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Statement by Pakistan on behalf of the OIC
General Debate
Agenda Item 7

25th Session of the Human Rights Council

Mr. President,

I have the honor to make this statement on behalf of the OIC member states.

The OIC welcomes the reports of the Secretary General and High Commissioner under Agenda Item 7. We believe that Agenda Item 7 is an integral part of the Human Rights Council's programme of work. We would like to emphasize that it will remain a main and fixed item on the agendas of both the United Nations General Assembly and subsidiary bodies until the end of Israeli occupation.

The OIC expresses its incomprehension at the European Union's decision to speak under item 4 and item 2 about the Occupied Palestinian Territory. This will only further encourage Israel's violations of international law and is perceived as a concession given to Israel for its return to the Human Rights Council, which creates a harmful precedent for this body.

Mr. President,

We believe that Israel is singled out for being the only country to get away with and get rewarded for violations of international human rights and humanitarian law, since its birth, with complete impunity.

We are deeply concerned over the systematic violations of the human rights of the Palestinian people by Israel. We strongly condemn the application of a two-tier legal system and urge Israel to immediately abolish the dual legal system.

The OIC believes that Israel's blockade of the occupied Gaza Strip, which is an integral part of the Occupied State of Palestine, constitutes an act of collective punishment for the population and is unlawful.

Mr. President,

The OIC affirms that the continuous settlement activities in the occupied state of Palestine are contrary to international law, as affirmed by the International Court of Justice.

Since 1967, over 750,000 Palestinian men, women and children have been arrested, detained and imprisoned by Israel. We call for the establishment of a Commission of Inquiry into the situation of Palestinian detainees and prisoners and urge Israel to release all Palestinian political prisoners.

Mr. President,

The OIC strongly condemns all acts of aggression and incitement at the Islamic Holy sites and attempts by the Israeli Parliament to enact laws aimed at imposing Israeli sovereignty over Al Haram Al Sharif in Jerusalem which constitute a direct provocation of the Muslim world.

The OIC urges Member States to exercise pressure on Israel to respect its legal commitments and obligations under International humanitarian and human rights laws. We also urge all states and regional groups to fulfill their legal obligations as third state actors by adopting guidelines to ensure that settlement produce does not enter their markets.

The human rights situation in the occupied Syrian Golan is also deteriorating as a result of the occupation which continues to violate the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Syrian population. The OIC condemns the Israeli measures in the occupied Syria Golan and demands an end to the illegal occupation of Syrian land, and an end to the violations of international human rights and humanitarian laws.

I thank you