



OIC/CFM-49/2023/CG-J&K/ Final. Report

**REPORT
OF THE
MEETING OF THE OIC CONTACT GROUP ON JAMMU AND KASHMIR
ON THE SIDELINES
OF THE 49TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS**

**NOUAKCHOTT, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA
16 MARCH, 2023**

**Report of the Meeting of the
OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir
on the sidelines of the 49th session of the Council of Foreign Ministers
Nouakchott, Islamic Republic of Mauritania
16 March, 2023**

1. A Meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir at the Ministerial level, was held on the sidelines of the 49th session of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers at Nouakchott, Islamic Republic of Mauritania on 16 March 2023. The Foreign Ministers of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Niger, the Deputy Foreign Ministers of the Republic of Turkiye, the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Representative of the Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia attended the meeting.
2. H.E. Amb. Hissein Brahim Taha, the OIC Secretary-General, chaired the meeting. While reviewing the ongoing situation in Jammu and Kashmir, he underscored OIC's continued support to the people of Jammu and Kashmir in their right for self-determination. Referring to the Action Plan adopted at the 48th session of the Council, the Secretary General sought guidance from the members of the Contact Group on the issue of constituting a panel of international eminent personalities to explore legal, political and diplomatic avenues for peaceful settlement of the dispute. In his statement, the Secretary General also shared his sentiments following his visit to Azad Jammu and Kashmir in December 2022. He further stressed the need for the international community to upscale their efforts towards the settlement of the issue of Jammu and Kashmir, to complement the OIC efforts.
3. H.E. Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, the Foreign Minister of Pakistan, briefed the meeting on the situation on the ground since the Contact Group met last in New York in September 2022, on the margins of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly. In his statement, he expressed appreciation to the Secretary General and other members of the Contact Group for their continued support to Pakistan on Jammu and Kashmir dispute.
4. Other members of the Contact Group in their statements, while expressing their continued support for the people of Jammu and Kashmir, called for a peaceful settlement of the dispute in accordance with the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions. They reiterated their call on India to respect the fundamental and basic human rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, and refrain from altering the demographic structure of the disputed territory.
5. The Contact Group underscored the importance of the early implementation of the Action Plan on Jammu and Kashmir, adopted at the 48th session of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers, in Islamabad in March 2022.
6. The Contact Group expressed appreciation to the OIC Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission (IPHRC) for its steadfast efforts to monitor the human rights violations in Jammu and Kashmir and report to the international human rights bodies.

OIC/CFM-49/2023/CG-J&K/ Final. Report

7. True Representatives of the Kashmiri people attended the Meeting. Representing the voice of Kashmiris, Mr. Ghulam Muhammad Safi briefed the Contact Group on the ongoing situation in Jammu and Kashmir since the last Contact Group meeting held in New York on 21 September 2022.
8. The Contact Group issued a Communiqué on the latest developments in Jammu and Kashmir (copy attached).

Joint Communiqué issued by
OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir Meeting on the side-lines of 49th Session of
the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) in Nouakchott, Mauritania, 16 March, 2023

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir met on the side-lines of the 49th Session of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers in Nouakchott on 16 March, 2023 under the chairmanship of the Secretary General of OIC;

Having heard statements of Foreign Ministers of member states of the Contact Group, views of the True Representatives of the Kashmiri people, and the report of IPHRC, on the continued unfortunate developments and atrocities in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK);

The Foreign Ministers:

Reaffirming the OIC position and resolutions on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute;

Expressing deep concern over the worsening human rights in IIOJK;

Underscoring that Jammu and Kashmir is an internationally recognized dispute that continues to be on the agenda of UNSC since 1948, and the disputed nature of the territory has been reaffirmed by subsequent relevant UNSC resolutions;

Stressing that lasting peace in South Asia can only be achieved through just settlement of the core Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with UNSC resolutions and aspirations of the Kashmiri people;

Denouncing the unilateral and illegal Indian actions of 5 August 2019 and subsequent steps aimed at demographic changes and political engineering;

Recalling the two reports issued by the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in June 2018 and July 2019, comprehensively documenting the gross and systemic human rights violations in IIOJK;

Recalling the Communiqués issued by the Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir on 25 September 2019, 22 June 2020, 23 September 2021, 22 March 2022 and 21 September 2022;

Welcoming the visit of the Secretary General OIC and his Special Envoy for Jammu and Kashmir to Pakistan and the Azad Jammu and Kashmir from 10-12 December 2022 along with the Permanent Representatives of the member state of the Contact Group to undertake first-hand assessment of the ground situation;

Expressing deep concern about Indian attempts to curb the freedom of the press in IIOJK through a series of draconian laws;

Condemning the incarceration of Kashmiri political leadership, and persecution of journalists and human rights activists;

Having reviewed the grave situation in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir;

The Foreign Ministers:

1. Requested the office of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue monitoring the situation in IIOJK to apprise the UN and the international community about the gross human rights violations being carried out in IIOJK;

2. Directed their respective Permanent Representatives in New York and Geneva to regularly brief the UN Secretary General, Presidents of the UN General Assembly and UN Security Council, President of the Human Rights Council and the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the developments in IIOJK;
3. Requested the Secretary General and member states to highlight the worsening situation in IIOJK at various international fora including the United Nations and call for immediate steps for amelioration of the human rights and humanitarian situation and peaceful resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute;
4. Expressed concerns over the seizure of the office of All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) in Srinagar;
5. Condemned the ongoing campaign to confiscate the properties of the Kashmiri activists;
6. Affirmed that any political process in IIOJK, in contradiction of the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, would be void ad-initio and of no legal effect;
7. Deplored the so-called anti-encroachment drive, which has resulted in demolition of a large number of residential and commercial properties, dispossessing the local Kashmiri people of their land;
8. Demanded that India must:
 - i. Halt human rights violations against innocent Kashmiris;
 - ii. Reverse its unilateral and illegal actions of 5 August 2019 and reiterate its commitment to implement the relevant UNSC resolutions in accordance with the wishes of Kashmiri people;
 - iii. Release all Kashmiri political prisoners and drop the trumped-up and fallacious charges against Kashmiri leadership;
 - iv. Repeal all restrictive and draconian laws like Armed Forces Safety Act, Public Safety Act, Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act;
 - v. Rescind all the laws and measures aimed at bringing demographic changes within the occupied territories so as to convert the Muslim majority into a minority;
 - vi. Allow the OIC and IPHRC fact-finding missions to IIOJK to investigate and report upon the incidents of human rights violations carried out by Indian occupation forces; and
 - vii. Implement the relevant UN Security Council Resolution so that the Kashmiri people could exercise their inalienable rights to self-determination;
9. Requested the Secretary General to take the following concrete steps:
 - i. Continue his efforts to appoint a panel of legal experts as an advisory body as mandated by the 48th CFM session
 - ii. As mandated by the resolution (8/49-POL);
 - Devise and implement a comprehensive plan to help address the humanitarian needs of the people of IIOJK;
 - Write a letter to the President of India to allow a visit of OIC fact-finding mission to IIOJK; and

OIC/CFM-49/2023/CG-J&K/ Final. Report

- Call for immediate steps for peaceful resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the relevant UNSC resolutions.
10. Called upon the international community to hold India accountable for the egregious human rights violations in IIOJK; and
 11. Decided to take concrete steps to materialise an early, just and lawful solution for the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions and aspirations of the Kashmiri People.
