



*355 words, 3 minutes*

**Statement by Ambassador Bilal Ahmad, Permanent Representative on behalf of the OIC Group introducing resolution A/HRC/61/L.35/Rev.1**

**“Human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem and the obligation to ensure accountability and justice”**

(Geneva, 27 March 2026)

Mr. President,

On behalf of the OIC Group<sup>1</sup>, Pakistan is presenting the draft resolution titled “Human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory including East Jerusalem, and the Obligation to ensure accountability and Justice”.

The draft resolution contained in document L.35/Rev.1 reflects this Council’s response to the litany of grave violations of human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

The genocide, ethnic cleansing and cultural erasure of the Palestinian people in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip has unfolded in tandem with the systematic dismantling of indispensable UN agencies like UNRWA and the suppression of accountability.

The proposal has been updated to reflect closely successive Advisory Opinions of the International Court of Justice on the illegality of Israel’s continued presence in the OPT and obligations of Israel in relation to the Presence and Activities of the United Nations, Other International Organizations and Third States in and in relation to the OPT; as well as the Provisional Measures of 26 January 2024 and thereafter.

The draft text before us also reflects the occupying power’s efforts to fast-track discriminatory imposition of the death penalty especially for Palestinian people. The occupying power’s continuous attempts to legalise its theft of native Palestinian lands in the West Bank also demand this Council’s firm rejection.

The resolution reiterates this Council’s request to the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the OPT, including East Jerusalem, and Israel to report on arms transfers to the occupying Power and their legal consequences under applicable

---

<sup>1</sup> Except Albania

international law. It should be of grave concern to this Council that such a vital mandate has remained undelivered due to budgetary shortfalls for two years.

The draft before us is the result of transparent and exhaustive consultation. The OIC Group appreciates the constructive engagement demonstrated during negotiations, which demonstrates abiding cross-regional solidarity with the just cause of Palestine.

The resolution's presentation under Item 2 is intended to further strengthen accountability for and lift the shroud of impunity from grave violations across decades of illegal occupation.

The OIC Group therefore calls on all states members of this Council to adopt resolution L.35/Rev.1 by consensus.

Thank you.

-end-