Permanent Delegation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to the United Nations Office in Geneva



Délégation Permanente de l'Organisation de la Coopération Islamique auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies à Genève

## Statement of Ambassador Nassima Baghli Permanent Observer of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

on the occasion of the UN International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People

United Nations Office-Geneva

29 November 2022

Excellency Mrs. Tatiana Valovaya, Director-General of the United Nations Office in Geneva, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This annual ceremony, organized on the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People is an expression of our support for their just struggle towards the restoration of their legitimate national rights, and of our rejection of the policies of aggression, judaization, colonial settlement, forced displacement and racial discrimination practiced by the Israeli occupation.

We meet today under a serious and deteriorating situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, including the city of Al-Quds, resulting from escalation of attacks and crimes committed by Israel, the occupying power, against the Palestinian people, their land and holy shrines.

These attacks claimed the lives of more than 200 Palestinians since the beginning of this year and injured hundreds, including children and women, in addition to the continued suffering of about 5.500 Palestinians in Israeli occupation prisons.

The situation in the city of Al-Quds is no less serious due to repeated violations and attacks by extremist settler groups protected by the Israeli occupation forces, against Islamic and Christian sanctities, especially the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque.

On this occasion, we reiterate that Al-Quds, the capital of the State of Palestine, is an integral part of the Palestinian land occupied in 1967.

We also underline the need to put an end to Israeli's measures aimed at changing its geographical and demographic status, as well as to preserve the legal and historical status of Islamic and Christian holy sites.

While condemning land confiscation policy, colonial settlements construction, and acts of provocation and terrorism committed by Israeli settlers against the Palestinian people, we caution, that without deterrence nor accountability these illegal practices will continue.

On more than one occasion, we have stressed the UN's political, legal and humanitarian responsibility, especially at the Security Council level, towards the persistence of the Israeli occupation in defying the international legitimacy, and its attempts to impose a fait accompli on the ground and to evade its obligations under international resolutions and agreements.

We have also underlined the need to put an end to Israel's colonial plans aimed at undermining the vision of the two State solution, and to hold it accountable for violations and crimes that it still commits daily against the Palestinian people, their land and their holy sites. Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

While condemning administrative detention policies and the inhuman and repressive treatment to which Palestinian prisoners are subjected to in Israeli prisons, we stress the need to examine the record of violations by the Israeli occupation of their rights.

We also reiterate the need to ensure that Israel, the occupying power, will abide by its obligations under all relevant international instruments, and to exert pressure to compel it to release all prisoners, especially the sick, the elderly, children, women and administrative detainees.

The OIC reaffirms that no security, peace nor stability can be realized in the Middle East without a just, comprehensive and lasting solution to the cause of Palestine in all its aspects in accordance with international law, relevant UN resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative.

We also renew our call on the international actors to engage in a multilateral political process to end the Israeli occupation, achieve justice, provide international protection for the Palestinian people, and enable them to exercise their rights, including their right to establish their sovereign State over the Palestinian land occupied since 1967, with Al-Quds as its capital, and find a just solution to the Palestinian refugee issue in accordance with UNGA Resolution 194.

I thank you.