



**CHAIR
NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT
GENEVA CHAPTER**



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**UN Human Rights Council
43rd Session**

**General debate on item 7
Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories**

**Statement
delivered by Mr. Emin Aslanov, First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of
the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International
Organizations in Geneva on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement**

Geneva, 16 June 2020

Madame President,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

For many years, the Non-Aligned Movement has maintained a firm position of solidarity with the Palestinian people and its just cause, and the condemnation of massive, flagrant and systematic violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law committed by Israel.

The NAM also underscores the need to continue providing political, economic and humanitarian support to assist the Palestinian people, and to bolster its resilience and efforts aimed at achieving its legitimate national aspirations, including its inalienable right to self-determination and freedom in its independent State of Palestine.

We recognize and commend the relevant efforts of the United Nations and its agencies, in particular the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and the Committee of Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. The Movement encourages the continuation of their support. The NAM takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary General presented to the 43rd Session of the HRC on the Israeli settlements in the occupied Syrian Golan.

The NAM also takes note with appreciation of the 11th periodic report of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on the implementation of the Human Rights Council Resolutions S-9/1 and S-12/1, including the human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which highlights issues of grave concern there.

The NAM expresses its grave concern at the continuing Israeli settlement policy and related activities, including the expansion of settlements, the expropriation of land, the demolition of houses, and the confiscation and destruction of property, which has changed the physical character and demographic composition of the Occupied Territory and the occupied Syrian Golan.

The General Assembly, the Security Council, the Human Rights Council and the International Court of Justice have all confirmed that the construction and expansion of Israeli settlements and other related activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory are illegal under international law. The NAM is also deeply concerned over numerous UN official reports, particularly by the recent report of the Secretary General, which have reaffirmed the continued human rights violations of the Palestinian people by Israeli force throughout the occupied State of Palestine.

In this regard, the NAM urges the international community to exert its pressure in order to cease immediately the continuation of this illegal trend by Israel, which is a blatant violation of International law.

Furthermore, the NAM strongly believes that Israel as the occupying power, has to be held accountable for its continued grave and systematic violations of both international human rights law and international humanitarian law in all occupied Arab territories, including Syrian Golan.

The NAM emphasizes that Israel as the occupying power, should immediately release all Palestinian prisoners, particularly children and women. It should also cease serious violations of international law and fully lift the blockade of Gaza to remedy the ongoing punitive measures against civilian population, and release Palestinian children in detention in accordance with international standards, in particular the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

In conclusion, the NAM extends its full support to the Government of the State of Palestine in its ongoing efforts to put an end to the occupation of the land of the State of Palestine and realize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Thank you.