

CHAIR OF THE COORDINATING BUREAU OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT



STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN, ON BEHALF OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM), ON THE OCCASION OF THE SPECIAL MEETING IN OBSERVANCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

New York, 29 November 2022

Mr. President,

- 1. I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.
- 2. On this solemn observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, the Non-Aligned Movement reaffirms its unwavering solidarity with the Palestinian people and support for their inalienable human rights, including to self-determination and independence, and renews its abiding commitment to achieve a fair and lasting solution to the Palestine question and genuine peace and security in the Middle East on the basis of international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions.
- 3. The Non-Aligned Movement renews its appreciation to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and to the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat of the United Nations for their important work and valued assistance in this regard, in line with their General Assembly mandates.
- 4. Similarly, the Movement once again commends the efforts of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in providing essential humanitarian, development and emergency assistance and protection to the 5.8 million Palestine refugees in all fields of operation, as well as expresses its sincere appreciation to all United Nations agencies with special programs providing essential support to the Palestinian people, including children and women. In light of the grave financial situation being faced by UNRWA at this time, the Non-Aligned Movement reiterates its appeal to all States to provide predictable and sufficient financial support to ensure the continuity of its vital assistance programs at a time of increasing need and of its tangible contribution to regional stability.

Mr. President,

5. This year regrettably marked 55 years since the illegal Israeli military occupation of the Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories in 1967. This year also marks the seventy-fifth anniversary of the General Assembly's adoption of the resolution 181 (II) partitioning Mandate Palestine and the seventy-fourth anniversary of the 1948 Al-Nakba that tragically befell the Palestinian people. These solemn occasions prompt the Non-Aligned Movement to reiterate its longstanding calls for intensification



CHAIR OF THE COORDINATING BUREAU OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT



of all necessary efforts to bring an end to this injustice and advance a peaceful and just solution. The international community is called upon to act forthwith to uphold its responsibilities and obligations towards the Palestine question until it is justly resolved.

Mr. President,

- 6. At the Ministerial Meeting of NAM held on 21 September 2022 on the sidelines of the High-level week of the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, the Ministers adopted a political declaration, stressing, *inter alia*, that a just, lasting and peaceful solution to the question of Palestine must remain a priority on the Movement's agenda and remains also a permanent responsibility of the United Nations until it is satisfactorily resolved in accordance with international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions and the internationally-endorsed parameters therein. The Ministers also reaffirmed their commitment to the principles and positions regarding the question of Palestine adopted in previous Summit Outcome Documents and Ministerial Declarations; and appealed for strengthened international efforts to achieve a just solution that ensures the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including to self-determination, and the independence of the State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, and a just solution for the plight of Palestine refugees based on General Assembly resolution 194 (III).
- 7. On this day, the Movement must express its deep regret that, despite decades of their participation in peace efforts in good-faith; despite their proven commitment to the two-State solution for peace; despite their adherence to international law; and despite the painful compromises made, the plight of the Palestinian people has worsened and a just solution remains elusive.
- 8. As the Security Council remains paralyzed on this issue, in spite of its Charter duties, the situation only continues to further deteriorate and destabilize. This must be cause for great concern among the international community and should prompt urgent action to hold Israel, the occupying Power, accountable for its violations and to bring them to a halt, including all illegal settlement and annexation activities in all parts of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. Only such action can salvage the prospects for peace, bring an end to the Israeli occupation, and realize the two-State solution based on the pre-1967 borders in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions, the Madrid principles, and the Arab Peace Initiative. All relevant Security Council resolutions and the obligations under the international law, including in accordance with the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention and international human rights law, must be implemented; they comprise the foundations for a just and lasting peace.



CHAIR OF THE COORDINATING BUREAU OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT



Mr. President,

- 9. Today, the Non-Aligned Movement also reiterates its demand for the full and immediate lifting of the illegal blockade of the Gaza Strip by Israel, which continues to severely impair all aspects of life of the Palestinian civilian population in Gaza, imposing a dire humanitarian crisis on them further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and constituting a massive collective punishment.
- 10. Moreover, the Non-Aligned Movement reiterates its grave concern about the lack of accountability for countless violations being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, including killing and injury of innocent and defenseless Palestinian civilians, among them children and women. Such lack of accountability continues to fuel a culture of impunity and destabilize the situation on the ground, while diminishing the prospects for peace, and requires urgent action by the international community to address these grave violations and bring an end to this unjust situation.

Mr. President,

- 11. The solidarity of the international community with the just Palestinian cause must be directed to all relevant efforts in support of the rights of the Palestinian people and the independence and sovereignty of the State of Palestine in all of the Palestinian Territory occupied by Israel in 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital, in accordance with the relevant resolutions. The admission of Palestine to the United Nations as a full Member State to allow to take its rightful place among the family of nations must also be supported.
- 12. To conclude, on this important day the Non-Aligned Movement reiterates its unwavering commitment to a just, lasting, comprehensive and peaceful solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which is at the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Such a peaceful solution remains a long-standing objective of the Movement. In this regard, the Non-Aligned Movement firmly reiterates its call for the restoration of the inalienable rights of the heroic Palestinian people to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, and a just solution 194 (III), the pillars of a just and lasting peace. The Movement stands ready to support and contribute to all efforts to achieve these noble goals towards the establishment of lasting peace and security for the Palestinian and Israeli peoples and the Middle East region as a whole.

I thank you, Mr. President.