

17 May 2021

Excellency,

I have the honour to inform you that I received a letter dated 17 May 2021 from H.E. Mr. Abdou Abbary, Permanent Representative of Niger to the United Nations and H.E. Mr. Sofiane Mimouni, Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations, in their capacity as the Chair of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the Chair of the Arab Group, respectively, requesting a meeting of the General Assembly to hold a debate under agenda items 37 entitled "The situation in the Middle East" and 38 entitled "Question of Palestine".

In this regard, I have the further honour to inform you that I will convene the General Assembly formal plenary meeting on Thursday, 20 May 2021, at 10:00 a.m., in the General Assembly Hall, UN Headquarters, to hold an additional, joint debate on agenda items 37 and 38 during the seventy-fifth session.

The plenary meeting will be open and webcast live on UN WebTV. Delegations can inscribe in the list of speakers through e-deleGATE portal.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Volkan BOZKIR

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York





17 May 2021

## Excellency, President of the General Assembly,

Niger and Algeria, in their respective capacities as Chair of the Organization for Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Group and Chair of the Arab Group in New York, convey their deepest regret at the grave deterioration of the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, due to the illegal policies and practices of Israel, the occupying Power, including its ongoing military aggressions against the Palestinian people that have caused the loss of hundreds of innocent lives, including among children, immense humanitarian suffering and risk the further dangerous destabilization of conditions, endangering more civilian lives and threatening international peace and security.

In this regard, in light of the gravity of the situation and its rapid deterioration, and with respect to the General Assembly's mandate and resolutions on the Question of Palestine, we kindly request Your Excellency, on behalf of our respective Groups, to convene a meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations under agenda items 38 (Question of Palestine) and 37 (Situation in the Middle East) in order to allow the General Assembly, in line with its Charter mandate, to urgently deliberate on this matter. We urge that this meeting be convened no later than the end of the current week.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Abdou ABARRY
Permanent Representative of Niger to the
United Nations in New York
Chair of the Organization of Islamic
Cooperation (OIC) Group

Sofiane Mimouni
Permanent Representative of Algeria to the
United Nations in New York
Chair of the Arab Group

H.E. Mr. Volkan Bozkir President of the United Nations General Assembly The United Nations New York

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