



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



**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN, ON
BEHALF OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM), ON THE OCCASION OF
THE HIGH-LEVEL SPECIAL EVENT TO COMMEMORATE THE 75TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE NAKBA**

New York, 15 May 2023

Mr. President,

1. I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.
2. On this 75th anniversary of the Nakba, the Non-Aligned Movement reaffirms its unwavering solidarity with the Palestinian people and support for their inalienable human rights, including to self-determination and independence, and renews its abiding commitment to achieve a fair and lasting solution to the Palestine question, including for the plight of the Palestine refugees, and genuine peace and security in the Middle East on the basis of international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions.
3. The Non-Aligned Movement renews its appreciation to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and to the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat of the United Nations for their important work and valued assistance in this regard, in line with their General Assembly mandates.

Mr. President,

4. This year marks the seventy-fifth anniversary of the 1948 Nakba that tragically befell the Palestinian people. This occasion prompts the Non-Aligned Movement to reiterate its longstanding calls for intensification of all necessary efforts to bring an end to this injustice and advance a peaceful and just solution. The international community is called upon to act forthwith to uphold its responsibilities and obligations towards the Palestine question until it is justly resolved.
5. During the Ministerial Meeting of NAM on the sidelines of the High-level week of the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, held on 21 September 2022, the Ministers adopted a political declaration, stressing, *inter alia*, that a just, lasting and peaceful solution to the question of Palestine in all its aspects must remain a priority on the Movement's agenda and also a permanent responsibility of the United Nations until it is satisfactorily resolved in accordance with international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions and the internationally-endorsed parameters.



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6. On this day, the Movement must express its deep regret that, despite decades of their participation in peace efforts in good-faith; despite their proven commitment to the two-State solution for peace; despite their adherence to international law; and despite the painful compromises made, the plight of the Palestinian people has worsened, with millions still deprived of their rights and suffering continued oppression, displacement, and hardships as the Nakba inflicted upon them persists as a just solution remains elusive and a political horizon for realizing it remains absent despite the longstanding and strong international consensus on the basis and framework for a fair and lasting solution.

Mr. President,

7. Today, the Non-Aligned Movement also reiterates its demand for the full and immediate lifting of the illegal blockade of the Gaza Strip by Israel, which continues to severely impair all aspects of life of the Palestinian civilian population in Gaza, imposing a dire humanitarian crisis on them. The Non-Aligned Movement also reiterates its grave concern about the lack of accountability for the countless violations being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, including, inter alia, killing and injury of innocent and defenseless Palestinian civilians and arbitrary detention and imprisonment of thousands of Palestinians, among them children and women. The absence of justice only leads to greater impunity and recurrence of crimes and destabilizes the situation on the ground, diminishing the prospects for peace. NAM Member States therefore continue to call for international action to ensure a cessation of, and accountability for, the violations being systematically committed by Israel against the Palestinian people.
8. The solidarity of the international community with the just Palestinian cause must be directed to all relevant efforts in support of the rights of the Palestinian people and the independence and sovereignty of the State of Palestine in all of the Palestinian Territory occupied by Israel in 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital, in accordance with the relevant resolutions, and a just solution for the plight of the Palestine refugees in accordance with General Assembly resolution 194 (III).
9. To conclude Mr. President, the Non-Aligned Movement reiterates its unwavering commitment to a just, lasting, comprehensive and peaceful solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which is at the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Such a peaceful solution remains a long-standing objective of the Movement. In this regard, the Non-Aligned Movement firmly reiterates its call for the restoration of the inalienable rights of the heroic Palestinian people, including to self-determination and independence and to return.



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10. On this solemn 75th anniversary of the Nakba, we must reaffirm our commitment to uphold international law and our collective responsibilities to assist the Palestinian people, including the Palestine refugees through the vital support of UNRWA, and to exert all necessary efforts to finally bring an end to this protracted and painful injustice and realize the freedom, dignity and peace that they have been so long denied. After 75 years, the prolonged international paralysis on this issue is inexcusable. The international consensus on a just solution is firm and clear, and there is an abundance of multilateral political and diplomatic tools to promote the achievement of a just and peaceful resolution. We must use them responsibly and we in the NAM are ready to do so.

I thank you, Mr. President.