



**Statement on behalf of the OIC Group, delivered by Amb. Zaman Mehdi, DPR, during Interactive Dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel**  
**HRC 56<sup>th</sup> Session**  
**19 June 2024**

Mr. President,

We thank the COI for presenting the report.

No words can do justice to the plight of besieged Palestinian people.

While they had been subjected to crimes against humanity, for decades, however, the genocidal attacks in the last 8 months have been excruciatingly unbearable.

Innocent women and children, already battered due to lack of food and water have been burnt alive by Israel's fire spewing weapons.

Mr. President,

We strongly condemn the lack of cooperation by Israel with COI, and even so repeatedly and publicly announced by its officials and call upon Israel to give access to the UN investigative mechanisms.

The COI rightly points out that decades of violence, unlawful occupation and denial of the Palestinians' right to self-determination, manifested in continuous forced displacement, dispossession, exploitation of natural resources, Gaza blockade, settlement enterprise and systematic discrimination and oppression.

As asserted by the COI, Israeli bombardment strategy - the so called "Dahya doctrine"- constitutes deliberate targeting of civilians – and a clear breach of the international humanitarian law.

Enabled by unhindered arms transfers the Israeli attacks have lacked distinction and proportionality and resulted in war crimes such as collective punishment, and starvation as a method of warfare

We strongly condemn the instrumentalization of the provision of basic necessities, including food and water, to hold the population of the Gaza Strip hostage for military objectives.

The OIC Group echoes its call for full and effective implementation of the ICJ provisional measures, implementing a ceasefire, and instituting accountability for the crimes committed by the occupation forces.

The Group calls upon international community to fulfill its obligations to end Israeli aggression that undermines international law and threatens international peace and security.

Lastly, we condemn any form of reprisals against the Special Procedures for speaking out against Israeli crimes.

I thank you!