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Statement

H.E. Mr. Desra Percaya
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia

At the:

General Assembly Plenary Meeting
on the Agenda Item 36:
"Question of Palestine"

New York, 25 November 2014
Mr. President,

Let me begin by thanking the Secretary General for his report on the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine.

Indonesia associates itself with the statement delivered by the Distinguished Representative of Saudi Arabia, on behalf of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation.

Mr. President,

The international community has always been persistent in its overwhelming support for the peaceful settlement of conflict between Palestine and Israel.

Indeed, there is no military solution to that conflict.

All parties must make substantial efforts towards peace. The international community, including the United Nations, must be ready to exert the utmost assistance to ensure a fair, credible, and results-oriented peace process to take place.

Mr. President,

Indonesia has followed with deep concern, the events that recently unfolded in Jerusalem, in particular Israel’s continued incursions against the Al Aqsa Mosque. These actions only ignite hostility, and worsen the already volatile situation.

We would also underscore that the West Bank, including the Al Aqsa Mosque, is an integral part of Palestinian territory that is occupied since 1967.

Accordingly, the construction of settlement in the area is not only contrary to international law, it is an obstruction to the viability of a State of Palestine, which we expect will emerge from the peace process.

The year 2014 has also witnessed Israel’s inhumane aggression on Gaza. The aggression has only deepened the humanitarian crises in Gaza, which is already dire due to the Israeli blockade.

The blockade, which has entered its eight consecutive year, is nothing more than a collective punishment imposed on the whole population of Gaza, and a clear violation of international law.
On a different but related matter, Indonesia would also like to underline that the year 2014 coincides with the tenth anniversary of the ICJ Advisory Opinion on the Separation Wall. The illegality of the wall is clearly established under the Advisory Opinion. Yet Israel continues its construction.

We share the view of the ICJ that the Wall tantamounts to a de facto annexation; and is not a temporary security measure, as claimed by Israel.

Mr. President,

The international community must be resolute. We cannot afford to allow the continued violation of international law by Israel.

Indonesia is, therefore, of the view that the establishment of the Commission of Inquiry of the Human Rights Council is a welcoming effort to put a stop to the culture of impunity for Israel’s violations.

In this regard, I would like to reiterate our deep concern over Israel’s recent refusal to grant access to the members of the Commission, to enter Gaza.

The actual presence of the Commission in Gaza, to see directly the conditions in the aftermath of the Israeli aggression, will contribute to an objective, transparent, and professional investigation.

Mr. President,

Last year, this august Assembly adopted a resolution, which declared the year 2014 as the “International Year of Solidarity with the Palestinian People”. The year 2014 is nearing its end, while the promise of peace for Palestinian people is still far on the horizon.

With great sadness, we take note of the observation of the Secretary General, that the negotiated solution that will bring the realization of the legitimate rights of Palestinian people remains elusive.

Instead of the two-State solution, the unfolding events have dangerously led to a one-state reality.

It remains our fervent hope that the year 2014 can still witness a substantial breakthrough in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. A breakthrough that will shed light for the Palestinian people, in their quest for independence.
Indonesia, therefore, calls on Israel to heed the noble aspiration of the international community, that is the establishment of an independent State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

Without the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, the world will continue to see violence between Palestine and Israel.

Thus, I fully subscribe to the words of the Secretary General during the Gaza Reconstruction Conference, last month: “the cycle of building and destroying must end”.

And to that end, the Israeli occupation must stop immediately.

I thank you.

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