

Your Excellency, Mr. Nasser Bourita, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the sisterly Kingdom of Morocco, Chairman of the current session of the League Council at the ministerial level,

Your Excellency the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States,

Your Excellencies and Highnesses,

Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to begin my speech by extending heartfelt greetings and deep respect to the brave sons and daughters of the Palestinian people, who are currently facing an intense and relentless onslaught from the brutal Israeli colonial occupation. Let us also remember and honour the souls of our righteous martyrs and wish a swift recovery to the thousands of wounded. On your behalf, I express our immense pride in the Palestinian people, both in the beloved Gaza Strip and across Palestine, who demonstrate unwavering resilience and dignity in the face of oppressive forces.

On behalf of President Mahmoud Abbas, I extend my gratitude for your kind response to the joint request from the State of Palestine and the Kingdom of Morocco to convene this meeting at the headquarters of the League of Arab States, the foremost Arab institution, situated in the Egyptian capital, Cairo. The purpose of this gathering is to examine and discuss the imminent dangers posed to our people's cause as a whole, as well as the catastrophic consequences resulting from the recent massive explosion in the conflict zone and the devastating Israeli war against our people in the Gaza Strip. Our aim is to explore avenues of united and urgent Arab action to halt the aggression immediately and address the basic needs of our people in the Gaza Strip.

Mr. Secretary-General,

Your Excellencies, Highnesses, and distinguished guests,

I would like to draw attention to the fact that for many years, President Mahmoud Abbas has addressed the United Nations General Assembly, repeatedly warning about the repercussions of the ongoing Israeli occupation of Palestinian land. He highlighted the daily violations and crimes committed against Palestinian civilians, their homes, lands, holy sites, properties, facilities, and institutions. These acts are carried out by the Israeli occupation forces and organised armed settler militias, with the open support and incitement of key figures within the Israeli government, such as Ben-Gvir and Smotrich.

The number of martyrs among our people has reached hundreds, accompanied by thousands of detainees and the demolition of homes by the occupation authorities. This has resulted in the displacement of thousands of Palestinians in Jerusalem and Bedouin communities. Numerous reports from local, Israeli, and international institutions and organisations have documented these horrific processes of gradual annexation in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, which undermine any opportunity for the realisation of an independent Palestinian state on its rightful land. Instead, it is being replaced by an abhorrent Israeli apartheid regime, in clear violation of the principle of a two-state solution.

As evidence of this trend, the Israeli Ministry of National Security, headed by Ben-Gvir, has procured thousands of weapons and requested the purchase of ten thousand more to distribute among settlers in the West Bank. These weapons are used in ongoing attacks against defenseless Palestinian civilians throughout the occupied West Bank.

We have consistently warned about the consequences of closing the political horizon for resolving the conflict. The Israeli government has rejected and undermined all Arab and international efforts to revive the peace process and negotiations. Moreover, it has violated all the agreements aimed at achieving a ceasefire. It is worth noting the racist colonial plan presented by Smotrich, which offers Palestinian citizens three options: surrender and coexist with the occupation, be killed, or be displaced. We have repeatedly highlighted the double standards and international silence regarding Israel's illegal unilateral measures, particularly the settlements and the desecration of Christian and Islamic sanctities. This includes the ongoing incursions and temporal division imposed on the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, as well as the situation at the Ibrahimi Mosque.

Today, we rightfully ask: What are the consequences of all the aforementioned injustices, from the unjust and inhumane blockade on the Gaza Strip and attempts to separate it from the West Bank, to the ongoing violations and crimes committed by the occupation and settlers, to the failure of the international community to uphold international law in the context of occupied Palestine?

Mr. Secretary-General,

Your Excellencies, Ministers, and distinguished guests,

The situation in the Gaza Strip today is beyond description. We are witnessing mass massacres that resemble genocide, with the use of all types of weapons, including internationally prohibited ones. A humanitarian catastrophe is unfolding before our eyes, characterised by targeted killings, systematic destruction, forced displacement, and the deprivation of basic necessities such as water, electricity, fuel, food, and medicine. The aim is to completely annihilate the Gaza Strip, leaving it devoid of its residents. Some choose to applaud or turn a blind eye to these atrocities, ignoring the reality of what is happening or even justifying these crimes.

Our world is plagued by injustice, cruelty, meanness, and hatred. Racism and hatred are destroying love, cooperation, and coexistence. Those who claim to teach us lessons about democracy and the rule of law are the very ones who violate them. The number of martyrs has now exceeded a thousand, with half of them being children and women. More than a thousand buildings have been destroyed, and over 300,000 people displaced. Infrastructure, schools, mosques, government buildings, banks, and factories have all been reduced to rubble. The path being pursued leads to total destruction.

Our people find solace in the support of free peoples around the world. The popular movements rising up against injustice and the policies of their governments in many capitals give us hope. However, what is most crucial now is to put an end to this genocide and

catastrophe. The aggression, killing, and destruction must stop. Entire families have been uprooted from their homes, and schools, houses, buildings, towers, institutions, mosques, hospitals, and entire areas have been levelled. Defenseless civilian citizens have been subjected to displacement under bombardment. Everything and everyone in Gaza has been targeted—children, women, the elderly, and the sick. These crimes amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity, broadcasted on satellite television screens for the world to witness. All this is happening under the cover of international parties that have given Netanyahu the green light to invade the Strip and commit atrocities against its people and landmarks. Israeli officials are now shamelessly bragging about the crimes they are committing, crimes that condemn humanity, under the pretext of "self-defence." Under this pretext, some international parties have authorised Netanyahu and his government to commit genocide against our people in the Gaza Strip, cutting off electricity, water, medical supplies, food, and fuel, and targeting medical personnel, journalists, and media professionals. There is nothing left in Gaza that has not been targeted. Is this self-defence, or premeditated aggression? Are Gazans being directed by Israeli parties to leave Gaza in the name of self-defence?

Furthermore, some European countries are taking a dangerous path by halting and freezing development aid to Palestine. This is a direct punishment against the Palestinian people, who are the primary beneficiaries of these development projects. Such decisions are made with the knowledge and approval of the development agencies and governments of these countries. It reflects political bankruptcy, excessive racism, a loss of political compass, and a surrender to Israeli and European Zionist pressure. If they think that such actions will force our people to accept what they have rejected for many years, at the cost of their children's blood, then they are delusional.

These countries deliberately isolate the events from their broader context, ignoring the ongoing catastrophe endured by the Palestinian people for 75 years. They ignore Israel's illegal and continuous use of brute force against Palestinians, the acts of aggression, killings, and displacements. They deliberately deny the humanity, rights, and pain of this great people. This reflects racism, political deviation, and a disregard for humanitarian principles that have brought us to this point. The comprehensive solidarity offered by many Western countries to Israel deliberately ignores the Palestinian people, their victims, the context of their just cause, international laws, and United Nations resolutions that Israel systematically violates. Such hypocrisy and political double standards are unacceptable and unjustified, and they contribute to the continuation and escalation of these crimes.

In light of this dire situation, we call upon the international community to take immediate action to stop the aggression, provide humanitarian aid to the affected populations, and hold the perpetrators accountable for their crimes. We urge all nations to stand up against injustice and work towards a just and lasting solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, based on the principles of international law and the rights of the Palestinian people. The time for action is now, as further delay only deepens the suffering and prolongs the injustice.

Mr. Secretary-General,

Colleagues,

We strongly demand an immediate cessation of aggression and war, and we cannot tolerate the silence of the international community in the face of the crimes and massacres being perpetrated against our people. It is imperative that the entry of essential necessities for our people be secured without delay.

The undeniable truth is that Israel consistently opts for war, occupation, colonisation, annexation, and displacement. It has never chosen the path of peace, respect for the law, or recognised the rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and a free existence in their homeland. Throughout the past 75 years, Israel has relied solely on the use of force, threats, persecution, collective punishment, retaliation, and discriminatory policies to further its land seizure and colonisation of Palestinian territories, while depriving the Palestinian people of their basic rights. Simultaneously, it refuses to commit to the internationally endorsed two-state solution and actively works to undermine its viability. The ultimate goal of these illegal policies and practices is openly acknowledged by Israel, which seeks to displace and replace the Palestinian people in violation of their inherent right to self-determination and the fundamental principles of international law.

The ongoing catastrophe before us places upon us grave responsibilities and compels us to address the fundamental injustice at its core — the Israeli colonial occupation. Superficial statements and positions that distort the lives and rights of Palestinians, dehumanise them, or disregard their plight should not be taken seriously. We must confront the root causes of this longstanding injustice instead of merely addressing its symptoms.

We reiterate our commitment to the agreed-upon understandings, the restoration of a political horizon for conflict resolution, and the revival of a genuine peace process through serious negotiations between the two parties, guided by international peace frameworks and the Arab Peace Initiative. This path leads to ending the occupation and is the correct approach to achieving security, stability, and prosperity in the region.

Your Excellency, Mr. Secretary-General,

Without such a course of action, violence, extremism, racism, occupation, settlements, and further crimes and destruction will continue to dominate the situation. The consequence will be an ongoing erosion and systematic undermining of the prospects for peace and its advocates, in favour of those who perpetuate this madness and those who support it. This tragic outcome directly stems from the absence of international will to uphold international law and implement the decisions of international legitimacy.

In conclusion, we implore the international community to take decisive action, uphold justice, and work towards a lasting resolution in line with the principles of international law. The time has come to end the suffering and secure a just and peaceful future for all parties involved.

Thank you.