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Statement on behalf of the OIC Group by Permanent Representative Tahir Andrabi during the 15th UN Forum on Business and Human Rights' session on "Achieving and maintaining human rights-respecting investment in conflict-affected settings"

(Geneva, 25 November 2026)

Mr. Chair,

I am intervening on behalf of the OIC Group.

We thank the organisers for convening this timely session.

At a time of growing conflict and worsening situations of occupation, conflict-sensitive human rights due diligence is essential for investors and States to avoid complicity in grave violations of international law.

The OIC believes that heightened due diligence must apply across conflict-affected and situations of foreign occupation without selectivity. In the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), all States are obliged neither to recognise nor to render aid or assistance to the illegal occupation. The OIC reiterates its call to impose deterrent measures and pursue political, diplomatic, legal and economic steps to halt and dismantle the Israeli occupation and settlement enterprise.

The OPT represents a distinct and amongst the most developed operational environments for applying the UN Guiding Principles (UNGPs) on Business and Human Rights. Successive resolutions of the UN Human Rights Council have addressed the issue, and regular updates to the OHCHR database on business enterprises involved in certain settlement activities in the OPT are a signature result of applying the UNGPs.

A focused discussion is therefore required to address the distinct legal and operational questions that situations of foreign occupation raise, and complement the valuable references already developed for conflict settings. This is necessary to further clarify the obligations of States and businesses in promoting responsible conduct, and to support the development of occupation-specific guidance as part of the UNGPs implementation agenda. On behalf of the OIC, I would welcome the panellists' views on this.

Thank you.

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