



**Message of the Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic cooperation
H.E. Hissein Brahim Taha
on the occasion of the
International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People**

29 November 2022

**Honorable Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations,
H.E. Ambassador Sheikh Niang, Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable
Rights of the Palestinian People,
Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen ,**

The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation is participating in this annual event in commemoration of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People as an expression of its firm support for the just struggle for the restoration of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people. In this regard, I wish to re-affirm the principled and unambiguous position of the OIC in rejecting the policies of aggression, judaization, colonial settlement, forced displacement and racial discrimination practiced by the Israeli occupation authorities against the people of Palestine.

On this auspicious occasion, I would like to express our Organisation's appreciation to the United Nations and its various agencies, particularly the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, for their relentless efforts and initiatives, aimed at mobilizing international support and solidarity with the just cause of the Palestinian people.

Excellencies

We are meeting today amidst a serious and deteriorating situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, including the city of Al-Quds that is a direct result of escalating violations, attacks and crimes committed by Israel, the occupying power, against the Palestinian people, their land and the holy shrines of Muslims. These unjustified violations have claimed the lives of more than 200 Palestinians since the beginning of this year, while injuring 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 attacks and violations by extremist settler groups that are 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 underscore the need to preserve the legal and historical status of the Islamic and Christian holy sites therein, as we call for the immediate cessation of all Israeli measures, aimed at changing its geographical and demographic status of these holy places.

While strongly condemning Israel's policy of confiscation of land, construction of colonial settlements, and similar acts of provocation, violence and terrorism against the Palestinian people, their land and property, we caution, in this regard, that illegal practices, which continue, without deterrence or accountability will encourage the Israeli's persistence in committing more crimes and attacks against the Palestinian people.

On more than one occasion, we have stressed the UN political, legal and humanitarian responsibility, especially at the Security Council level, towards the persistence of the Israeli occupation in defying the international will and legitimacy, and its attempts to impose a fait accompli on the ground, and to evade its obligations under international agreements and resolutions. We also underlined the need to put an end to Israel's colonial plans to undermine 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.

Ladies and Gentlemen ,

While condemning administrative detention policies and the inhuman and repressive treatment to which Palestinian prisoners are subjected in Israeli occupation prisons, we stress the need to examine the record of human rights violations by the Israeli occupation against the Palestinian people. 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 or stability can be realized in the Middle East without a just, comprehensive and lasting solution to the cause of Palestine in all its aspects and ramifications and 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.