



**CHAIR
NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT
GENEVA CHAPTER**



**STATEMENT
by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan
on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement
on the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People**

Geneva, 29 November 2023

1. I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement to commemorate the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.
2. The International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People is a solemn occasion for renewing our commitment in the search for a fair and lasting solution to the Palestinian cause and to achieve genuine peace and security in the Middle East. This year's occasion comes amidst a profound crisis, dangerous instability and grave suffering and humanitarian crisis being endured by Palestine refugees, particularly in the Gaza Strip, where the civilian population, the majority refugees, are suffering immense loss of life, widespread destruction of their homes and massive forced displacement as Israel, the occupying Power, continues to carry out indiscriminate attacks across the Gaza Strip, including on refugee camps and schools and facilities operated by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) where 640,000 Palestinian civilians, among the over 1.4 million displaced, are sheltering.
3. The Non-Aligned Movement has historically maintained a firm and solidary stance toward the Palestinian People and their just cause, which rejects the illegal Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories.
4. In the Final Document of the 2019 Baku Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement the Non-Aligned Movement stressed the urgent need to continue providing political, economic and humanitarian support to assist the Palestinian People and to bolster their resilience and efforts aimed at achieving their legitimate national aspirations, including their inalienable right to self-determination and freedom in their independent State of Palestine.
5. The Non-Aligned Movement stresses that a just and lasting solution to the question of Palestine in all its aspects remains key to achieving peace in that region and is a permanent responsibility of the United Nations until it is satisfactorily resolved in accordance with international law and the relevant United Nations Resolutions. The Non-Aligned Movement emphasizes the need for mobilization and exertion of multilateral efforts for an immediate cessation of hostilities and to alleviate the humanitarian and socio-economic hardships being endured by the Palestinian People.

6. The Non-Aligned Movement expresses its deep concern about the critical situation and vulnerability of Palestine refugees due to the instability and crises throughout the region. In this regard, the Non-Aligned Movement urges the international community to step up its support to UNRWA, and reaffirm the urgency of providing UNRWA with sustained, predictable and uninterrupted support, as repeatedly called for by the United Nations General Assembly and the Secretary General of the United Nations, in order to ensure the continuity of UNRWA services to meet refugee needs and the Agency's contribution to regional stability.

7. The Non-Aligned Movement reiterates its grave concern about the plight of thousands of Palestinian civilians, and in this regard stresses the need to ensure protection for the Palestinian civilian population in accordance with international humanitarian law and the relevant Security Council Resolutions regarding the protection of civilians in armed conflicts, and in accordance with the General Assembly Resolution A/RES/ES-10/20 and the relevant report of the UN Secretary General.

8. The ongoing illegal Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory continue to be a matter of grave concern. In this regard, the Non-Aligned Movement stresses the need for urgent action to mobilize the international community, including the Security Council in accordance with the UN Charter duties, to compel Israel, the occupying Power, to cease completely all illegal settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to abide by all of its obligations under international law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention and the relevant United Nations Resolutions. The NAM condemns any action which will legitimize the occupation and illegal settlements. This is the time where the international community needs to take concrete measures to honour its legal and moral responsibility, to defend the legal system that is being put at risk and ensure that impunity does not become the norm.

9. On this Day, the Non-Aligned Movement calls for the redoubling of international efforts, at the governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental levels, stressing that a peaceful solution to the question of Palestine is central for establishing peace and stability in the Middle East.

I thank you.