



**Statement by Ambassador Munir Akram
Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the UN
during the Tenth Emergency Special UNGA Session (Resumed)
on Palestine**

(10 May 2024)

Mr. President,

I have asked for the floor to explain Pakistan's vote on the draft resolution contained in document A/ES-10/L.30/Rev.1 submitted by the UAE on behalf of the co-sponsors.

2. Pakistan fully supports the draft resolution. We did not co-sponsor the draft at the request of the State of Palestine in order to be able to respond to any adverse amendments to this draft.

Mr. President,

3. It is clear that we are meeting in the shadows of the gravest crimes committed and the gravest violations of the principles of the UN Charter since the holocaust during the Second World War. The distinguished representative of Palestine has eloquently described the slaughter and devastation that has been imposed on Gaza by outlaw Israeli regime.
4. Israel has refused the calls by this Assembly, by the Security Council and even by its patrons and friends, to halt the massacre of innocents and accept an immediate ceasefire. The Israeli leadership has reneged on negotiated deals for a ceasefire. It has now initiated its assault on Rafah, which the UN Secretary-General has rightly warned, "would be a strategic mistake, a political calamity, and a humanitarian nightmare".
5. Indeed, there will come a day, when Israel will be held accountable for the crimes it is committing in Palestine, especially in Gaza today. And, we should work on holding Israel and its leadership accountable for these crimes.
6. Yet, we heard today insults hurled at the United Nations, at this Assembly and its member states by the Israeli representative. This is an arrogance of the aggressor, and reflects the impunity of the occupier -occupier of the land for over 70 years, trampling the inherent and the Charter given rights of Palestinian people to self –determination. We hope that the Assembly would appropriately respond to such insults. This is contrary to expectation of the member states and standards and practice of the Untied Nations.
7. Today, Mr. President, this General Assembly is asked to take a first step towards a final settlement of the conflict - an important step

to rectify the historic injustice against the Palestinian people. It was as a result of this Assembly's vote in 1947 that Palestine was partitioned between Israel and a Palestinian State. Yet, only Israel is a member of the UN. The Palestinian people have been denied their right to self-determination since 1947. And, after 1967, they have been obliged to live under Israel's brutal occupation.

8. This General Assembly can partially redress this historic injustice by admitting Palestine as a full member of the United Nations. It meets all the criteria of membership. Its membership enjoys the support of the vast majority of UN Member States. It is regrettable that Palestine's membership of the UN has been blocked in 2011 and again two weeks ago by the negative vote of one permanent member of the Security Council.
9. The assertion that Palestine's admission can happen only through negotiations reflects the inequity of this position. Negotiations must have a level playing field. If Israel negotiates as a full UN member of the UN, so too should Palestine.
10. The adoption of the draft resolution outlined in document. A/ES-10/L.30/Rev.1 will determine – I am sure with the near unanimous support of Member States – that Palestine is qualified for membership. It will thus urge the Security Council to reconsider and endorse the admission of Palestine as a full member State.
11. In the meantime, the General Assembly would accord all the rights for the fullest possible participation of the State of Palestine in the General Assembly and other UN organs and Conferences. This exceptional measure applies only to Palestine and does not constitute a precedent, as this resolution states.
12. The adoption of this resolution will be a partial yet vital step towards redressing the historic injustice against the people of Palestine. It will reflect a political reality, which would facilitate the revival of a peace process to realize the universally agreed objective of creating a two-State solution, the objective of establishing a viable and contiguous Palestinian State along the 4 June 1967 borders, with Al-Quds as its capital.

I thank you.