

To,

[Insert: Relevant designation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Any other office]

SUBJ: At UNGA77, Support Mechanisms to End Israeli Apartheid

In keeping with our country's commitment to international law and our national objective to defend human rights, justice and sustainable peace, **I/we** urge you and your offices to raise the urgent issue of Israel's apartheid system in the upcoming UN General Assembly Session 77.

For decades, Palestinians have been demanding the implementation of UN resolutions that guarantee their inalienable rights and pave the way towards true justice and comprehensive peace in Palestine and the region. The failure by the international community to uphold relevant UN resolutions based on international law is a crucial factor in the entrenchment of Israel's decades-old regime of apartheid and military occupation, and all the suffering, denial of human rights, and even death it inflicts on Palestinians.

States in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Europe, have condemned or otherwise addressed Israel's apartheid in the UN Human Rights Council and called for effective measures to dismantle it. This is mirrored by a consensus, supported by hard facts and legal analysis, from Palestinian, Israeli, and international human rights organizations, including Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch. It is high time that this is now taken up by the UNGA 77.

In her most recent statement condemning Israel's apartheid South Africa's Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Naledi Pandor, said: "South Africa's view is that strong action to support Palestine must be taken by the UN and a committee on apartheid should be established under the auspices of the UN General Assembly to verify [it] meets the criteria." The minister called on all other UN member states and the international community to support such efforts.¹

Dismantling this system of apartheid against Palestinians is central to the UN's mandate to ensure international cooperation for peace, development and respect of human rights worldwide. And it requires various modes of action, none of which can be further delayed. Therefore, **I/we** urge you and your offices to ensure that the representatives of our country in this year's UNGA will:

¹ South Africa Department of International Relations and Cooperations, Minister Naledi Pandor: Conference of Palestinian Heads of Mission in Africa, 26 July 2022, <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-naledi-pandor-conference-palestinian-heads-mission-africa-26-jul-2022-0000>

- Speak out clearly in the opening high level debate against all forms of 21st century apartheid, and in particular against Israel's apartheid over the Palestinian people.
- In UNGA committees, particularly the Third Committee on human rights, sponsor and/or contribute to a debate about Israel's apartheid and the activation of UNGA mechanisms to investigate and dismantle it.
- Propose or support a resolution reactivating UNGA mechanisms against apartheid, including the revival of the Special Committee Against Apartheid
- Support the call for lawful targeted sanctions to end Israel's apartheid system.

Similar steps helped end apartheid in South Africa in the past. To defend the sanctity and credibility of international law, the same needs to happen now.

[Sender's signature]