



**CHAIR OF
THE COORDINATING BUREAU
OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT**



**STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED BY THE DELEGATION OF THE
REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN, ON BEHALF OF THE NON-ALIGNED
MOVEMENT (NAM), ON THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL
RAPPORTEUR ON THE SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE
PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES OCCUPIED SINCE 1967, WITHIN THE
FRAMEWORK OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

New York, 25 October 2021

Mr. Chair,

1. It is an honor for the Republic of Azerbaijan to take the floor on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).
2. At the outset, we would like to express our appreciation for the briefing and the work of Mr. Michael Lynk, Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in the Palestinian Territories Occupied since 1967, to whom we pledge our support in the fulfillment of his mandate.

Mr. Chair,

3. During the XVIII Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), held in October in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan the Heads of State and Government stressed the importance of the General Assembly's adoption of resolution 67/19 (29 November 2012), which accorded to Palestine the status of nonmember observer State in the United Nations, reflecting the international community's longstanding, principled support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including to self-determination, and for the two-State solution based on the pre-1967 borders.
4. In this regard, the Movement condemn Israel's continuing military occupation of the Palestinian Territory in breach of international law and UN resolutions. They condemn the continuing brutal Israeli military campaign against the defenseless Palestinian people by which the occupying Power has continued to commit grave human rights violations and reported war crimes, including by use of excessive, indiscriminate force that over the years has killed and injured thousands of Palestinian civilians, including children, as witnessed in the "Great March of Return" protests and as reported by the Independent Commission of Inquiry of the Human Rights Council.



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5. The Non-Aligned Movement express grave concern about the grave situation in the Gaza Strip due to the lasting impact of the Israeli military aggression of July and August 2014 and the illegal Israeli blockade, which they condemned in the strongest terms, as they have caused massive human and physical devastation. They also express grave concern over the exacerbation of the humanitarian crisis there as the entire Palestinian civilian population continues to be inhumanely isolated, besieged and deprived by the Israeli blockade, which constitutes massive collective punishment and a grave breach of international humanitarian and human rights law.

Mr. Chair,

6. In this connection, the Member States of the Movement continue to call for accountability for the crimes and violations committed by Israel, the occupying Power, during its December 2008-January 2009 and July–August 2014 military aggressions against the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip. They reiterate the call for the international community, including the Security Council, to ensure serious follow-up efforts to bring an end to Israel's impunity and to realize justice for the victims, including action to follow-up the findings contained in the reports of the Human Rights Council independent investigations, commissions of inquiry, and relevant fact-finding missions.
7. To conclude, the Non-Aligned Movement calls for urgent efforts to further support the development and strengthening of Palestinian national institutions, stressing the importance of this effort in laying strong foundations for the independence of the State of Palestine. In this connection, they strongly welcome the important step taken, including by several Members of the Movement, in extending official recognition to the State of Palestine on the basis of the 1967 borders, as well as the recent recognition extended by Sweden and the calls for recognition by numerous European parliaments.
8. Finally, the Movement reaffirms their long-standing support and solidarity with the just cause of Palestine and strong commitment to continue supporting the Palestinian people and their leadership.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.