



**Statement on behalf of OIC Group during the 154th Session of the
Executive Board of WHO (EB154)**

25 January 2024

Madam Chair,

Pakistan is delivering this statement on behalf of the OIC Group in Geneva focusing on documents as contained in EB/154/51 and EB/154/CONF.13.

The Group thanks the Director General for his report on the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

We regret to note that since the 7th Special Session of EB, the situation in Gaza has deteriorated even further. Death toll has passed 25,000, most of whom are women and children. Hospitals and other health infrastructure continue to face bombardment and destruction.

Almost half a million people are facing mental health disorders, including anxiety and depression.

Those who have survived are facing severe shortage of food, water, sanitation, and access to basic health facilities.

The Group would reemphasize that the targeted attacks on health facilities, health workers and ambulances constitute a crime under international law.

It is deeply lamentable that we have not been able to come together to find a long-lasting peace solution for the Palestinian people who have long been stripped of their dignity and have been dehumanized.

Madam Chair,

The Group echoes its support for the important work being done by WHO in fulfilling basic health needs of surviving women, children, and families. More urgent humanitarian aid is needed to complement the efforts of WHO.

The Group remains committed to helping WHO and other partners on ground in ensuring that necessary aid, including essential medical supplies, reach the sick and the wounded.



The Group also supports the recommendation by the Director General in implementing an immediate ceasefire and for adherence to international humanitarian law.

We need urgent restoration of health facilities in Gaza and elsewhere in OPT so that those in need can get urgent medical attention.

Lastly, we reaffirm our abiding commitment to Palestinians to realize their dreams and aspirations of peace in an independent state of Palestine with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its Capital.

Thank you.
