous.

You will always find Pakistan at the forefront of humanitarian assistance.

We propose that WHO provides a comprehensive report to the forthcoming World Health Assembly Session on the scale of this calamity.

Lastly, we reaffirm our solidarity with the people of Palestine and call for the establishment of a viable and independent State of Palestine based on internationally agreed parameters of the pre-1967 borders, with Al Quds al Sharif as its capital.

I thank you, honorable Chair.



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