



Press Release

***Press Statement by the OIC Following the OIC
Ambassadorial Meeting to Review the Developments in Gaza
Held at the United Nations, New York***

New York – February 29, 2024

The OIC Group of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations held a meeting on 28 February 2024 at the UN Headquarters in New York under the interim chairmanship of H.E. Ambassador Munir Akram, Permanent Representative of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, to review the developments in Gaza and the rest of Palestine and to consider recent initiatives and review next steps at the United Nations to address the many pressing issues in this regard.

The OIC Group heard a comprehensive briefing from H.E. Ambassador Tarek Ladeb, Permanent Representative of Tunisia, in his capacity as the Chair of the Arab Group and received a briefing by H.E. Minister Riyad Mansour, Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine, on preparations for the forthcoming UNGA meeting following the US veto on 20 February 2024 of the draft resolution calling, inter alia, for "an immediate humanitarian ceasefire" in the Gaza Strip.

The OIC Group expressed unwavering solidarity with the Palestinian people and agreed to pursue additional measures at the United Nations aimed at securing an immediate and unconditional ceasefire in Gaza and an end to grave crimes being perpetrated by the Israeli occupying forces during the nearly 150- day period of military aggression against the Palestinian civilian population under Israel's illegal occupation, most devastatingly in Gaza.

To this end, the OIC Group discussed various possible measures, including the following:

- (a) Provision of unimpeded and adequate humanitarian assistance to the people of Gaza and support for UNRWA's mandate, and appeals for the reversal of the decisions of some donors to suspend their funding to the Agency;
- (b) Enforcement of the provisional measures ordered by the ICJ;
- (c) Deployment of an impartial international mechanism for the protection of civilians in Gaza and the West Bank
- (d) Suspension of delivery of arms and ammunition to Israel;

- (e) Imposition of commercial and visa sanctions on the Israeli settlers in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem;
- (f) Additional legal and judicial measures to be pursued at the ICJ and ICC, aimed at seeking accountability for the violations of international law committed by Israel, the occupying Power, as well as remedy and reparation for the Palestinian civilian population in Gaza;
- (g) Admission of the State of Palestine as a full member of the United Nations as a right and an essential step towards the realization of the two-State solution on the pre-1967 borders and a just, comprehensive and lasting solution to the Palestine question;
- (h) Implementation of the relevant provisions of the Resolution of the Joint Arab Islamic Extraordinary Summit on Israeli Aggression against the Palestinian People held in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 11 November 2023.