



Statement on behalf of the OIC Group, delivered by Mr. Danyal Hasnain, Second Secretary, during General Debate Item 8

57th HRC Session
3rd October 2024

Mr. Vice President,

The OIC Group remains deeply concerned that the ‘Vienna Spirit’ is facing severe threats and challenges as the global community is increasingly being torn and divided due to accentuating geopolitical conflicts.

It is high time that all States reaffirm their commitment to VDPA, which signifies our collective aspirations to promote universal respect for human rights, and dignity of all, without any distinction.

We underline that the progress made in advancing universal respect for human rights - since VDPA was adopted 30 years ago - must be preserved and that the “Vienna Spirit” be rekindled with enhanced commitment from all.

Mr. Vice President,

Importantly, the VDPA stipulates the denial of the right to self-determination as a violation of human rights and recognizes the right of the peoples, living under foreign occupation, to take any legitimate action, in accordance with the UN Charter, to realize this inalienable right.

We reaffirm that effective international measures should be taken to guarantee and monitor the implementation of human rights in respect of peoples under foreign occupation.

Mr. Vice President,

The ongoing unspeakable tragedies and brutalities in Illegally Occupied Palestine are deeply weakening the Vienna Spirit, especially due to the incessant violations of the international human rights and humanitarian law being perpetrated by the Israeli Occupation Forces.

The besieged Palestinian people have been subjected to the worst human rights violations crimes against humanity, which continue unabated with impunity.

The illegal occupation regime must be held accountable for these egregious violations. Impunity for Israel’s horrendous actions will only result in further catastrophes.



Mr. Vice President,

As a result of aggravating impacts of these multifaceted crises, the OIC Group is also concerned about the rising inequalities, within and among nations, especially in the backdrop of multifaceted crises facing the globe today, which has significantly impacted states' ability to fulfill their obligations.

We underscore the need to step up effective international cooperation and providing support for developing countries to mitigate socio-economic consequences of the covid pandemic, rising debt burden and removing global barriers to equitable development.

We also impress upon the need to take all measures for operationalization of the right to development.

Mr. Vice President,

The Group would also bring the attention of the Council towards the increasing incidents of religious hatred and, particularly, Islamophobia across the globe.

These despicable trends are most visible where certain actors use religious hatred as a tool for electoral gains and populist leaders continue to deploy anti-Muslim hatred as an electoral strategy.

We wish to reiterate that the VDPA calls upon states to take measures to counter intolerance and related violence based on religion or belief, including the desecration of religious sites.

I thank you!