

**Statement by
H.E. Mr. Samir Sharifov,
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

**High-level International Conference for the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of
Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution**

High-level segment

*Honourable Chairs,
Distinguished Secretary-General,
Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,*

I would like to express my gratitude for this timely initiative of convening *High-level International Conference for the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution* at this critical juncture.

For decades, the international community has shown its steadfast commitment to a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the Question of Palestine in accordance with international law, the Charter of the United Nations, and relevant UN resolutions. These resolutions serve as the cornerstone of our collective pursuit of a two-State solution, with Israel and Palestine living side by side in peace and security.

The ongoing escalation in the Israeli-Palestine conflict zone that continues to claim innocent lives once again highlights an immediate need for a just and lasting solution to this issue based on this principled position.

In this context, Azerbaijan reaffirms its unwavering support for the two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestine conflict, with East Jerusalem as the capital of the State of Palestine, in accordance with international law and relevant UN resolutions.

It is crucial to emphasise that ensuring the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to live in security and dignity within their own state is the only viable path that would bring the long-awaited peace and stability to the region.

We have to unite our efforts to urgently de-escalate the situation on the ground. All actors must exercise restraint and refrain from actions that could further escalate the situation. The principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the prohibition of the use of force, as enshrined in the UN Charter, must be upheld. Any violation of these fundamental principles must cease unconditionally and without delay.

In light of the latest developments, Azerbaijan calls for a full-fledged ceasefire that must be duly honoured and sustained. At the same time, the ceasefire should not be an end in itself but rather a step forward for initiating a lasting peace process in the region based on international law and the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian people.

As we gather in this august body, thousands of people in the State of Palestine find themselves in dire humanitarian situation, facing severe shortages of essential supplies, including food, water, and medical care, exacerbated by restrictions on the movement of goods and people.

We are deeply concerned by deteriorating situation on the ground and the immense suffering of countless innocent civilians, and the destruction of essential infrastructure. It is now more urgent than ever for the international community to take coordinated action to prevent further loss of life and to assist those in need.

Over the decades, and particularly in these challenging times, we have stood with the brotherly people of the State of Palestine, sparing no effort to foster critical aid and support through bilateral and multinational channels. In last two years alone, Azerbaijan has demonstrated its solidarity with the State of Palestine by providing humanitarian assistance worth 2 million USD to support the people affected by the crisis.

Beyond humanitarian aid, Azerbaijan continues to support the Palestinian people in education and healthcare. In this regard, Azerbaijan provided scholarships to 15 Palestinian students under the Heydar Aliyev International Educational Grant Programme for 2024-2025. Furthermore, Azerbaijan pledged to build a school in Nablus for 600 students.

Excellencies,

Let this conference renew our shared commitment to a future where two sovereign States coexist in peace and security. We must transform our political will into concerted actions that uphold the UN Charter and work collectively to fully implement the two-State solution.

Azerbaijan remains fully committed to contributing to efforts that promote dialogue, reconciliation, and a just and lasting resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

I thank you.