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**Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the
rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory**

Security Council
Eightieth year

Identical letters dated 16 September 2025 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

In the week since my last letter to you, hundreds more Palestinians have been massacred by Israel, the occupying Power, and thousands more have been wounded in Gaza, while the entire population is being terrorized, subjected to constant bombing attacks, further mass forced displacement and mass starvation and threats of more devastation.

As Israel proceeds with its maniacal invasion of Gaza City, its Minister of Defense brags that “Gaza is burning” and that Israel is striking “with an iron fist”, wiping out families, obliterating civilian infrastructure and inflicting human suffering on a scale unimaginable to a normal mind.

In the span of a week, the confirmed casualty toll has reached almost 65,000 Palestinians killed and over 165,000 wounded. Moreover, another 300,000 Palestinian civilians – sick and injured, hungry and depleted, young and old – have been violently forced to flee their homes and shelters yet again, with no safe refuge from the Israeli onslaught.

The images of groups of dead children and their parents and of a sea of people again in a desperate march on foot attempting to escape the horrors are in plain sight for all the world to see. No one can say they did not know. The world is witnessing the perpetration of these heinous crimes in real time. But still it does not act to protect defenceless civilians from this death march, failing to act on the obligations to halt this genocide.

There can be no justification whatsoever for allowing such impunity and inhumanity. Israel is exterminating every aspect of life in Gaza, and it must be stopped.

The urgency for action is underscored by today’s release of a report by the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel finding, based on thorough legal analysis and evidentiary assessment, that Israel is committing genocide against Palestinians in Gaza and urging Israel and all States to fulfil their legal obligations to



end the genocide and punish those responsible for it. The Commission of Inquiry concluded, *inter alia*:

“... the Israeli authorities intended to kill as many Palestinians as possible through its military operations in Gaza since 7 October 2023 and knew that the means and methods of warfare employed would cause mass deaths of Palestinians, including children... that deaths were a result of the deliberate infliction of conditions of life in Gaza calculated to bring about the destruction of the Palestinians in Gaza, especially the blocking of medicine, medical equipment, food and water...”

“... the Israeli authorities and Israeli security forces have had and continue to have the genocidal intent to destroy, in whole or in part, the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.”

“... the State of Israel bears responsibility for the failure to prevent genocide, the commission of genocide and the failure to punish genocide against the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.”

Thus, as called for again today by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the State of Palestine in the face of Israel’s deliberate targeting and slaughter of Palestinian children, women and men for over 23 months, we reiterate our appeals for international intervention to stop this genocidal aggression that is turning Gaza into a mass graveyard and ruin.

The international community – the Security Council, the General Assembly, all States and international organizations – must act forthwith to enforce an immediate ceasefire, to avert further irreparable harm to and displacement of the Palestinian people, to ensure the immediate release of hostages and prisoners and to accelerate the delivery of life-saving assistance to the population in Gaza in order to reverse the famine and ensure their survival.

We also reiterate our standing call for international protection for the Palestinian people, as demanded by international law, including the obligation to protect civilians enshrined in the Fourth Geneva Convention and Protocol I Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 in the face of grave breaches, including the wanton and wilful killing and injury being perpetrated by the occupying Power, and the obligation to prevent genocide enshrined in the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, as demanded by the International Court of Justice in the three sets of provisional measures ordered in 2024.

Protection is urgent for all Palestinians under Israeli occupation – in Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, where Israel persists with its war of annexation and ethnic cleansing. This week, Israel’s Prime Minister has publicly boasted, yet again, that the actions he is commanding will ensure “there will be no Palestinian State”. Moreover, Israeli occupation forces and settlers continue daily raids and terror attacks in the West Bank, and over 1,500 Palestinians have been abducted in the past week alone. The scenes in Tulkarem of Israeli soldiers rounding up Palestinian men and marching them into military trucks to be taken to Israeli jails are shocking and deplorable.

“Silence and inaction are not an option in the face of mass atrocities”, as recently stressed by 46 special rapporteurs and independent experts of the Human Rights Council, who hail from every region of the world and have repeatedly urged global action to respond to this grave situation. In a recent statement, they called, *inter alia*, for immediate action to stop the Israeli genocide and famine engineered and imposed on Gaza and, on the eve of the one-year anniversary of the adoption of General Assembly resolution [ES-10/24](#), also called for immediate measures to bring an end to

the illegal Israeli occupation, stressing the need for decisive international leadership, including by the General Assembly, “to prevent further catastrophe for the Palestinian people”.

As found by the Commission of Inquiry, “the events in Gaza since October 2023 have not occurred in isolation. They were preceded by decades of unlawful occupation and unlawful settlement, with racial segregation or apartheid, under an ideology requiring the removal of the Palestinian population from their lands and their replacement”.

As world leaders gather for the historic eightieth session of the General Assembly and the resumption of the High-level International Conference for the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, we appeal once again, in the name of the Palestinian people and of humanity: act now to halt these Israeli atrocities and crimes. Stop the genocide, end this illegal occupation, end this Nakba on the Palestinian people.

The present letter is in follow-up to our 875 letters on the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 10 September 2025 (A/ES-10/1044-S/2025/570) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations against our people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators brought to justice. This illegal colonial occupation and apartheid regime must end now.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Riyadh **Mansour**
Minister
Permanent Observer
