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**Statement by Pakistan on behalf of the OIC**  
**General Debate**  
**Agenda Item 7**

**29th Session of the Human Rights Council**

**Mr. President,**

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the OIC.

The OIC believes that Agenda Item 7 is ~~as~~ an integral part of the Programme of Work of the Human Rights Council (HRC) and must remain on its agenda until the end of occupation of State of Palestine and other Arab occupied territories. In this regard, the OIC rejects any deliberate attempt to undermine the IB package and the work of the Human Rights Council through non-participation under Item 7.

Tragically, 67 years after the *Nakba*, Israel continues with its systematic subjugation of millions of Palestinians, including women, children, disabled and elderly, by all illegal and destructive means. These include continued illegal occupation, an unrelenting colonization campaign in the West Bank, repeated military aggressions, siege and collective punishment in the Gaza Strip, apartheid policies and other actions amounting to international crimes. Moreover, more than ten years after the adoption of the ICJ's Advisory Opinion, Israel continues to build the illegal wall in the Occupied State of Palestine in complete defiance of and contempt for international law.

As victims of prolonged colonialist occupation, the Palestinian people are unable to exercise their fundamental and basic human rights including their inalienable right to self-determination in their sovereign and independent State of Palestine with East Jerusalem as its eternal capital.

Regrettably, the international community has failed to fulfill its obligations towards the Palestinian people. On the contrary, certain States attempt to justify Israel's illegal occupation and conduct including under the pretext of "self defence". They also aid and abet Israeli unlawful policies, for instance by contributing to the maintenance and growth of illegal Israeli settlements by continuing to trade with them. We moreover deplore the involvement of Israeli and multinational corporations in illegal settlements, resulting in the risk of corporate complicity in war crimes.

The OIC condemns the continuous provocations and incitement by Israeli government officials and extremists against the Palestinian people and their holy places particularly at Al-Haram Al-Sharif.

We deplore Israel's mass arbitrary detention policy, particularly of Palestinian children, and calls on Israel to immediately release all Palestinian prisoners including children, women and members of the Palestinian parliament and political leadership. We believe that no one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention and everyone has the right to liberty and security as enshrined in the relevant international agreements and conventions.

We are also concerned over continued occupation of the Syrian Golan that has resulted in the violations of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Syrian population. The OIC condemns the Israeli measures in the Occupied Syrian Golan and demands an end to the illegal occupation of the Syrian land.

I thank you.