

**DELEGATION PERMANENTE DE  
L'UNION AFRICAINE A GENEVE**

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**PERMANENT DELEGATION OF THE  
AFRICAN UNION IN GENEVA**

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**International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People**

**STATEMENT BY THE AFRICAN UNION**

**Ms. Director General of the United Nations Office at Geneva,**

**Excellencies,  
Ladies and gentlemen,**

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the African Union Commission.

More than forty years after the proclamation of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, in the United Nations General Assembly resolution 32/40 B, the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories has never been as alarming as it stands now and it continues to deteriorate and to undermine or even damage international relations.

For several years, from this very same podium, I expressed our deepest concern and disappointment about the continued attitude of the Israeli authorities of defying international law and the entire international community.

This year, I have to point out that the situation is further exacerbated by the impact of the Covid 19 Pandemic which had worsened even more the plight of the Palestinian people already vulnerable to many scourges.

**Excellencies,  
Ladies and gentlemen**

We cannot sustain anymore the current status of failure and indifference of the international community, including the United Nations, to achieve a peaceful solution to the conflict, which would enable an entire population to exercise its just and legitimate right to self-determination. Disproportionate Israeli actions targeting civilians, the Judaisation policy of Jerusalem, the apartheid wall, as well as the illegal expansion of settlements in occupied East Jerusalem and its neighborhood must be stopped. The persistence of the Israeli authorities and its allies to ignore all United Nations Resolutions and Decisions and to openly violate the human rights of the Palestinian people, collectively and individually, should not be tolerated anymore.

On behalf of the African Union Commission, I would like, once again, to restate ***“the steadfastness of our position in support of the just Palestinian cause and the continued efforts of the Union to achieve a comprehensive and durable peace for the Palestinian people”***. Such consistent position was affirmed, over the years, by the Organization of African Unity and

subsequently the African Union. Africa will always support the Palestinian people in their legitimate struggle to end the Israeli occupation and establish its Independent State.

**Excellencies,  
Ladies and gentlemen**

The disrespect of Israel and its allies to regional and international efforts, and their disregard for the moral and legal principles shared by the entire international community are unfortunately established facts. The failure of the international community as a whole to protect the fundamental rights of an entire population is also another sad fact.

We should however continue to believe in multilateralism and the genuine commitment of leaders and countries to bring to an end this conflict in conformity with international legality and our most shared global vision rejecting oppression and indifference to the misfortunes of others.

In conclusion, I would like to reaffirm that our collective conscience rejects impunity, especially for the most serious violations of international humanitarian law. Our universal institutions reflect our firm commitment to act collectively to put an end to practices that belong to another time.

I thank you for your kind attention.