

Plenary Statement for the Hon'ble Foreign Adviser at the 'High-Level International Conference for the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution'

UNHqs, New York | 28 July 2025

Co-Chairs,

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

At the outset, I thank the Co-Chairs, France and Saudi Arabia, for convening this High-Level Conference at the time when unity and urgency are more important than ever in advancing the discourse on peace and justice in Palestine. In this respect, I also commend the unwavering commitment and diligence of the eight Working Group members.

Excellencies,

Bangladesh approaches this Conference with moral clarity and a solemn sense of responsibility. Our Constitution commits us to stand with those who face oppression and affirms the right of peoples to self-determination. From our Liberation War in 1971 to the recent mass uprising in July and August last year, the people of Bangladesh always pursued the right to self-determination. That legacy shapes our empathy and enduring solidarity with the Palestinian people in their legitimate aspiration for an independent, sovereign State.

Co-Chairs,

We reaffirm our steadfast support for the establishment of a viable and independent State of Palestine, based on pre-1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital. We believe, peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without justice for Palestine. And justice cannot be delivered without implementing the two-State solution, the only viable and internationally

recognized path forward, based on international law, relevant UN resolutions, and the aspirations of the people of Palestine. We strongly endorse the initiatives of the Global Alliance for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution. The consensus must now be translated into concrete, time-bound action.

Excellencies,

To turn this vision into reality, we must urgently address two core challenges.

First, the conditions on the ground. A just and meaningful two-State solution requires a clear and contiguous Palestinian territory. Today, that possibility is being disrupted through the expansion of illegal settlements in West Bank and the systematic erosion of Palestinian presence in East Jerusalem. Bangladesh calls for full compliance with international law in line with the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice issued on 19 July 2024, ending Israel's unlawful presence in the occupied Palestinian territory.

Second, flagrant violations of international humanitarian law unfolding since October 2023 which is unprecedented in scale and gravity. More than 58,000 Palestinians have lost their lives and many more have been injured. Schools, hospitals, and aid camps are under attack with countless bodies lying beneath rubble in Gaza. We are undoubtedly witnessing one of the gravest genocides of our time. Bangladesh condemns this genocidal killing in Gaza and calls for accountability of the perpetrators.

Co-Chairs,

Words alone will not heal the suffering of the Palestinian people, our actions must be visible. From this Conference, we simply cannot go back to where we were. Our top most priority should be executing an immediate and unconditional ceasefire in Gaza and to ensure the urgent, sufficient, and unhindered delivery of essential supplies and services throughout the Gaza

Strip. UNRWA should be strengthened, and any attempt to hinder its operations should be resisted. Civilians, aid workers, and medical personnel must be allowed immediate safe access.

We also need to mobilize new resources and funding to address the humanitarian crisis and to implement an effective and sustainable reconstruction plan for Gaza. In this regard, Bangladesh appreciates the Arab-Islamic reconstruction plan aimed at rebuilding Gaza and restoring peace and security. We stand ready to join any UN-led efforts for rebuilding Gaza by deploying personnel to support humanitarian and future reconstruction plan.

Co-Chairs,

We reiterate our call for the full recognition and membership of the State of Palestine in the United Nations. The implementation of the two-State solution must begin now. We must act with urgency and courage to uphold international law, international humanitarian law and the UN Charter.

Let us reaffirm our collective commitment and take our position to the right side of history.

Thank you.
