



Statement, delivered on behalf of OIC by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi, Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the UN, during General Debate Agenda item 2 at the 46th session of Human Rights Council

(26 February 2021)

Madame President,

The OIC thanks and takes note of the High Commissioner's oral update.

In implementing the Council's mandates, we reaffirm the importance of adhering to the principles of universality, impartiality, non-selectivity and transparency.

The OIC reiterates the imperative of mitigating human rights implications of the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly on the most vulnerable groups including migrants, and those living under illegal occupation.

For even handed implementation of the global human rights agenda, this Council must address systematic and continued violations of human rights of people suffering from long-running conflicts and disputes on the UN and OIC agenda, namely, Palestine, Myanmar, Jammu and Kashmir, and Nagorno-Karabakh.

The OIC urges all UN bodies, especially the Council, to earnestly follow up on the implementation of resolutions on the occupied Palestinian territory and hold accountable those responsible for continued violations of the rights of the Palestinian people. The OHCHR must continue to publish data on business enterprises involved in activities related to Israeli settlements in the OPT Occupied Palestine territories.

The OIC calls upon 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. The OIC reiterates full solidarity with the Government and people of Bangladesh in addressing the Rohingya crisis and urges the international community to provide full assistance to Bangladesh and actively remain seized of the matter until a durable solution is achieved. We view the provisional order by the International Court of Justice on Myanmar as a positive development.

The OIC remains concerned about the human rights situation in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir and urges the Council to implement the recommendations addressed to it in the OHCHR's two Kashmir reports. In line with the resolution adopted at the 47th CFM in Niger, the OIC demands revocation of all illegal measures since 5 August 2019. We remind the international community of its obligations to ensure the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions on Jammu & Kashmir in fulfillment of the rights of the Kashmiri people.

The OIC condemns the damage and loss of properties, including religious sites by Armenia in the territories of Azerbaijan recently liberated from occupation. The OIC reaffirms its full support the Government and people of Azerbaijan in their efforts to rehabilitate and rebuild the de-



occupied territories. We call upon the international community to extend its assistance to Azerbaijan for safe and dignified return of Azerbaijani IDPs.

On Afghanistan, the OIC condemns in strongest terms the continued violence and terrorist attacks against civilians and calls on the international community to support the Afghan led and owned inclusive peace process to reach a political solution that is based on the principals of renunciation of violence, cutting ties with all terrorists groups, preservation and advancement of Afghanistan's democratic, political and development achievements of the past 19 years and respect for the Afghan Constitution.

The OIC remains deeply concerned over the growing incidents of xenophobia, Islamophobia and religious intolerance, resulting in denigration of venerated religious personalities and symbols. The OIC calls upon all stakeholders to speak out against these deliberate acts of provocation that have no basis under international human rights law. Culprits behind such acts must be held to account and brought to justice.

The frequent recurrence of such acts warrants that the Council and the UN human rights machinery play their due role in combating hate speech directed against individuals and groups because of their religion and belief, both offline and online.

Full text of the statement will be available on extranet.

I thank you.