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Report of the Meeting of OIC Six-Member Committee on Palestine submitted to

Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of OIC Member States

New York

19th September, 2022

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First : On Monday, September 19, 2022, the OIC Six-Member Committee on Palestine met on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly 77th Session General Debate under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Hissein Brahim Taha, Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

Second: The meeting was attended by Their Excellencies the Foreign Ministers of the following Members States of the Committee:

- Pakistan
- Senegal
- Guinea
- State of Palestine
- Malaysia

The following OIC Member States attended as invitees:

- Republic of Türkiye
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Third: The Secretary-General opened the meeting with a statement in which he reaffirmed the Organization's unwavering position toward the just cause of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif. He called for mobilizing all political and legal efforts to harness the longstanding international consensus on a just and lasting solution to the Question of Palestine in accordance with international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions. He called for reinvigoration of efforts to launch a peace process under international multilateral auspices, in accordance with a specified time schedule and based on the relevant international legitimacy resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative. He stressed the need to maintain pressure on the UN Security Council to take practical measures to implement its resolutions, including resolution 2334 of 23 December 2016, aimed at bringing an end to Israel's illegal colonial settlement policies and illegal occupation in all manifestations and at achieving the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including to self-determination, and the independence of the State of Palestine, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital, and a just solution for the Palestine refugees in accordance with UN General Assembly resolution 194 (III). He called on the Security Council in the immediate term to approve Palestine's long-overdue full membership in the United Nations and to provide the needed international protection for the Palestinian people, in accordance with international humanitarian law.

Fourth: The Palestinian Foreign Minister delivered a statement in which he briefed the meeting on the critical and deteriorating situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, especially in *Al-Quds*, as a result of the continued Israeli construction of the annexation and separation wall, colonial settlement activities, and other illegal measures and practices aimed at Judaizing the Holy City, including the continued dispossession and forced displacement of Palestinian families from the City in an ongoing attempt to change the demography, character, and status of the City in grave breach of international law and relevant UN resolutions. He underscored the extreme dangers of the escalating Israeli attacks on the blessed *Al-Aqsa* Mosque and

violations of the historic and legal status quo at *Al-Haram Al-Sharif* as a site solely for Muslim worship. He stressed the urgency of protecting the blessed *Al-Aqsa* Mosque and the need to unify the efforts and positions of the OIC Member States to support the Palestinian presence and resilience in Al-Quds, to safeguard the rights of the Palestinian people and promote their realization, and to stand against all the Israeli illegal policies and measures, including by undertaking immediate and coordinated efforts to hold Israel, the occupying Power, accountable for its violations and crimes in order to bring an end to its illegal occupation apartheid regime and to achieve justice for the Palestinian people. The Palestinian Minister also gave a brief presentation on the political moves undertaken by the State of Palestine in international fora.

Fifth: The members of the Committee delivered statements in which they reaffirmed their countries' longstanding principled support for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. They expressed their deep concerns about the deteriorating situation in Occupied Palestine and the immense hardships and suffering of the Palestinian people and called on the international community to assume its responsibilities to compel Israel, the occupying power, to end its violations of international law and its attacks on and persecution of the Palestinian people. They exhorted the international community to put pressure on Israel, including through tangible measures of accountability, to compel it to put an end to all colonial settlement activities and to the persistent violations perpetrated in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, especially in the city of *Al-Quds* and to respect international law. They stressed the need to launch a multilateral political process to achieve the two-State vision based on the pre-1967 borders in accordance with international legitimacy resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative and establish a just and lasting peace.

Sixth: The Committee made the following recommendations to the annual coordination meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States :

1. The meeting emphasized the need to follow up on the implementation of all resolutions issued by Islamic Summits and Foreign Ministers' Councils pertaining to the just cause of Palestine and *Al-Quds*, aimed at advancing the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and a just, comprehensive and lasting solution to the Question of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole.

2. The meeting reaffirmed the centrality of the Cause of *Al-Quds Al-Sharif* for the Islamic Ummah, and the need to preserve its Arab-Islamic character and defend the sanctity of Islamic and Christian sites. It emphasized the custodial role of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in this regard and the Islamic *Awqaf's* administration of the blessed *Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Al-Sharif*. It condemned the illegal and illegitimate Israeli policies and measures aimed at altering the geographical and demographic status of the city of *Al-Quds* and its Arab identity and rejecting all Israeli claims of sovereignty over *Al-Quds*, which remains occupied territory and the annexation of which is illegitimate, null and void.

3. The meeting reaffirmed its principled support for the right of the Palestinian people to exercise self-determination and gain independence and exercise their sovereignty in their State of Palestine, with *Al-Quds* as its capital, and called on the world's countries to support the right of the State of Palestine to obtain full membership in the United Nations, which has been unjustly delayed.

4. The meeting reaffirmed its continuous support for the efforts of the State of Palestine to join more international organizations, treaties and charters as a rightful member of the international community.

5. The meeting reaffirmed the rights of the Palestine refugees, including the right to return and compensation in accordance with international law and United Nations General Assembly Resolution 194 of 11 December 1948.

6. The meeting reaffirmed the illegality of the Israeli measures in occupied Al-Quds, condemned all the dangerous excavations carried out by Israel beneath the blessed *Al-Aqsa* Mosque, and demanded that the international community, especially the UN Security Council and UNESCO, assume their responsibilities to compel Israel, the occupying power, to comply with international law and put an end forthwith to all of its illegal and illegitimate practices in occupied *Al-Quds* and to respect the historic and legal status quo of the holy sites in the City.

7. The meeting strongly condemned the policy of Israel, the occupying power, and its illegal colonial settlement practices throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in *Al-Quds Al-Sharif*, and expressed deep concern over the escalation of violence, provocations, incitement and terrorism perpetrated by extremist Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians, including children, and their property.

8. The meeting welcomed the report issued last February by Amnesty International, which concluded that Israel is perpetrating apartheid against the Palestinian people, which amounts to a crime against humanity.

9. The meeting welcomed the report issued on June 7, 2022 by the *United Nations Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem*, and Israel, which emphasized, in its recommendations, the need to ensure that Israel be held accountable for its violations, to bring an end to its occupation in line with the UN Security Council resolutions, and to correct the historical injustice inflicted on the Palestinian people.

10. The meeting condemned the assassination by the Israeli occupation forces of journalist Shireen Abu Aqleh last May while she was conducting her journalistic duty and reporting on the Israeli crimes committed against the Palestinian people, and stressed that this heinous crime requires an independent international investigation and accountability and reaffirmed the need to provide the necessary protection for journalists and media professionals working in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

11. The meeting called for taking the necessary measures to ban the products of Israeli settlements from entry to international markets, and to impose sanctions on companies that contribute to the colonial settlement activities carried out by Israel, the occupying power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in *Al-Quds*.

12. The meeting affirmed the relevant international resolutions regarding Palestine and the need to implement them and ensure adherence to the principles and resolutions of international law, including the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, issued on August 12, 1949.

13. The meeting reaffirmed its support for a just and comprehensive peace on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, including, inter alia, UNSC Resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 476 (1980), 478 (1980), 1397 (2002), 1515 (2003) and 2334 (2016), as well as the internationally-endorsed principles and parameters which call on Israel, the occupying power, to withdraw completely from the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including *Al-Quds*, and the other occupied Arab territories.

14. The meeting called on the international community and other actors to actively engage in sponsoring a multilateral political process to end the Israeli occupation and achieve the two-

State solution and realize the independence of the State of Palestine on the borders of June 4, 1967, with *Al-Quds* as its capital, based on the relevant United Nations resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative.

15. The meeting expressed its deep concern about the tragic conditions of Palestinian and Arab prisoners and detainees, including children, in Israeli prisons and detention centers, and called on the international community, including international humanitarian and human rights organizations, to expose the inhuman practices of Israel, the occupying power, in its prisons, and exert pressure on it to release all Palestinian and Arab prisoners.

16. The meeting reaffirmed the firm responsibility of the United Nations towards the just cause of Palestine until a just and comprehensive solution is reached, guaranteeing an end to the Israeli occupation and enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable national rights, including their right to self-determination and the independence of their state on their national territory, with *Al-Quds* as its capital, and the right of return for the Palestine refugees.

17. The meeting reiterated its rejection of the illegal decision by the US to recognize the city of Al-Quds as the alleged 'capital of Israel' and to move its embassy there, deeming it null and void and a blatant violation of international legitimacy resolutions. It also reaffirmed that the city of Al-Quds will remain the eternal capital of the State of Palestine, and that this decision will not change the legal status of the occupied city nor give any legitimacy to its illegal annexation by Israel, the occupying Power.

18. The meeting called on all countries to fully respect and implement UN Security Council Resolution No. 478 of 1980, urging them to refrain from supporting the United States' decision recognizing Al-Quds as the alleged 'capital of Israel' and to refrain from moving their diplomatic missions to the City.

19. The meeting affirmed that Israel, the occupying Power, is not qualified to hold positions in the United Nations and other international organizations, being an occupying power that violates international law, international humanitarian law and international legitimacy resolutions. It called on Member States not to support any candidacy of Israel, the occupying power, in international fora.

20. The meeting affirmed that the credentials submitted by Israel to the United Nations do not include the territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Al-Quds.

21. The meeting renewed its call for all States and international institutions and organs to abide by international legislation regarding Al-Quds as an integral part of the Palestinian and Arab territories occupied in 1967, and called on them not to participate in any meeting or activity that serves the Israeli goals of entrenching its illegal occupation and annexation of the Holy City.

22. The meeting condemned Israel's attempt to forcibly change the identity, structural and historical character of Al-Quds, including changing the names of the roads in areas under its occupation, and called on the international community to reject Israeli attempts to obliterate the geography and demography of the occupied areas in flagrant violation of international law.

23. The meeting reiterated the necessity of implementing UN Security Council Resolution 237(1967) regarding the return of Palestinian displaced persons, and United Nations General Assembly Resolution 194 (III) regarding the return of Palestine refugees to their homes and properties being a prerequisite for any just and comprehensive settlement.

24. The meeting affirmed the responsibility of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to undertake its obligations towards the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation in accordance with the United Nations General Assembly resolutions issued in this regard. The meeting called on OIC Member States to support the renewal of the mandate of UNRWA and to also offer funding support to the Agency, including through the OIC Waqf for Palestine refugees, to enable it to continue providing its vital humanitarian and development services to the Palestine refugees.

25. The meeting renewed its call for Member States to abide by the resolutions of Islamic Summits and Islamic Ministerial Conferences on the Palestinian issue and the Arab-Israeli conflict when voting in the United Nations and international fora.

26. The Meeting mandated the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to intensify contacts and coordination between the OIC, the League of Arab States, the African Union, the Non-Aligned Movement, the European Union, and the United Nations and its specialized agencies, on the issue of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict, recognizing the principled positions of these institutions and their longstanding solidarity with, and support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people.