A/81/35

United Nations

Report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

General Assembly
Official Records
Eighty-first Session
Supplement No. 35

Please recycle

General Assembly
Official Records
Eighty-first Session
Supplement No. 35

A/81/35

Report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

United Nations • New York, 2026

Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

ISSN 0255-2035

[2 September 2026]

Contents

Chapter		*Page*
	Letter of transmittal	4
I.	Introduction	5
II.	Overview of the political context relating to the question of Palestine	6
III.	Mandate of the Committee	12
IV.	Organization of work	13
	A. Membership and officers	13
	B. Participation in the work of the Committee	13
V.	Action taken by the Committee and the Division for Palestinian Rights in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 77/22 and 79/82	14
	A. Introduction	14
	B. Mobilization of the diplomatic community	14
	C. Raising awareness of the question of Palestine	16
	D. Cooperation with intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and United Nations system entities	19
	E. Capacity development	19
VI.	Action taken by the Department of Global Communications in accordance with General Assembly resolution 77/24	20
VII.	Conclusions and recommendations of the Committee	22
	A. Action by the Committee in response to the conflict and humanitarian crisis	22
	B. Action by the Committee in response to human rights violations	23
	C. Action by the Committee in response to annexation and settlement activities	24
	D. Action with the Secretary-General, the Security Council, the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court	25
	E. Advocacy and outreach with the international community and civil society	25
	F. Action by Member States and regional organizations	26
	G. Action by the Secretariat and other United Nations entities	26

Letter of transmittal

[2 September 2026]

Mr. Secretary-General,

I have the honour to enclose herewith the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for submission to the General Assembly and circulation to all the competent bodies of the United Nations for necessary action, as appropriate, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 10 of Assembly resolution 77/22 of 30 November 2022.

The report covers the period from 2 September 2025 to 31 August 2026.

(*Signed*) Coly **Seck**
Chair of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights
of the Palestinian People

Chapter I
Introduction

1. The present report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People has been submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 77/22, adopted on 30 November 2022. It covers the implementation by the Committee of its programme of work (A/AC.183/2026/1), formulated to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination. Its objectives include maintaining international awareness of the plight of the Palestinian people, mobilizing efforts aimed at achieving a just and comprehensive solution to the question of Palestine in accordance with international law and lasting Israeli-Palestinian peace, enhancing international solidarity with the Palestinian people and supporting the Government of the State of Palestine in its capacity-building efforts towards promoting a viable and sustainable independent State of Palestine.

2. Chapter II consists of an overview of the political context relating to the question of Palestine during the reporting period, from 2 September 2025 to 31 August 2026.

3. Chapters III and IV contain an outline of the mandate of the Committee as set out by the General Assembly and information on the membership of the Committee and the organization of its work.

4. Chapter V covers the action taken by the Committee, including its participation in meetings of the Security Council and its continuing engagement with Member States, intergovernmental organizations and civil society. It also covers international conferences, capacity-building and advocacy activities, including those carried out by the Division for Palestinian Rights on behalf of the Committee.

5. Chapter VI provides an overview of the special information programme on the question of Palestine implemented by the Department of Global Communications in accordance with General Assembly resolution 77/24.

6. The conclusions and recommendations of the Committee to the General Assembly are set out in chapter VII of the report.

Chapter II
Overview of the political context relating to the question of Palestine

7. The question of Palestine has remained on the agenda of the United Nations for more than 78 years. That period has been marked by a 59-year-long illegal occupation by Israel, grave breaches of international law, including international human rights and humanitarian law, a 19-year blockade of the Gaza Strip and the continuing plight of millions of Palestine refugees since 1948.

8. On 12 September 2025, the United Nations General Assembly, in its decision 80/506, endorsed the New York Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, the outcome document of the High-level International Conference for the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution (A/CONF.243/2025/1). The New York Declaration reflects renewed international support to the implementation of the two-State solution, where two democratic and sovereign States, Palestine and Israel, live side by side in peace and security within their secure and recognized borders on the basis of the 1967 lines, including with regard to Jerusalem, and international commitment to taking tangible, timebound and irreversible steps for the peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and the implementation of the two-State solution. The Declaration calls for the end of the war in Gaza, reiterates that Gaza is an integral part of a Palestinian State and that governance, law enforcement and security across all Palestinian territory must lie solely with the Palestinian Authority and emphasizes that the Palestinian Authority should continue its reform agenda. On 22 September, the resumed High-level Conference resulted in an additional 10 countries – Andorra, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Portugal and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland – recognizing the State of Palestine.

9. On 10 October, an agreement to secure a ceasefire and hostage release in Gaza based on the Comprehensive Plan to End the Gaza Conflict entered into force following mediation by Egypt, Qatar, Türkiye and the United States of America, also guarantors of the agreement. On 17 November, the Security Council, in its resolution 2803 (2025) endorsed the Comprehensive Plan and welcomed the establishment of the Board of Peace as a transitional administration. The Comprehensive Plan includes the security requirements of disarmament of Hamas and other armed groups in Gaza; the withdrawal of Israeli forces and the deployment of an international stabilization force; and the establishment of a Palestinian technocratic, apolitical committee responsible for day-to-day operations of public services and municipalities in the Strip. That committee, named the National Committee for the Administration of Gaza, was formed in January 2026, and a Board of Peace High Representative for Gaza was appointed the same month. A 15-point road map was subsequently developed by the guarantors and the High Representative to complete the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan. The road map remains under negotiation with the parties, while Israel has yet to withdraw its troops from Gaza, and Hamas has yet to disarm.[1]

10. At the time of the entry into force of the ceasefire, approximately 70,000 Palestinians had been killed and over 170,000 injured, according to the Ministry of Health in Gaza.[2] Over three quarters of buildings and roads in Gaza were damaged or

[1] Nickolay Mladenov, High Representative for Gaza, briefing to the Security Council (SC/16364), 21 May 2026; and Nickolay Mladenov, High Representative for Gaza, statement at the Palestine Donor Group – Ministerial Meeting, Brussels, 13 July 2026.

[2] United Nations, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, “Humanitarian situation update #342: Gaza Strip”, 20 November 2025.

destroyed. The World Health Organization estimates that 43,000 people had sustained life-changing injuries, up to a quarter of whom were children.[3] Recovery and reconstruction needs have been estimated at $71.4 billion, including $26.3 billion required in the first 18 months for essential services, critical infrastructure and economic recovery.[4]

11. The ceasefire lessened the level of hostility, but it did not stop Israeli attacks. Civilians in Gaza continue to suffer from Israeli air strikes and military operations carried out in violation of the ceasefire, as well as from unsustainable living conditions. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) verified 685 Palestinians killed of the 1,100 reported by Ministry of Health in Gaza from 10 October through mid-April.[5] On 1 July, the humanitarian country team warned that Israel continued to expand the areas under its control in Gaza and to use lethal force to enforce access restrictions, resulting in 196 verified deaths, including of children, near the so-called "yellow line",[6] which delimits the area inside Gaza where Israeli troops remain deployed. The ceasefire has enabled the expansion of humanitarian operations in Gaza. Famine conditions have been averted and health services have improved, but 1.4 million people face crisis-levels or worse of acute food insecurity,[7] and no hospital is fully operational.[8] Approximately 1.7 million people are sheltered in nearly 1,600 displacement sites.[9] Sanitation conditions have deteriorated due to shortages of essential supplies and inadequate waste management, contributing to pest infestations and disease outbreaks.[10]

12. Humanitarian access to Gaza remains severely constrained. Kerem Shalom remains the main operational crossing for approved cargoes to enter Gaza, with other crossings subject to recurrent prolonged closure by Israel.[11] In May, the High Court of Israel rejected the appeal against the March 2025 Israeli law introducing a new registration system for international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that the humanitarian country team said "fundamentally jeopardizes the continuation of humanitarian operations".[12] Repeated incidents affecting humanitarian personnel, facilities and operations resulted in some 600 aid workers killed in nearly three years.[13] The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the

[3] World Health Organization, "Estimating trauma rehabilitation needs in Gaza: May 2026 update", 2026.

[4] World Bank, European Union and United Nations, *Gaza Strip Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment: April 2026* (2026).

[5] Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), "Intensified Israeli attacks in Gaza", 21 July 2026.

[6] Humanitarian country team in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, "Expansion of areas under Israeli control in Gaza endangers civilians and relief efforts", statement, 1 July 2026.

[7] Integrated Food Security Classification, "Gaza Strip: acute food insecurity situation for 16 April–30 June 2026 and projection for 1 July–31 December 2026", 23 July 2026.

[8] Tom Fletcher, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, briefing to the Security Council on the humanitarian situation in Gaza, New York, 18 June 2026.

[9] United Nations, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, "UN urges civilians be protected as UNICEF youth champion killed", 23 June 2026; and Site Management Cluster – Palestine, *Gaza Displacement Site Verification Assessment: Baseline Findings for May 2026 Humanitarian Planning and Coordination* (2026).

[10] United Nations, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, "Humanitarian situation report", 25 May 2026.

[11] See https://www.ochaopt.org/publications/situation-reports.

[12] Humanitarian country team in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, "UN agencies and NGOs call for immediate lifting of impediments to humanitarian access and NGO operations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory", 17 December 2025.

[13] Fletcher, briefing to the Security Council on the humanitarian situation in Gaza, 18 June 2026.

Near East (UNRWA) recorded 392 killed among its personnel and affiliated workers.[14]

13. During the reporting period, the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, was marked by the deepening of the illegal Israeli occupation through military operations, settler violence and significant changes on the ground, including settlement expansion, fragmentation of Palestinian communities, evictions, demolitions, land and property seizures and movement restrictions. During the reporting period alone, 1, 446 Palestinian-owned structures, including 101 donor-funded structures, were demolished, resulting in 1,887 people displaced.[15] Israeli authorities also advanced or approved thousands of housing units between 20 September 2025 and June 2026[16] in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem and area C, in relation to settlement plans in the so called "E1 area". These illegal actions persist in violation of international humanitarian law, countless United Nations resolutions and the advisory opinion issued by the International Court of Justice in July 2024 (A/78/968). Israeli policies and practices have created a coercive and broader pattern that is aimed at forcing displacement that amounts to the forcible transfer of a civilian population. They consolidate the annexation by Israel of large parts of the Occupied Palestinian Territory (see A/HRC/61/70) and undermine the conditions for a negotiated two-State solution.

14. Settler violence has been escalating, representing a major cause of Palestinian casualties, displacement and property damage in the occupied West Bank,[17] and has reached unprecedented levels of brutality, according to United Nations experts.[18] In March, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs reported that, less than three months into 2026, settler violence and access restrictions had displaced nearly 1,700 Palestinians, a number surpassing the total displaced in all of 2025. OHCHR documented that Israeli authorities have played "the central role in directing, participating in or enabling this conduct" and have failed to prevent and punish attackers, creating a "pervasive impunity" that facilitates and encourages further violence and harassment against Palestinians.[19]

15. Israel intensified its unlawful use of air strikes and other weapons, particularly in refugee camps in the occupied West Bank. On 29 July, Israeli security forces extended a military order designating "closure areas", requiring a miliary permit to enter and exit, for Jenin refugee camp until 20 August 2026 and for Nur Shams and Tulkarm refugee camps until 30 September 2026.[20] The order is linked to an Israeli

[14] United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), "UNRWA situation report #230 on the humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip and the Occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem", 15 July 2026.

[15] See https://www.ochaopt.org/data/demolition, as at 27 August 2026.

[16] See the Secretary-General's reports on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2334 (2016), S/2025/807 and S/2026/513. See also Khaled Khiari, Assistant Secretary-General for the Middle East, Europe, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, briefing to the Security Council on the situation in the Middle East, 28 April 2026; Ramiz Alakbarov, Deputy Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, briefing to the Security Council on the situation in the Middle East, 21 May 2026; and Ramiz Alakbarov, Deputy Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, briefing to the Security Council on the situation in the Middle East, 29 June 2026.

[17] See https://www.ochaopt.org/publications/snapshots and https://www.ochaopt.org/data/casualties.

[18] OHCHR, "Occupied Palestinian Territory: UN experts alarmed by escalating settler terror and displacement", 1 June 2026.

[19] OHCHR, "Israel's settlement expansion drives mass displacement in West Bank – UN report", 17 March 2026.

[20] United Nations, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, "Humanitarian situation report", 7 August 2026.

military operation in the northern West Bank that has been ongoing since January 2025 and which has generated the longest and largest displacement crisis in the West Bank since 1967.[21] According to UNRWA, 33,000 Palestine refugees remain forcibly displaced.[22]

16. In East Jerusalem, Israeli authorities continued to adopt measures that altered the city's demographic composition, religious character and legal status and restricted freedom of religion. In March, United Nations human rights experts warned against the "irreversible de-Palestinisation" of Jerusalem, citing extrajudicial killings, large-scale demolitions, forced displacement, checkpoints and closures severing the city from its Palestinian hinterland, punitive policing and systematic interference with freedom of worship.[23] Following regional hostilities that began on 28 February, Israeli authorities tightened movement restrictions and banned gatherings of more than 50 people, significantly affecting Palestinian communities. The authorities imposed a closure of the Haram al-Sharif through the end of Ramadan, preventing Palestinian Muslim worshippers from accessing the Aqsa Mosque on Eid al-Fitr, one of few recorded access prohibitions on that holy day since 1948. On 29 March, Israeli police also prevented the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem and the Custos of the Holy Land from entering the Church of the Holy Sepulchre to celebrate mass on Palm Sunday, marking the first access denial in centuries.[24]

17. On 25 April, the Palestinian Central Elections Commission successfully administered local elections in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in Gaza. On 9 July, the President, Mahmoud Abbas, signed a decree announcing elections to the Palestinian Legislative Council across the Occupied Palestinian Territory, to be held in November 2026. The Palestinian Authority continues to face a growing fiscal and financial crisis aggravated by the withholding by Israel of all clearance revenues that it has collected on behalf of the Authority since May 2025.

18. On 22 October, the International Court of Justice delivered an advisory opinion (A/80/502), requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 79/232, concerning the obligations of Israel in relation to the presence and activities of the United Nations, other international organizations and third States in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The Court determined that the international obligations of Israel included the obligations to respect and protect all relief and medical personnel and facilities, to ensure full respect for the inviolability of the premises of the United Nations and to agree to and facilitate the relief schemes provided by the United Nations and its entities, including UNRWA.

19. UNRWA continued to face political, legal, financial and operational impediments to delivering on its mandate. On 29 December, the Israeli parliament passed amendments to the October 2024 law terminating UNRWA operations, providing for the removal of the Agency's privileges and immunities, the authorization to seize its property and assets, and the disconnection of its premises from public utility services.[25] Acting on these amendments, the Israeli authorities

[21] United Nations, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, "Humanitarian situation report", 10 April 2026; and United Nations, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, "Humanitarian situation report", 6 June 2026.

[22] UNRWA, "UNRWA situation report #207 on the humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip and the Occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem", 4 February 2026.

[23] OHCHR, "UN experts warn against the 'de-Palestination' of Jerusalem", 6 March 2026.

[24] OHCHR, "Human rights bulletin: reporting period (1 March–31 March 2026)", April 2026; and OHCHR, "Human rights bulletin: reporting period (1 April–30 April 2026)", May 2026.

[25] United Nations, "Secretary-General condemns amendments to Israeli law ceasing operations of United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in Near East" (SG/SM/22971), 31 December 2025; and UNRWA, "UNRWA Commissioner-General on new anti-UNRWA legislation passed by the Israeli Parliament", 30 December 2025.

closed six schools in East Jerusalem and entered and demolished the Agency's West Bank Field Office headquarters on 20 January[26] and decided to establish Israeli military facilities in the seized premises.[27] The law and subsequent amendments and actions are in violation of the international obligations of Israel. On 5 December, the General Assembly, in its resolution 80/78, extended the mandate of UNRWA until 30 June 2029 and reaffirmed the necessity for the continuation of its work and importance of its unimpeded operation. In its resolution 80/77, adopted that same day, the Assembly stressed that the Agency provided a crucial measure of stability in the region, including in Gaza in the post-ceasefire period.

20. The General Assembly sustained its strong support for the rights of the Palestinian people. In its resolution 80/72, adopted on 2 December, the Assembly reiterated support for the two-State Solution and the New York Declaration, stressed that the Gaza Strip constitutes an integral part of the Palestinian territory and demanded that Israel end its unlawful occupation. The Assembly adopted further resolutions, on Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues (resolution 80/79); the work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (resolution 80/80); on Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem (resolution 80/81); and on permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people over their natural resources (resolution 80/158).

21. Violations of international humanitarian and human rights law continued to be documented. In a report issued on 18 May, OHCHR concluded that Palestinian armed groups had committed serious violations, including war crimes, on 7 October 2023. It also found that repeated violations by Israeli authorities, and their failure to prevent and mitigate civilian harm, reflected a pattern consistent with collective punishment, forcible displacement and the "ethnic cleansing of large parts of the Occupied Palestinian Territory" to facilitate further settlement and annexation.[28]

22. On 20 October, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 issued a report in which she concluded that the genocide in Gaza had been committed "as part of a system of global complicity" and that third States "could and should be held liable for aiding, assisting or jointly participating in internationally wrongful acts" (A/80/492). In a subsequent report, issued on 23 March, the Special Rapporteur concluded that systematic torture had become "an integral component of the settler-colonial genocide perpetrated by Israel" within a broader framework of policies and practices in which the infliction of "collective long-term harm reflects a concerted effort to control and erase a people" (A/HRC/61/71). The Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel concluded that the Government and security forces of Israel had deliberately carried out acts inflicting death and severe bodily and mental harm on hundreds of thousands of Palestinian children with the intention "to destroy the existence of the Palestinians in Gaza as a group". The 2026 report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict (A/80/723-S/2026/357) recorded the highest number of grave violations verified in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Most of those violations were perpetrated against Palestinian children and attributed to Israeli armed and security forces and settlers.

[26] Stephen Margetts, Director of the Department of Legal Affairs, UNRWA, statement, 4 March 2026.

[27] Stéphane Dujarric, Spokesman for the Secretary-General, statement on Israel's decision to establish military facilities at the UNRWA Sheikh Jarrah compound, 20 May 2026.

[28] OHCHR, "Practices and policies affecting human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem (7 October 2023–31 May 2025)", 18 May 2026.

23. On 30 March, the Israeli parliament passed a law reintroducing the death penalty for terrorism-related offences, which almost exclusively applies to Palestinians, constitutes a discriminatory regime of capital punishment and is inconsistent with the obligations of Israel under international law, according to United Nations experts.[29] On 11 May, the Israeli parliament passed legislation creating a special military court to prosecute Palestinians accused of involvement in the 7 October 2023 attacks. On 30 April, United Nations experts expressed grave concerns that sexual violence had become "a tool of occupation" used by Israel.[30] On 19 May, the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment urged Israel to revise its detention laws, policies and practices, based on a "substantial body of torture allegations, including sexual violence, and other serious abuses".[31] The Israeli armed and security forces were listed in the 2026 report of the Secretary-General on conflict-related sexual violence as parties credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for patterns of rape or other forms of sexual violence (S/2026/321).

[29] OHCHR, "Israel: Türk warns against legislative steps targeting Palestinians in violation of international law", 31 March 2026; and OHCHR, "Israel's death penalty law constitutes a discriminatory regime of capital punishment: UN experts", 2 April 2026.

[30] OHCHR, "Sexual and gender-based violence against Palestinians driving displacement, warn UN experts", 30 April 2026.

[31] United Nations, "Special Rapporteur on torture warns of persistent risks for Palestinian detainees, implores Israel to change course", 19 May 2026.

Chapter III
Mandate of the Committee

24. The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975 with the task of recommending a programme designed to enable the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable rights to self-determination, national independence and sovereignty and return to the homes and property from which they had been displaced, as recognized by the Assembly in its resolution 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974. The mandate of the Committee has evolved over the years to include greater advocacy for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the mobilization of assistance. Additional information about the Committee is available on the website maintained by the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat.[32]

25. On 30 November 2022, the General Assembly renewed the mandate of the Committee (resolution 77/22) and requested the Department of Global Communications to continue to implement the special information programme on the question of Palestine (resolution 77/24). On 3 December 2024, it requested the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division for Palestinian Rights with the resources necessary for its programme of work (resolution 79/82). These mandates will be reviewed only as necessary. The Committee's report will continue to be produced annually. On 3 December 2024, the Assembly also adopted resolution 79/81, entitled "Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine", in which it, inter alia, reaffirmed the pillars of a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine.

[32] See https://www.un.org/unispal/.

Chapter IV
Organization of work

A. Membership and officers

26. The Committee is composed of 24 Member States that represent different regional groups and that support the international consensus for a two-State solution: Afghanistan, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Cyprus, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tunisia, Türkiye and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

27. The 25 observers of the Committee are Algeria, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, the Niger, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam and Yemen, as well as the State of Palestine, the African Union, the League of Arab States and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

28. The Bureau of the Committee is elected each year from among the permanent representatives of Committee members. At its 426th meeting, on 3 February 2026, chaired by the Secretary-General, the Committee elected, in his personal capacity, Coly Seck (Senegal) as Chair. The following permanent representatives were elected as Vice-Chairs for the year: Ernesto Soberón Guzmán (Cuba), Umar Hadi (Indonesia), Ahmad Faisal Muhamad (Malaysia), Pendapala Andreas Naanda (Namibia) and Jaime Hermida Castillo (Nicaragua). In accordance with established practice, the State of Palestine participates in the work of both the Committee and the Bureau as an observer.

29. Members of the Bureau represented the Committee at all international conferences organized by the Committee and on delegation visits. On the margins of the conferences, they held meetings with senior officials of the respective host countries.

30. Committee members and observers have actively advocated for the realization of the rights of the Palestinian people, including in the Security Council. In 2025 and 2026, three Committee members, Guyana, Pakistan and Sierra Leone, and one observer, Algeria, served in the Security Council as elected members.

B. Participation in the work of the Committee

31. As in previous years, the Committee invited all Member States of the United Nations and observers to participate in its work and regularly engaged with civil society representatives, including from Israel.

Chapter V
Action taken by the Committee and the Division for Palestinian Rights in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 77/22 and 79/82

A. Introduction

32. The Committee implemented its programme of work to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, bring about an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and support the achievement of the two-State solution based on the pre-1967 borders. Its activities are aligned with the decisions of the main intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations, including the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Human Rights Council and the International Court of Justice, including its advisory opinions; international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law; United Nations resolutions; the women and peace and security agenda; the work of the Secretary-General and the programmes, funds and specialized agencies of the United Nations system; and the Sustainable Development Goals.

33. The Committee supports the universally recognized rights of an occupied people and the right to self-determination, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and other instruments of international law, including relevant United Nations resolutions. It has continually engaged the diplomatic community through formal and informal intergovernmental processes to call for protection for the Palestinian people and respect for their inalienable rights and to promote the recognition of the State of Palestine. It has raised public awareness on various aspects of the conflict, including the impact on women and children, through conferences, in-person, hybrid and virtual events and the media, including social media. The Committee has promoted partnerships with Governments, the United Nations system, including UNRWA, intergovernmental organizations, regional bodies and civil society organizations. It has implemented capacity-building projects for the State of Palestine and convened a commemoration of the Nakbah in May.

B. Mobilization of the diplomatic community

34. During the reporting period, the Bureau closely monitored the rapidly deteriorating situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and engaged with a range of interlocutors.

35. On 9 September, the Bureau held a meeting to discuss the outcomes of the High-level International Conference for the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, including the New York Declaration, as well as the situation in Gaza and the mobilization of international action.

36. On 7 October, the Bureau met to discuss preparations for upcoming events, delegation visits, and advocacy with Member States for the recognition of the State of Palestine.

37. On the margins of the second consultations in 2025 between the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and civil society organizations (see para. 52), a Committee delegation visited Brasilia on 10 November for discussions with interlocutors from the Government and the parliament of Brazil. On 11 and 13 November, the delegation held discussions in Santiago with counterparts from the Government and parliament of Chile and met with students,

international affairs experts and representatives of the Palestinian community in Chile.

38. On 17 November, the Bureau held a meeting with the President of the General Assembly to discuss opportunities for enhanced collaboration to advance the role of the United Nations in resolving the question of Palestine, including through the participation of the President of the General Assembly in advocacy activities.

39. On 8 December, the Bureau held its annual retreat in New York to reflect on the implementation of its 2025 programme of work and discuss activities scheduled for 2026 with a focus on advocacy for Gaza, settler violence in the occupied West Bank and the recognition of the State of Palestine.

40. On 22 January 2026, the Bureau held a meeting with a representative of the Norwegian Refugee Council to discuss avenues for the advancement of the adjudication of Palestinian rights within the international legal system and the Bureau's advocacy for Palestinian rights at the General Assembly and Security Council. The Bureau held additional meetings on 11 March, 13 April and 4 June.

41. The Secretary-General presided over the election of the Chair of the Committee at its meeting on 3 February. The elected Chair subsequently presided over the Committee's adoption of its programme of work for 2026 and received briefings by UNRWA and the Norwegian Refugee Council. Committee members stressed the unconditional obligation of Israel to facilitate the immediate, safe and unimpeded delivery of humanitarian assistance into the Occupied Palestinian Territory and condemned Israeli measures against UNRWA.

42. From 11 to 14 February, a Committee delegation visited Havana for discussions on regional and international support for the rights of the Palestinian people. The delegation held meetings with the President of Cuba and other counterparts of the Government and parliament of Cuba and further engaged with Palestinian students in Cuba and civil society representatives.

43. On the margins of the first consultations in 2026 between the Committee and civil society organizations (see para. 56), a Committee delegation visited Paris on 4 May, Brussels on 5 and 7 May and Madrid on 8 May. Bilateral engagements with counterparts from the Governments of France, Belgium and Spain, the French and Spanish parliaments, the European Commission, the European Parliament and European Union member States were focused on how to maintain political momentum from the 2025 High-level Conference on the Two-State Solution and the New York Declaration.

44. On 8 and 9 June, a Committee delegation visited Asmara to discuss the question of Palestine.

45. On 24 June, the Committee held a meeting to discuss its activities during the first half of 2026 and the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. It also endorsed the request of Chile to become an observer of the Committee and received a briefing from UNRWA on the situation faced by the Agency.

46. On 19 July, on the margins of the 2026 Conference on the Question of Jerusalem (see para. 58), held in Cairo, a Committee delegation held bilateral meetings, including with senior officials from the Government of Egypt and the League of Arab States.

47. During the reporting period, the Bureau issued six press releases, on the International Court of Justice's advisory opinion of 22 October 2025 (see para. 18); Israeli measures undermining Palestinian land rights and threatening forcible displacement; the order to proceed with the eviction of the Khan al-Ahmar

community; engagement with civil society in Chile and across Latin America (see para. 52); bilateral engagements with Chilean counterparts; and the Conference on the Question of Jerusalem (see para. 58).[33]

48. The Committee delivered statements at the Security Council quarterly open debates on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, held in October 2025 and January, April and July 2026, highlighting the catastrophic humanitarian situation in Gaza, including mass civilian casualties, widespread displacement, acute food insecurity, the destruction of civilian infrastructure and severe restrictions on humanitarian access. It also condemned the escalating and extreme violence by Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, the expansion of settlements, annexation measures and the forced displacement of Palestinians.

C. Raising awareness of the question of Palestine

49. The Committee continued to raise awareness about the political, human rights and humanitarian situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, the conflict in Gaza, including the situation of Palestinian women, children and young people. It organized briefings by experts during Committee meetings, side events and conferences and disseminated publications and information through social media platforms.[34]

50. On 10 September, the Committee convened a meeting with civil society representatives at United Nations Headquarters in New York. Participants discussed the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and measures, including sanctions, that Member States could take to hold Israel and perpetrators of grave violations of international law accountable, stressing the responsibility of the United Nations to end the occupation.

51. On 30 October, the Committee convened a briefing on the theme “Safeguarding human rights, ensuring accountability and ending the unlawful occupation of Palestine[35]”, featuring a member of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel and the United Nations Special Rapporteurs on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967; on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences; and on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism. The United Nations experts reiterated their findings on war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide and underscored the responsibility of Member State to prevent and punish them and to address grave violations of international law and international humanitarian law. They urged Governments to reassess their political, economic, military and diplomatic engagements with Israel in their current forms and called for the use of targeted embargoes.

52. On 12 November, the Committee held the second 2025 consultations with civil society organizations, in Santiago, entitled “Engagement with Latin American civil society and Palestinian diaspora: a call for action to ensure recovery and healing in Gaza and end Israel’s illegal occupation”. Civil society representatives from Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, the State of Palestine and Peru and representatives of Member States reaffirmed their solidarity with the Palestinian

[33] See https://www.un.org/unispal/committee/chair-statements/.
[34] See https://www.un.org/unispal/document-category/ceirpp-newsletter/.
[35] See https://www.un.org/unispal/committee-briefing-with-un-special-rapporteurs-and-the-commission-of-inquiry-2025/.

people. They called on the international community to support the ceasefire in and the recovery of Gaza and to bring an end to the illegal Israeli occupation. Participants stressed the need to advance a two-State solution as the only viable path to lasting peace and security in the Middle East.

53. The Committee commemorated the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on 25 November at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The statement of President of the General Assembly and the message of the Secretary-General, delivered by his Chef de Cabinet, reaffirmed the need for a just and lasting solution to the question of Palestine and the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. The Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations read a message from the President of the State of Palestine. The event also featured statements by representatives of the African Union, the League of Arab States, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and OIC; a pre-recorded video from Gaza of a Palestinian journalist; and a keynote speech by a Palestinian writer. Forty-five Member States and organizations sent messages of solidarity, underscoring the long-standing position of the General Assembly on the question of Palestine, the urgency of finding a just and lasting solution and of realizing the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.[36] Similar commemorations were held at United Nations offices in Geneva, Nairobi and Vienna.

54. On 4 December, as part of the Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People observance at United Nations Headquarters, the Committee also organized the screening of the film *The Voice of Hind Rajab*, followed by a panel discussion with the director of the film.

55. On 18 March, the Committee organized its annual meeting on the margins of the session of the Commission on the Status of Women, on the theme “Discriminatory laws and policies against Palestinian women and girls under Israeli occupation: justice demands accountability”. An all-woman panel featuring the Minister for Women’s Affairs of the State of Palestine, two Palestinian human rights lawyers from Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and two NGO representatives, including from Gaza, discussed how Israeli occupation policies affect Palestinian women’s rights, particularly their access to justice and essential services. The Palestinian speakers participated virtually, due in part to visa restrictions imposed on Palestinian passport holders by the Government of the United States, and to the volatility of airspace security in the Middle East.

56. On 6 May, the Committee held the first 2026 consultations with civil society organizations in Brussels to strengthen dialogue with groups working on the question of Palestine and to identify ways to advance the agenda of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. The meeting was focused on the role of Europe in promoting peace, accountability and justice. Discussions highlighted practical measures available to European actors, such as halting arms transfers, reviewing trade relations, supporting international legal processes and taking coordinated action to ensure accountability. Speakers emphasized that civil society organizations are essential partners in keeping Palestine on the public agenda and demanding that Governments translate legal and political commitments into actions.

57. On 15 May, the Committee commemorated the seventy-eighth anniversary of the Nakbah at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The commemoration included video testimonies from Palestinians whose experiences underscored the lasting human impact of the Nakbah and its continuing consequences. Representatives of 31 Member States and organizations delivered statements, reaffirming their support for a two-State solution based on the pre-1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as the

[36] See https://www.un.org/unispal/2025-solidarity-day/.

capital of the State of Palestine, and calling for the full membership of the State of Palestine in the United Nations. As part of the commemorations, the Committee organized a screening of the film *All That's Left of You*, followed by an interactive discussion with the film's director, who also produced, wrote and starred in the film.

58. On 18 July, the Committee and OIC held the 2026 Conference on the Question of Jerusalem, on the theme "Jerusalem: the frontline of displacement and annexation and the key to just and lasting peace", in Cairo. The event brought together representatives of Member States, the United Nations, OIC and the League of Arab States, as well as religious leaders and experts. Participants reaffirmed the centrality of Jerusalem for Palestinian rights and a just and lasting peace and called for renewed international engagement to protect the rights, presence and sovereignty of Palestinians in occupied East Jerusalem and to ensure respect for the historic and legal status quo at the holy sites.

59. The Committee broadened its global reach, advocacy and awareness-raising efforts through a growing digital presence across multiple and multilingual media platforms. Misinformation and disinformation have been countered by a continuous supply of timely, authoritative content on the question of Palestine. Key metrics, including website traffic, number of social media followers and mailing list subscriptions, continued to increase throughout the reporting period. As at 1 July 2026, 4.1 million page views had been recorded for the Committee's website, the number of mailing list subscribers had risen to 19,025, the Committee's X, Instagram, TikTok, and Facebook accounts reached more than 57,000 followers combined, and its YouTube channel had more than 39,200 subscribers, registering 1.6 million cumulative views.

60. In its thirty-second year, the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine remains an indispensable research tool, averaging some 340,000 page views each month. The collection has surpassed 47,000 records, ranging from current United Nations documents to rare archival material, making it the largest and most comprehensive online repository on the subject. To increase accessibility, documents are increasingly being disseminated in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish, in addition to English.

61. In collaboration with the Office of Information and Communications Technology, the Division for Palestinian Rights continued enhancing the website with the aim of making it more accessible, including to persons with disabilities. Efforts have also been made to position the platform as a dynamic knowledge hub, with dedicated thematic pages and user-friendly entry points designed to help visitors navigate the collection more easily and engage with its materials more effectively.

62. The Committee continued to produce and disseminate a range of publications through the Division for Palestinian Rights. These included a bi-weekly publication on NGO activities related to the question of Palestine, monthly bulletins compiling official documents of the United Nations system, quarterly newsletters on the Committee's activities and annual compilations of United Nations reports on the question of Palestine and of relevant United Nations resolutions. These publications were distributed to an expanding network of subscribers. All materials were made available on the Committee's official website.

D. Cooperation with intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and United Nations system entities

63. The Committee continued to cooperate with intergovernmental organizations. On 18 July, in Cairo, it jointly organized with OIC the 2026 Conference on the Question of Jerusalem (see para. 58).

64. During its activities, the Committee, through the Division for Palestinian Rights, continued its long-standing cooperation with the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Programme, United Nations country teams, UNRWA, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, the Department of Global Communications (including the United Nations information centres), the Human Rights Council, OHCHR, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).

65. The Committee continued to collaborate with NGOs in promoting Palestinian rights, inviting civil society representatives, including from the State of Palestine and Israel, to all public events and to the two annual consultations with civil society organizations. During the consultations, participants highlighted the need for accountability by the occupying Power and called for action by third States, including sanctions and a halt to arms transfers and trade agreements with Israel. As is customary, a civil society representative was invited to speak at the Committee's commemoration of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (see para. 55).

E. Capacity development

66. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 79/82, the Committee, through the Division for Palestinian Rights, continued to offer training opportunities for officials from the State of Palestine, through both in-person and online modalities.

67. In collaboration with UNITAR, the Committee supported the participation of two officials from the State of Palestine in a training course entitled "The art of speechwriting", held from 13 October to 2 November. The course was aimed at strengthening the individual capacity of diplomats serving in roles requiring refined skills in speechwriting and public speaking.

68. From 27 October to 5 December, the Committee conducted its annual six-week capacity-development programme for two Palestinian career diplomats (both women), focusing on multilateral diplomacy, peace and security, and global developments shaping the agenda of the United Nations. The programme also offered insights into the Organization's formal and informal processes, including the eightieth session of the General Assembly.

Chapter VI
Action taken by the Department of Global Communications in accordance with General Assembly resolution 77/24

69. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 77/24 of 30 November 2022, the Department of Global Communications continued to implement its special information programme on the question of Palestine.

70. From 3 to 27 November, the Department organized its 2025 Shireen Abu Akleh Training Programme for four Palestinian journalists, which included online and in-person training in Doha, in partnership with Al Jazeera Media Institute.

71. On 1 December, the Department held the 2025 International Media Seminar on Peace in the Middle East at United Nations Headquarters in New York, on the theme "Breaking barriers: navigating the dangers and complexities of reporting from Gaza and the West Bank". Journalists, diplomats and scholars underscored the urgent need for protection of journalists and press freedom.

72. The Web Services Section provided multilingual support to the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine website and updated the website for the International Day of Solidarity.[37] United Nations social media accounts were used to promote the Committee's work to their 70 million followers in the six official languages of the United Nations, as well as in Hindi, Kiswahili and Portuguese.

73. United Nations News produced multimedia coverage in 10 languages on major daily developments regarding Palestinian rights and related United Nations activities, as well as numerous human-interest features, many of which were picked up by international media. An article on girls' mental health[38] was featured by Al Jazeera and generated strong engagement on United Nations News social media platforms. On 13 February, World Radio Day, United Nations News Arabic hosted a discussion with three Palestinian radio journalists, including two alumni of the Shireen Abu Akleh programme, highlighting the challenges of reporting in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.[39]

74. United Nations Web TV provided live and on-demand coverage of 14 relevant meetings. United Nations Video produced more than 100 short videos, which were published on United Nations social media platforms. United Nations Photo documented, processed and categorized about 800 related images, posting 250 on its website.[40] Approximately 600 UNifeed packages related to Gaza were aired more than 40,000 times by some 1,600 broadcasters in 115 countries.

75. The Meetings Coverage Section issued 348 press releases in English and French and live-blogged 62 related meetings. The Sustainable Development Goals media zone hosted three live panel discussions advocating for the protection of journalists documenting the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and for actions needed to combat famine in Gaza.

76. The Visitors' Services Section continued raising awareness through the permanent exhibit "The United Nations and the question of Palestine", which is featured along the route of the guided tour and was viewed by over 181,751 visitors during the reporting period. The Group Programmes and Public Inquiries Unit, in

[37] See https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-of-solidarity-with-the-palestinian-people.
[38] See https://news.un.org/en/story/2026/03/1167166.
[39] See https://youtu.be/Hchw0N_P2Ks.
[40] See https://dam.media.un.org/.

collaboration with the Division for Palestinian Rights, hosted a briefing for graduate students on 27 April.

77. The Dag Hammarskjöld Library expanded its collection on the question of Palestine in the United Nations Digital Library, which now comprises 47,069 records, including official documents, speeches, voting data, maps, press releases and other resources. During the reporting period, records from this collection were downloaded 2,390,087 times. The Library also expanded access to non-United Nations scholarly and reference materials on the rights of the Palestinian people through its catalogue discovery service, which encompasses 65 online books, 1,480 magazine articles and 1,536 journal articles.

78. United Nations information centres in Accra, Lima, Lusaka, Manama, Mexico City, Moscow, Nairobi, Prague, Pretoria and Rabat organized commemorative activities, including exhibitions, to raise awareness on the topic. The United Nations Regional Information Centre for Western Europe in Brussels supported the Committee's visit to Belgium in May 2026. The United Nations Information Service in Geneva sustained visibility through events, press briefings and multimedia content. United Nations information centres in Cairo, New Delhi, Port of Spain and Sana'a disseminated the Secretary-General's messages through regional and national networks. The United Nations Information Centre in Dakar covered the election of the Chair of the Committee in an article, which was picked up by 11 French-language media outlets.

Chapter VII
Conclusions and recommendations of the Committee

79. In developing its recommendations set out below, the Committee has taken into account the deliberations at Committee and Bureau meetings, briefings received, outreach, international conferences and events involving Member States, civil society organizations and regional organizations and recent United Nations resolutions.

A. Action by the Committee in response to the conflict and humanitarian crisis

80. The Committee welcomes the New York Declaration and its endorsement by the General Assembly. The Declaration constitutes a road map for preserving the two-State solution against illegal measures aimed at altering the demography, character and status of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including east Jerusalem, such as the forcible transfer of civilians and annexation, and for ensuring the territorial continuity of the State of Palestine. The two-State solution remains the only viable path towards a just and lasting resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The latest wave of recognitions of the State of Palestine confirmed the strong international consensus based on international law. The Committee further urges the Security Council to recommend the admission of the State of Palestine as a full member of the United Nations, in line with this broad international consensus and the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to self-determination.

81. The Committee welcomes the ceasefire in Gaza and the release of the Israeli hostages and commends the diplomatic efforts of Egypt, Qatar, Türkiye and the United States. The Committee calls upon all parties to make the ceasefire permanent and irreversible and for the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan to End the Conflict in Gaza, consistent with international law and Security Council resolutions.

82. The Committee condemns the continuing Israeli military operations in Gaza in violation of the ceasefire and the use of lethal force, including near the “yellow line", which continue to cause severe harm to civilians. The expansion of areas under the control of Israeli forces in the Strip makes daily life more dangerous for civilians, confines over 2 million people to less than half of the Strip’s territory[41] and is tantamount to annexation.

83. The Committee reiterates that Israel has consistently failed to distinguish between civilians and combatants and civilian and military objects and has systematically breached its obligations as an occupying Power under the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War and international humanitarian law. The Committee calls for accountability for all grave breaches of international legal obligations and full adherence by all parties to their obligations under international humanitarian and human rights law, as well as General Assembly resolutions ES-10/21, ES-10/22, ES-10/24 and ES-10/25, Security Council resolutions 2712 (2023), 2720 (2023), 2728 (2024), 2735 (2024) and 2803 (2025), and Human Rights Council resolutions 61/4, 61/31, 61/32 and 61/33.

84. The Committee is alarmed by the continuing humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza and denounces the Israeli obstruction of humanitarian aid to Palestinian civilians, who, after enduring months of bombings, forced displacement, disease and hunger, continue to endure collective punishment, potentially involving acts of genocide.

[41] United Nations, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, “Humanitarian situation report”, 26 June 2026.

85. Gaza remains one of the deadliest contexts for aid workers globally. The Committee demands enhanced safety for aid and medical workers by requiring Israel to ensure the protection of humanitarian personnel, including UNRWA staff, and to facilitate safe, continuous and unhindered aid delivery in accordance with its obligations under international humanitarian law as an occupying Power.

B. Action by the Committee in response to human rights violations

86. The Committee condemns the recurring human rights violations committed by Israel against the Palestinian civilian population in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as amply documented by international organizations, including the United Nations and its human rights mechanisms and human rights organizations, including organizations in Israel.

87. The Committee calls upon Israel to immediately cease and reverse its punitive measures against the Palestinian Authority, disarm Israeli settlers and immediately stop settler violence and all settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and provide protection to Palestinian civilians, as called for in Security Council resolution 904 (1994) and General Assembly resolution ES-10/20 and in line with its obligations under international humanitarian law. The Committee encourages OHCHR to continue to update the database of business enterprises engaged in certain activities in relation to illegal Israeli settlement activity in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

88. The Committee calls upon the United Nations and the international community to take immediate measures to ensure accountability in response to the failure of Israel to abide by its responsibility to investigate and prosecute acts committed by its agents or third parties that involve grave breaches of international humanitarian law and gross violations of the human rights of Palestinians. It further demands action to address war crimes and crimes against humanity committed by Israel in Gaza, including the investigation of the weaponization of starvation as a method of warfare and other actions prohibited under international law.

89. The Committee urges Israel to adhere to its obligations under international law and to fully respect the status quo at the holy sites in Jerusalem, including the Aqsa Mosque compound, and to acknowledge the special role of Jordan as custodian of the compound. It condemns the attempts by Israel to change the historic and legal status of the holy sites and East Jerusalem, as well as to alter the demographic composition and character of East Jerusalem, in violation of international law and relevant United Nations resolutions.

90. The Committee is deeply worried by multiple reports of United Nations experts indicating that torture, including sexual violence, has become part of Israeli practices against Palestinians in custodial and non-custodial situations. It strongly condemns deaths, disappearances, torture, sexual violence and inhumane treatment of Palestinians in prisons, detention centres and in other situations in which Palestinians are deprived of personal freedoms. It further denounces the increase in grave violations against children perpetrated by Israeli armed and security forces and the deliberate infliction of harm by Israel on Palestinian children, which is documented in the reports on children and armed conflict (A/80/723-S/2026/357) and of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry (A/HRC/62/CRP.2). The Committee echoes the Secretary-General's call on Israel to abide by its obligations under international humanitarian law and human rights law, including to respect special protections afforded to children, and concurs with the Commission of Inquiry's recommendations, including the recommendations that Israel strictly adhere to the principles of necessity, distinction and precaution in the use of force and end

arbitrary and administrative detention of children and the use of torture and ill-treatment.

91. The Committee reiterates its support for the order indicating provisional measures issued by the International Court of Justice in response to the application by South Africa, in which the Court indicated that Israel should take all measures within its power to prevent the commission of all acts within the scope of article II of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. The Committee demands that Israel ensure that its forces do not commit further genocidal acts.

C. Action by the Committee in response to annexation and settlement activities

92. The Committee reiterates its call upon the General Assembly and the Security Council to urgently implement the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 19 July 2024, including through the adoption of the modalities required to bring to an end the unlawful Israeli occupation. In addition, Member States must refrain from recognizing the unlawful presence of Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and from actions that aid or assist Israel in sustaining that presence.

93. The Committee reiterates that the annexation of any part of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, is illegal and that Gaza is an integral part of the Occupied Palestinian Territory. It calls upon Israel to cease all actions aimed at changing the demographic composition, status and character of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to abide by its international legal obligations. Such illegal colonization measures violate the inalienable right to self-determination of the Palestinian people and undermine the prospect of achieving a two-State solution by systematically eroding a contiguous, independent, viable and sovereign Palestinian State, based on the pre-1967 borders, with East Jerusalem serving as its capital, in accordance with international law and the pertinent United Nations resolutions.

94. The Committee condemns the Israeli Government’s expansion of illegal settlements and outposts and its open reference to the occupied territory as “sovereign Israeli territory”, contrary to international law and countless United Nations resolutions These actions perpetuate the suffering and dispossession of Palestinian communities, who face an ongoing Nakbah, and entrench Israel’s illegal occupation and advance annexation. The Committee calls upon the Israeli Government to cease all such illegal activities, including the expropriation and seizing of Palestinian land, the demolition of property, including donor-funded structures, and calls for an end to all forced evictions and forcible displacement of Palestinians. It also calls upon Israeli officials to stop their provocations, rhetoric and incitement in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem.

95. The Committee condemns the escalating settler violence in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, which occurs in a context of impunity and institutional acquiescence and facilitation by Israel. It calls upon Israel to immediately stop the use of lethal force by Israeli forces and violence by settlers against Palestinian civilians, including children; to prevent settler violence; and to ensure accountability.

D. Action with the Secretary-General, the Security Council, the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court

96. The Committee welcomes the stance of the Secretary-General, which is based on international law and numerous United Nations resolutions, including his calls to pursue a just resolution to the question of Palestine and reach a ceasefire in Gaza.

97. The Committee commends the Secretary-General and the relevant humanitarian mechanisms for their response to the continued and escalating aggression and violence of Israel, including in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

98. The Committee urges the Security Council and the General Assembly to ensure the speedy implementation of the long-standing parameters for a just peace affirmed in relevant United Nations resolutions, including Council resolutions 2334 (2016) and 2803 (2025), and Assembly resolution 77/25.

99. The Committee requests the Secretary-General to continue to submit his reports to the Security Council on the implementation of resolutions 2334 (2016), 2728 (2024) and 2735 (2024) in written format. Pursuant to those resolutions, the Committee also calls upon the Council to examine practical ways and means to secure the full implementation of relevant resolutions, including the use of sanctions against the occupying Power and private entities violating Council resolutions, including with regard to the transfer of arms.

100. The Committee notes that any initiatives aimed at resolving the conflict in Gaza and ending the prolonged Israeli occupation with a view to achieving a just solution to the question of Palestine must, first and foremost, consider the legitimate rights and aspirations of the Palestinian people, engage the Palestinian leadership and be based on the two-State solution, in accordance with international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions.

101. The Committee commends the ongoing efforts of the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court in upholding international law in matters related to the question of Palestine, which are crucial for ensuring accountability, justice and the protection of Palestinian rights.

E. Advocacy and outreach with the international community and civil society

102. The Committee fully supports the ongoing efforts by Member States, as well as the Secretary-General, to promote a just and lasting resolution to the question of Palestine.

103. The Committee urges the international community to protect the Palestinian civilian population and support their fundamental humanitarian and health needs. It urges the international community to support all efforts to fully implement and consolidate the ceasefire in Gaza, advance the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan and support recovery and reconstruction, including by supporting the Horizon Fund.[42]

104. The Committee recognizes the crucial role of global civil society in advocating for Palestinian rights and for an end to the immense suffering in Gaza and to Israel's unlawful occupation and in urging Member States to heed the demands of the public and take decisive action in line with their international legal obligations. It calls upon

[42] Horizon Fund, "Building a bridge to recovery and reconstruction", April 2026.

Israel to ensure safe access for humanitarian workers and to reverse policies that restrict access for civil society organizations and hamper their vital work.

105. The Committee notes the meeting of Israeli and Palestinian civil society organizations that was held in Paris in June 2026, one year after the Paris call for the two-State solution. It welcomes civil society's efforts to keep up the momentum for a two-State solution and a permanent ceasefire and reconstruction in Gaza.

F. Action by Member States and regional organizations

106. The Committee reiterates its call upon Member States and regional organizations to act, collectively and individually, in line with international law to pressure Israel, the occupying Power, to fulfil its responsibilities to safeguard Palestinian civilians under international law, stop its assault on Gaza and violence in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and end its unlawful occupation as rapidly as possible. It further notes that any comprehensive resolution to the Palestinian question will require a regional approach, such as that set out in the Arab Peace Initiative.

107. The Committee considers unilateral recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and embassy relocations there as invalid, as they violate Security Council resolutions 476 (1980), 478 (1980) and 2334 (2016), and commends those who have reversed such recognition, recalling the affirmations in the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on this matter.

108. The Committee commends the Member States that have imposed sanctions against Israeli settlers involved in violence against Palestinians and have taken measures to halt arms transfers to Israel. It urges Member States and regional organizations to adopt a comprehensive ban on trade with illegal Israeli settlements and ensure effective enforcement of the labelling of settlement products and related trade measures.

109. The Committee calls upon Member States to support the fiscal stability of the Government of the State of Palestine, strengthen Palestinian institutions and improve the economic and social conditions in the State of Palestine, especially during this time of suffering and deprivation due to the actions of Israel.

G. Action by the Secretariat and other United Nations entities

110. The Committee welcomes the General Assembly's extension of the mandate of UNRWA and reaffirms its strong support for the Agency's indispensable role in providing services to millions of Palestine refugees. The Committee demands that Israel reverse its classification of UNRWA as a terrorist organization and comply with its obligations vis-à-vis the Agency, in compliance with the International Court of Justice advisory opinion of 22 October 2025. The Committee condemns the seizure and demolition by Israel of the compound of the UNRWA West Bank Headquarters and its decision to establish Israeli military facilities in its place. It demands that the compound be immediately returned to the United Nations. The Committee urges continued political support for the mandate of UNRWA and urges donors to increase funding, emphasizing the Agency's accountability and its critical role.

111. The Committee conveys its gratitude to the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs for its support for the implementation of the Committee's mandate. It stresses the crucial work conducted by the Division in providing secretariat support across all aspects of its General Assembly mandate and in facilitating synergy, collaboration and cooperation with

United Nations entities working on the question of Palestine. The Committee expresses its appreciation for the Division's support for and adaptation of its strategic communications and outreach tools with a view to aiding the Committee's advocacy and awareness-raising efforts on the question of Palestine.

112. The Committee encourages continuous collaboration with the Department of Global Communications on its special information programme on the question of Palestine, with a view to ensuring broader outreach.

113. The Committee also welcomes continuous improvements to targeted capacity-development projects for Palestinian officials in order to promote inclusivity, gender balance and South-South cooperation.

26-11827 (E) 040926