



GENEVA CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
ADVANCEMENT AND GLOBAL DIALOGUE

## UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

### High-Level Segment

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### ADDRESSES DELIVERED BY DIGNITARIES FROM THE MENA REGION<sup>1</sup>

- Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, National Community Abroad and African Affairs of **Algeria**
- Minister for Foreign Affairs of **Bahrain**
- Secretary-General of the **Gulf Cooperation Council**
- Minister for Foreign Affairs, Emigration and Egyptian Expatriates of **Egypt**
- Minister for Foreign Affairs of **Iran**
- Deputy Foreign Minister of **Iraq**
- Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kuwait
- Minister of Justice of **Morocco**
- Executive Director of the Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission of the **Organization of Islamic Cooperation**
- Minister of State for International Cooperation of **Qatar**
- President of the Human Rights Commission of **Saudi Arabia**
- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the **State of Palestine**
- Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of **Syria**
- Minister of Foreign Affairs, Immigration, and Tunisians Abroad of **Tunisia**
- Minister of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the **United Arab Emirates**

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<sup>1</sup> In alphabetical order.



**H.E. Mr. Lounes MAGRAMANE, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
National Community Abroad and African Affairs of ALGERIA**

The current context full of complexities and difficulties should push us to work towards reforming the multilateral system away from politicisation or selection or double standards. This is a necessity and a firm conviction for Algeria to try to propagate and express in various international fora, particularly since its membership in the Security Council and the HRC.

Algeria expresses its deep concern over the deterioration of human rights in the **occupied Palestinian territories**. Israel's genocidal war since October 2023 resulted in a humanitarian crisis whose repercussions are still continuing despite the international mediation efforts towards a ceasefire. Algeria reiterates its call to continue international support to further solidify the ceasefire, while expressing at the same time its firm opposition to what is being circulated as 'plans for evicting Gaza from its population' as part of a plan to bury the Palestinian cause.

Furthermore, Algeria denounces the violations happening in the occupied territories by Morocco and calls on all human rights mechanisms to send inspectors from the Office of the High Commissioner to **Western Sahara**. Reiterating the right of the Sahraoui people to self-determination and to end the occupation of its territories, Algeria calls upon the United Nations to double efforts through the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara, Mr. Staffan de Mistura, to allow both parties to the conflict to get back to negotiations to come away with a political solution acceptable for both parties.

At the national level, Algeria considers the protection and promotion of human rights a top priority. Since its independence, Algeria worked towards solidifying the institutions that protect and promote fundamental freedoms for all citizens, which is an area that has seen an increased development since the election of Mr. Tebboune as President, with the launch of a number of initiatives, programmes, and reforms across levels and sectors.

Committed to human rights and to working collaboratively with the Office of the High Commissioner, Algeria has **redoubled its funding allocation to OHCHR** in 2025 to enable it to fulfil its mandate. With a view to furthering its solidarity and cooperation with human rights mechanisms, in 2023 Algeria received Mr. Clément Nyaletsossi Voule, **Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Assembly**, and Ms. Mary Lawlor, Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders.

Looking forward to Ms. Lawlor's report, Algeria is proud to be the only country to have received her visit. I seize the opportunity to reiterate Algeria's desire to receive **Mr. Volker Türk for a country visit**. In this regard, Algeria reiterates its continued support and collaboration with OHCHR, the UNHRC and the other human rights mechanisms to further improve its human rights situation nationally without leaving aside any fundamental freedom or right.

**H.E. Mr. Abdullatif bin Rashid AL-ZAYANI, Minister for Foreign Affairs of BAHRAIN**

Under the guidance and leadership of His Majesty Hamad bin Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa, Bahrain has taken many measures and important initiatives in order to protect and promote human rights. Bahrain's achievements in this field are a testimony to its commitment to protecting these rights, namely through royal initiatives, royal pardon and amnesty, as for instance more than **3670 prisoners released last year**, the successful implementation of alternative measures and the 'open prisons initiative'.



The Kingdom of Bahrain is also committed to protecting **women and children's rights** among a series of initiatives. Bahrain deeply believes that actions speak much louder than words. It went under seven reviews of the implementation of international conventions such as the CRC and the CRPD. It successfully implemented 128 recommendations out of 72 of the UPR in the two previous years as well as its National Human Rights Plan. Preparations are underway for the second part of this journey. All of these initiatives aim at providing the best possible environment for a thriving culture of human rights to all those who live in Bahrain.

Bahrain is steadfast in its commitment to human rights, the culture of tolerance, peaceful coexistence and brotherly coexistence. The Kingdom's dedication to peace is wider than political statement. It is grounded on comprehensive approach that believes that true development cannot prosper unless there is a stable, peaceful and sustainable environment where human rights are respected and solutions to disagreements are found through constructive dialogue and compromise rather than through destructive wars. The world is facing today global and unprecedented challenges that are compelling Bahrain to reiterate its commitment to justice, equality, peace for all the peoples of the world.

During the 33rd Arab Summit in Bahrain under the presidency of His Majesty the King, Arab leaders reiterated the importance of **human rights, development, peace and solidarity**. These are the main components for a prosperous future for our peoples. The declaration of the Bahrain Summit is a clear vision to promote regional stability and security. It is a call for peace, for equality and also for a greater Arab solidarity on human rights. Deeply convinced that human rights, development and peace are closely linked, the Summit called for an international conference to find a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict that has been lingering for more than 70 years.

Bahrain has a series of proposals in the field of human rights, providing health care and education to the victims of regional conflicts. Such initiatives reflect Bahrain's **humanitarian and human commitment to defend human rights**, namely those who are victims of these conflicts. There is also a need to work on supporting the vital sectors that promote resilience and sustainability. Based on its commitment to a genuine implementation of such initiatives, Bahrain has established a National Committee in charge of coordinating and following-up the implementation of the resolutions of the Arab Summit. Such a mechanism reflects the will to fulfil its humanitarian commitments, and to promote human rights and development in the region.

Bahrain will pursue its efforts towards a vision of regional integration, political stability, economic development and social development for all. It is important to realise that discussions in the field of human rights cannot take place in isolation of some important principles such as solidarity, peace and stability. The absence of security, the continuation of **armed conflicts** are putting the lives of civilians at threat and threatens also the dignity of the human beings. **Defending the right to life is the essence of the task of this Council**. Bahrain shall remain a strong supporter of regional and international initiatives aiming at protecting and promoting international peace and stability. Bahrain is strongly opposed to violence, extremism, terrorism and intolerance.

Bahrain calls for peaceful solutions to conflicts through diplomatic dialogues and reiterates that achieving **lasting and sustainable peace in the Middle East** requires the protection of the rights of the human people to stop its displacement, to establish a fully sovereign Palestinian State that will live in peace with Israel. Bahrain urges the Human Rights Council to orient its efforts towards the achievement of a **lasting peace for all the peoples of the Middle East**. For these reasons,



Bahrain calls upon this esteemed Council to support the efforts aiming at achieving peace and harmonious coexistence between the peoples of the Middle East. Such a challenge is the main challenge that this Council faces. Bahrain is confident that the Council will be up to facing and countering such a challenge.

**H.E. Mr. Jasem Mohamed AL-BUDAIWI, Secretary-General of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the GULF (GCC)**

The opening of the 58th session of the Human Rights Council takes place in a country that has deep signification historically, as it coincides with the 80th anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Charter.

In the field of human rights and human dignity, the world is facing the various difficulties and challenges which should steer us towards working seriously for improving our international system and our collective efforts to support international standards. There is a regression in respecting international instruments, particularly evidenced by what has been perpetrated by the Israeli occupation against the brotherly people of Palestine in the **West Bank and Gaza**, with the ethnic cleansing that has either killed or injured 160,000 people, mostly children and women, without any kind of human feeling or ethical responsibility and in broad daylight in front of the international community. In this regard, the GCC reiterates its firm and steadfast position in support of the Palestinian cause and reaching a solution that brings an end to the Israeli occupation that establishes an **independent Palestinian State** on the 1967 borders, with Eastern Jerusalem as its capital, in line with relevant UN resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative.

The GCC pays great attention and importance to the protection and promotion of human rights by adopting a number of integrated systems and guiding principles. Its Member States have a measured approach to improve the institutional and legislative frameworks pertaining to human rights based on the **human and higher values of humanity inspired from our religion**, as embedded in the International Declaration of Human Rights - all of the above working towards preserving and safeguarding human dignity and human rights. The GCC cooperates continuously with the UN and other human rights mechanisms to elevate those rights, and insist on the importance of respecting the variety of concepts of human rights and the differences in value systems amongst people and societies. In this regard, the GCC expresses its deep concern with regard to the **increase of the scourge of Islamophobia and hate speech**. The GCC calls for the consolidation of efforts among stakeholders to combat this serious phenomenon and to build mutual trust and confidence through dialogue.

The world is witnessing regionally and internationally several manifestations of violations of human rights of a grave nature at times. The GCC would like to recall the joint statement proposed by the GCC and supported by 137 States in the 57th session of this august Council that commemorated the 25th anniversary of the adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations of the Declaration and Programme to Work for a **Culture of Peace**. Indeed, **mediation** plays a critical role in preventing conflicts and disputes and the consequent human suffering. Mediation allows for peoples to thrive and to live in peace and security while preserving basic rights. The GCC also encourages the **language of peace** and **steer away from the language of confrontation**, as the only way to ensure a future where dignity, justice, and security reign supreme.



To conclude, the GCC expresses its praise for all **humanitarian and relief workers** and the importance of providing them with the necessary security as per international law and undertake every effort to ensure that violations against them are not benefiting from impunity. In this regard, the GCC supports the work and the mandate of UNRWA, which is a veritable lifeline for Palestinian refugees. The GCC urges the international community to provide the Agency with the necessary support so that it continues to provide its humanitarian, educational, and health services, which are a pillar for regional stability and the protection of human rights.

**H.E. Mr. Badr Ahmed Mohamed ABDELATTY, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Emigration and Egyptian Expatriates of EGYPT**

This session of the Council is taking place in exceptional circumstances because of the humanitarian crises and disasters which have gripped the world, which have exacerbated the sufferings of the peoples of the world. This means that the whole world's eyes are turned towards the Council to see what it will do. For this reason, we all must shoulder our responsibilities and ensure that dialogue and cooperation prevail far away from any polarisation, selectivity and double standards.

Egypt considers that this Council must play its role and **put an end to the sufferings of the Palestinian people**, which have been exacerbated by the war in Gaza and the unprecedented humanitarian disaster unfolding in the Gaza Strip. The international community must counter the intent to displace and deport the Palestinian people and cause it to flee from its territory or encouraging it to leave the territory by making it impossible to live in the Strip and to liquidate, thus, the Palestinian cause. Egypt will continue to do everything it can to support the resistance of the Palestinian people who is attached to its land.

Egypt will work with international partners to ensure that the ceasefire holds and ensure that it is fully respected. Egypt would also like to guarantee the access for humanitarian aid and create conditions for an immediate resumption thereof. A comprehensive **plan for the reconstruction of Gaza** and for the respect of this plan without any Palestinians having to leave is needed. Egypt reiterates the importance of the humanitarian agencies working on the ground with the indispensable role they play. Egypt continues to support the Palestinian people for it to recover its inalienable rights, including its right to self-determination and the creation of its independent state with East Jerusalem as its capital on the June 1967 lines. This Council has always been a forum used to promote national attempts to defend human rights.

Egypt has made huge progress in this area following the guidelines given by the President of the Republic, Mr. Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, who attaches great importance to the development of the people of Egypt and to the safeguard of its dignity. It is a national duty to do so, and pursuant to Egypt's constitutional and international commitments, it has scaled up our efforts to implement the **national strategy on human rights** and to create an enabling environment to ensure that all these rights can be enjoyed, which prompted several initiatives. The authorisation of the Commission on Presidential Pardon is one of them, as well as the launching of the National Dialogue, the ending of foreign financing and the adoption of new acts, the beginning of which is the Code of Criminal Procedure, which, once adopted, will give rise to a legislative revolution.

In parallel to all of this, Egypt has implemented several projects to promote economic, social and cultural rights in the country. Egypt has also launched several different initiatives designed to promote the rights of women, youth, children and the elderly, on a par with the rights of persons



with special needs. Egypt endeavours to cooperate with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms through dialogue based on respect and comprehension for the challenges and the special circumstances of each country, dealing with all human rights on an equal basis.

Egypt underwent its fourth Universal Periodic Review by submitting its national report which was discussed at the meeting held on 28th January 2025. Acknowledging the crucial role played by the Human Rights Council, Egypt will submit its **candidacy for membership** for the period 2026-2028 and counts on your support.

#### **H.E. Mr. Seyed Abbas ARAGHCHI, Minister for Foreign Affairs of IRAN**

For decades, the Iranian people have faced grave challenges, including unjust economic sanctions and terrorism, which have had many devastating impacts on their social and economic rights. While adhering to Islamic principles and human dignity against the headwind of these challenges, Iran has made notable achievements, including improvements in education, health care, women's rights, and industrial and economic development. One of the greatest obstacles to the realisation of human rights at the global level is the recourse to **unilateral coercive measures**. Such measures have destructive ramifications on ordinary people, while oppressively affecting the more vulnerable groups. Iran has long fallen victim to such misguided policies. The recourse to such measures by certain States restricts access to basic necessities such as medicine and a healthy environment. Iran calls for the immediate removal of all unilateral sanctions, which not only violate the fundamental human rights of the Iranian people, but also inflict suffering on millions of innocent individuals.

One cannot speak of human rights without mentioning the suffering of the Palestinian people and forego condemning the crimes committed by Israel. Iran unequivocally condemns the genocide perpetrated by the occupying force in Gaza. The **Palestinian people** continue to suffer from genocide, systemic violence, occupation, dehumanisation, and violations of their rights to life, in clear violation of international law, including the Geneva Conventions. Iran calls upon the international community to hold the occupying force accountable for these crimes and to demand an immediate cessation of all acts of aggression against the Palestinian people. It is incumbent upon the Human Rights Council and the United Nations to seek up for the principles of injustice and listen to the voices of the oppressed. Iran remains steadfast in its support for the Palestinian people, whose right to self-determination has been denied for decades. The repressive plots for the **forced displacement** of the inhabitants of Gaza are a sequel to the occupation policy that goes back to eight decades ago. Iran strongly condemns any statements or actions in this regard and expresses its opposition thereto. Iran has consistently emphasised respect for human rights and the strengthening of social justice within various frameworks.

Given its rich culture and long history in the field of human rights, Iran has always strived to promote the individual and social rights of its citizens. In this regard, Iran has taken extensive measures to improve the level of human rights, including the rights of women, children, and minorities. At the same time, Iran believes that human rights may not be used as a leverage of political and economic pressure or interference in the internal affairs of countries.

Experience has shown that certain States use the present institution as a tool to advance their own agendas, while human rights must be pursued in an ambient of mutual respect and non-interference in the internal affairs of countries. Iran calls upon all states to support and promote human rights based on the principles of fairness and impartiality and to avoid selective and



politicised approaches. In conclusion, Iran will pursue its constructive cooperation with international human rights mechanisms in promoting human rights at the global level and hopes that all countries will take joint steps in this direction.

### **H.E. Mr. Shorsh Khalid SAID, Deputy Foreign Minister of IRAQ**

It is an honour for me to relay to you the pledge of the Government of Iraq - headed by the Prime Minister Mr. Mohammed Shia' Al Sudani - to protect and reinforce human rights through its national programme which has so far been implemented up to 73% since the formation of the Government. The latter has conducted the population census for 2024, which was delayed since 1997. The census aims to find data to achieve our vision for the implementation of the **2030 Agenda**.

The economic sector saw an increase in the production and diversification of resources; the completion of the first phase of the construction of a great port; and the start of the development road in cooperation with its neighbours. Iraq has launched the 2024-2030 agricultural strategy to reinforce food security and rural development. The energy sector was expanded through the development of gas, which is a byproduct of oil extraction, in order to meet local demand and limit the negative impact on the environment.

With regard to **women's empowerment**, female participation in the political life has increased up to 29% seats in the Parliament with a total of 92 women. Women also hold the chairmanship of six Parliament Committees. Women represent 26% of Governance Councils. Representation of women in Kurdistan represents 31% of members of parliament. There are also three women ministers in the Government. Noteworthy is also the increase of women in the executive, where 708 women are General Directors, three are presidents of universities and 77 deans of universities, along with 191 female judges. Women working in security are over 15,000.

Iraq is a mosaic country. It stands out for its **cultural and religious diversity**. The aim of the Government policy is to ensure the present and the future of the diversity. The number of schools using the languages of Iraq's national components are 892. The number of parties representing them are 30. The number of civil society organisations representing these components, which are a real partner of the Government, are 79. The Government also **built churches and places of worship**, which were destroyed by Daesh gangs. Iraq has constructed six churches, 40 shrines for Yezidis and 22 for Shebek and Turkmens.

The world is facing an escalation of challenges, including climate change and hate speech and impunity, together with gross violations of international law. The world has seen for the first time in history in **Gaza a televised genocide**, which saw the killing of 50,000 persons. Most of them are children and women. This raises a question about our trust in the universality of human rights, which should protect human rights and human dignity for all without discrimination. This disregard encouraged some sides to call for enforced displacement of the people in Gaza. In this regard, Iraq stresses its steadfast position which supports the rights of Palestinians and their right to self-determination on their historical lands and to have their own country with Jerusalem as its capital. The Iraqi Government expresses its support for UNRWA as the only competent UN agency to support the Palestinians and enable them to adapt to the difficult circumstances facing them. Palestinians need UNRWA now more than ever before.



Iraq continues to cooperate with various human rights mechanisms, the last of which was Iraq's **fourth UPR** in which 93 countries participated. While welcoming this positive engagement, Iraq is studying recommendations tabled to us by these countries with a greater spirit of cooperation. On the legislative level, the executive is cooperating with the Parliament in order to review laws and amend them. In line with Iraq's international commitments, it has passed various amendments and laws which aim to reinforce the protection of the rights of all segments of society, ensure equality and justice, the last of which were the amnesty law, which will lead to address overcrowding in prisons and ensure social cohesion.

In closing, Iraq calls upon all member states of the UN to support its **candidacy to the membership** of the Human Rights Council from 2026 to 2028 at the upcoming elections in New York this year. Iraq is looking forward to work with all parties in order to protect and reinforce human rights and it will **focus on the negative impacts of climate change**, water scarcity, desertification and drought, most notably on support for developing countries and least developing countries to set in place adaptation programmes to limit the impacts of climate change on them. The Human Rights Council should speak with one voice when dealing with these issues in order to ensure good implementation and in a timely manner before it is late.

#### **H.E. Mr. Abdullah Ali AL-YAHYA, Minister for Foreign Affairs of KUWAIT**

One year after Kuwait became a member of this Council, Kuwait reaffirms its deep-rooted commitment and respect to human rights principles based on our religious values, constitutional principles, and in line with the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as relevant international instruments. Kuwait reiterates our dedication to close collaboration with the OHCHR.

Based on the above, the state of Kuwait is committed to submitting and discussing periodic national reports on time. For this reason, Kuwait has established national mechanisms for efficient monitoring and evaluation of our international obligations. In line with these obligations, the Government is currently conducting a **comprehensive review of most legislations** aimed at enhancing and protecting human rights. They include - to name but a few - empowering women and youth, strengthening the rights of persons with disabilities, safeguarding workers' rights, and combating human trafficking. In this context, I would like to highlight Kuwait's readiness to present its comprehensive UPR national report before the Council next May.

In the hope that its collective efforts will achieve their intended objectives, the Council convenes today amidst a moral and humanitarian crisis affecting the brotherly Palestinian people. As the occupying power, Israel continues to blatantly violate international human rights law, the UN Charter, and relevant resolutions, taking advantage of the absence of accountability and deterrence. A year after the **war on Gaza**, instead of ending the bloodshed, Israel continues its military operations and threatening the Palestinian people of forced displacement from their land. Kuwait calls upon the international community to fulfil its responsibility in ensuring international protection for the Palestinian people and its inalienable rights. The State of Kuwait reaffirms its firm and principled position in support of the establishment of a sovereign Palestinian State with East Jerusalem as its capital, based on the borders of June 4, 1967, in accordance with the resolutions of international legitimacy and the Arab Peace Initiative.

In the light of rapid developments in the region, Kuwait stresses the need to preserve the territorial integrity of **Syria** and respect its sovereignty in order to achieve stability and ensure the protection





of its international institution. This requires international solidarity, provision of humanitarian aid, lifting sanctions in support of the brotherly Syrian people.

Kuwait calls upon the international community to continue its effort to end the conflict in **Sudan** and to restore peace and security, ensuring the protection and safety of civilians. Regarding the situation in **Lebanon**, Kuwait looks forward to enhanced international efforts aimed at restoring security and stability while preserving its territorial integrity during this sensitive period. Kuwait condemns the Israeli occupation in violation of the Lebanese sovereignty and urges the complete withdrawal of the occupying force from the Lebanese territories.

Peace, development and human rights are **interdependent pillars** that require strong political will and concrete actions. Seventy-five years after the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, some continue to deviate from its principles, exploiting human rights as a tool to interfere in the internal affairs of States in violation of their sovereignty. Kuwait firmly rejects the politicisation of human rights, double standards and selectivity. Instead, we must remain committed to the genuine promotion and implementation of human rights in a manner that guarantees the dignity, freedoms and rights of individuals. In conclusion, as a member of the Human Rights Council, Kuwait reaffirms its commitment to constructive cooperation with all Member States - cognizant of how important the role of the Council is, especially when it comes to protecting and promoting human rights.

#### **H.E. Mr. Abdellatif OUAHBI, Minister of Justice of MOROCCO**

Extending his sincere congratulations to the new President of the Council, Morocco hopes to jointly continue the important work to improve the effectiveness of the work of the HRC, as done by the predecessor, Ambassador Omar Zniber in 2024, notably through the implementation of the outcome of the retreat held in November 2024. The retreat was a moment for reflection and exchange on the status of the Council, its future and ways to reform and improve its performance. As a member of the Council, Morocco reaffirms its **unwavering commitment** to engaging with the utmost dedication and responsibility with its reform dynamics. Morocco remains resolute in its commitment to positive and constructive interaction with the UN human rights mechanisms.

Morocco is determined to further promote meaningful dialogue and cooperation among nations to defend **universal human rights values** in a world increasingly shaped by challenges, crises and risks. It is imperative to join efforts and collectively mobilise in order to find peaceful and sustainable solutions to mitigate the impacts of crises in order to uphold a more just and peaceful world. Under the wise leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, the Kingdom of Morocco has implemented a range of **landmark reforms**.

It has implemented the Social Protection Project, which has expanded the social security system to cover 24 million individuals and to achieve universal health coverage, ensuring protection for all citizens. Additionally, Morocco has strengthened its medical infrastructure and improved the quality of services by increasing the 2024 budget by 9.1 percent. It has also enhanced health solidarity by supporting populations in areas affected by cold waves. These achievements contributed to Morocco being elected to chair the **WHO's Social Links Committee** in January 2024.

The Kingdom of Morocco has dedicated full attention to supporting women victims of violence and promoting active ageing while enhancing the **social empowerment of families**, improving



child protection in its local dimension, ensuring the right to education and supporting the right to housing. As a result, it has advanced three positions in the 2023-2024 Human Development Index by the UNDP.

Morocco continues to implement the **National Climate Plan** 2020-2030, which aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 42 percent by 2030. It also continues to develop the Noor solar energy project, providing electricity to 2 million Moroccans and reduce gas emissions by 1 million tonnes annually. These accomplishments have allowed Morocco to rise to the eighth place globally in the 2025 Climate Change Performance Index.

Morocco is committed to protecting the **right to water** by accelerating investments in the water sector and addressing the challenges through the establishment of seawater desalination plants, connecting water basins via highways, accelerating dam rehabilitation, increasing capacity for the reuse and treated wastewater, and supporting the rational use of water resources.

In 2024, Morocco launched the **review process of the Family Code**, which has become one of the prominent reform milestones under the leadership of His Majesty the King. This reform follows a balanced approach that aims to maintain the national identity while carrying essential revisions related to social transformation and international human rights commitments. The extensive **consultative approach** involving relevant stakeholders led to the submission of over 100 proposed amendments by the Committee in charge of the Family Code review. These amendments aim to promote **equality** and non-discrimination between men and women, ensure the best interests of children, and embody the values of justice, equity, equal opportunity, and protection from abuse and exploitation. The Government is currently working on transforming these proposals into legislative action in order to enhance justice and modernise the criminal justice system.

The **draft law on the Criminal Procedure Code** is currently under discussion in the Parliament. The law aims to strengthen the guarantees of a fair trial, ensure a balance between the prosecution authority and the rights of other parties, and reconcile the use of police custody with the protection of the rights of accused individuals. It also aims to ensure the proper functioning of justice and protect and assist vulnerable groups, rationalise pre-trial detention, and adopt alternatives to detention.

The **law on alternative penalties** represents a significant step toward enhancing criminal justice with a more humane approach aligned with the transformations in crime and current trends. It seeks also to adopt penalties and correct offenders' behaviour and prepare them for reintegration into society. In a significant development reflecting a shift in our stance on the death penalty, Morocco voted in favour of the 10th UN resolution calling for a **moratorium on the use of the death penalty**, which demonstrates Morocco's commitment to enhancing the protection of the right to life.

In recognition of its efforts to combat **transnational organised crime**, Morocco was elected as vice president of Interpol for Africa with an overwhelming majority and also elected as the co-chair of the UN Working Group on Human Trafficking Session. In line with the constitutional right to strike, Morocco adopted an organic law outlining the conditions and procedures for exercising this right. The law ensures the right to strike, guarantees the protection of workers' rights, and



safeguards trade union freedoms while maintaining societal rights, freedom of initiative, competition, and entrepreneurship.

Last year, we celebrated the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Equity and Reconciliation Commission, which played a fundamental role in comprehensive human rights reforms in the country and helped Morocco become a **pioneer in the field of transitional justice**. Committed to fulfilling international human rights obligations, Morocco held an interactive dialogue with the Committee on Enforced Disappearance as part of the review of its initial report on the implementation of related Convention (ICPPED). Morocco also submitted the report on the comprehensive national review on the implementation of the **Beijing Declaration** after 30 years.

Additionally, Morocco is preparing a progress report on the implementation of the **recommendations of the 4th UPR cycle**. The country is also consistently and positively engaging with the request for **visits from Special Procedures**, hoping to reach an agreement for conducting balanced and independent visits that allow for a clear understanding of the human rights situation in Morocco. It will continue to support the OHCHR and the thematic priorities in order to strengthen its ability to face challenges amid the persistent crisis. As a staunch advocate of the universal ratification of international human rights treaties, Morocco is also working to help the Office face challenges amid the **persistent liquidity crisis**.

Alongside Argentina, France, and Samoa, Morocco is leading an initiative for the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, in addition to an initiative to support the global ratification of the Convention against Torture. In an earlier conference, Morocco committed to including **enforced disappearance** in the criminal code, and also committed to organising a regional conference to engage best practises in implementation of Resolution 51/33. With Paraguay and Portugal, Morocco has taken the initiative to establish the International Network of National Mechanisms for Implementation, Reporting, and Follow-up (**NMIRFs**), which was created in May 2024, and it is now the coordinator of this Network in order to support the establishment of national mechanisms in Member States and to strengthen their capacities.

In October 2024, Morocco hosted the 10th edition of the **Glion Human Rights Dialogue**, which concluded with the adoption of the Marrakesh Guidance Framework for the Establishment and Development of Effective National Mechanisms. Morocco reiterates its firm commitment to promoting human rights at the national level, as well as genuine and active engagement in relative international initiatives, particularly in our regional context, in line with a comprehensive and a balanced approach that aims to achieve sustainable development and promote peace and stability worldwide.

**H.E. Ms. Noura bint Zaid AL-RASHOUD, Executive Director of the Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)**

Ms. Noura bint Zaid AL-RASHOUD addresses the Council as the **first woman** who has assumed the position of Executive Secretary of the Permanent Independent Commission of Human Rights of the OIC. Proud to represent human rights of this major Organisation, one of the largest international organisations representing more than 2 billion persons. In different parts of the world, the OIC has followed a long path over recent years towards reforming and strengthening its institutional mechanism to face up to the challenges of today's world and to promote and



protect human rights. The OIC has demonstrated its firm commitment to reconcile the traditions applied in its Member States with the requirements to protect and promote human rights.

Human rights continue to be violated. The OIC is particularly concerned over those living in **Gaza**, in the occupied territories, and also in **Myanmar** and the **Central African Republic**. Welcoming the ceasefire in Gaza, the OIC hopes that this will allow for an end to be brought to the Israeli aggression, for refugees to be able to return home, and for humanitarian aid to be provided in an unimpeded manner.

The OIC condemns the **forced displacement of Palestinians** from their territory and reaffirms its unwavering support the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. Repressive policies of the Israeli Government oppressing innocent civilians and measures to alter the demographic composition of occupied areas are unacceptable. Expressing its deepest concern over human rights violations in the region, the OIC supports the recommendation to have an independent mission to investigate and calls for the respect of Security Council resolutions.

Furthermore, the OIC calls upon the international communities to cooperate with **Azerbaijan** to study the issue of persons who have disappeared, and to permit the return of displaced persons and refugees. Its calls on Azerbaijan to be supported in its efforts to clear land contaminated by anti-personnel landmines. It also condemns the discriminatory practises and systemic practises against **Rohingya Muslims** in Myanmar. It calls upon the international community to facilitate their dignified return, and provide them with the necessary support for their rehabilitation. In **Yemen**, the militia are undermining and attacking human rights, and that requires immediate international action, making sure that there is no impunity.

Extreme right rhetoric and **Islamophobia** around the world are incidents targeting Muslims, in particular women. The OIC welcomes the General Assembly resolution which proclaimed the 15th of March as the International Day against Islamophobia.

To conclude, the OIC insists upon the importance of development and of the family as the heart of society and of the institution of marriage. Universal values are precious, and even more so when they protect diversity and protect diversity, and when all populations and all cultures contribute to our societies.

**H.E. Ms. Maryam bint Ali bin Nasser Al-MISNAD, Minister of State for International Cooperation of QATAR**

This Council's session takes place at a time of great challenges because of armed conflicts. This impacts on human rights everywhere in the world. The violation of human rights is seen everywhere, with international standards being violated everywhere and acceptance of this by Member States.

The **People of Palestine** have been living in crisis for 70 years. There are 10,000 victims of the Gaza conflict. Over 90% of infrastructure, basic infrastructure, has been destroyed - hospitals, schools. Humanitarian aid has been obstructed. Three million people, including older persons and children, have been displaced. Qatar has shown leadership in promoting international peace and security and seeking to resolve conflicts peacefully. Qatar has worked with Egypt and the USA to reach a ceasefire and ensure the exchange of hostages as well as the delivery of



humanitarian assistance, which has been distributed in a number of points in Gaza, and sought to restore hospitals and schools, bakeries and other infrastructure.

The ceasefire has brought some mitigation of the suffering of the people of Gaza. Qatar calls for regional and international efforts to provide **humanitarian assistance** to Gaza. We must support the UN in this effort. In an effort to offer assistance to families of victims, Qatar has opened a sea bridge to provide fuels to Gaza. Other measures will be needed. All parties must respect the ceasefire and allow delivery of humanitarian assistance without obstacle. Efforts must be made to **reconstruct Gaza** so that the people of Gaza may occupy their land peacefully. We are against the displacements which are an obstacle to peace and security in the region. Lasting peace is not possible without allowing the People of Palestine to enjoy a sovereign State on the 1967 borders and Jerusalem as its capital.

In **Syria**, 'we have brought to an end a dictatorship'. Qatar has always been opposed to human rights violations. Qatar has always supported peace efforts for the People of Syria and welcomes the efforts made to bring understanding among Syrians and build peace and security, the rule of law and rebuilding of institutions. Committed to the territorial integrity of Syria, Qatar calls for sanctions be lifted. The people of Syria must be able to live in dignity.

On **Sudan**, Qatar's position is clear. It is committed to the independence and sovereignty of Sudan, opposed to external interference, by continuing the role Qatar has played since the onset of the conflict. Qatar takes a fraternal approach to Sudan, providing assistance to its people to limit the impact of the disaster, which was one of the worst in recent history with women and children the main victims. There is political will, which is crucial for human rights.

Qatar holds these dear and works with all members of the Council to meet these objectives. It will support efforts made to uphold the values and principles of human rights in order to build a better world for all.

**H.E. Ms. Hala bint Mazyad AL-TUWAIJRI, President of the Human Rights Commission of SAUDI ARABIA**

Saudi Arabia appreciates the vital role of the Human Rights Council in enhancing human rights conditions worldwide through constructive dialogue. It also values the Council's tireless efforts to ensure the success of its mission. While acknowledging the importance of all the 10 items on the Council's agenda, yet Saudi Arabia underscores the urgent need for heightened attention to **Agenda Item 7**, the human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories, particularly in light of the ongoing tragic events in Palestine. Strongly reaffirming the importance of this Item, Saudi Arabia stresses the necessity of its continued inclusion and implementation until an **independent Palestinian State** is established along the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital.

Numerous reforms and advancements have been achieved in Saudi Arabia in the realm of human rights across various levels under **Saudi Vision 2030**, which is based on human rights principles, including equality and non-discrimination. This Vision emphasises the empowerment of women, youth, persons with disabilities, the elderly and workers, ultimately aiming to achieve a quality of life for everyone.



Saudi Arabia also works to develop its legislative system by amending and issuing different laws, such as the labour law, the protection from abuse law, the child protection law, the rights of persons with disabilities laws, the protection of whistleblowers, witnesses, experts and victims law. Moreover, the Kingdom is hosting more than **15 million foreigners** coming from more than 60 countries, constituting over 44 percent of our population. These individuals enjoy equal rights without discrimination and with the highest levels of protection. In addition to the efforts exerted to ensure equal access to education for all, Saudi Arabia has integrated children of those residing in the Kingdom **without legal status** into our education system. The number of those accepted reached more than 132,000 students in 2024.

As for the right to work, the Kingdom adopted numerous legislative, institutional and procedural measures, including an update made to the labour law, the latest of which in August 2024. All this contributed to **promoting workers' rights** and providing a safe environment free from all forms of discrimination. The Kingdom has acceded also to the **ILO Convention No. 187**, the Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention 2006. It has adopted also the national policy for the elimination of forced labour and established the National Council for Occupational Safety and Health. All these efforts have resulted in an increase in compliance rates among establishments with **occupational safety and health** standards, from 15 percent to 73 percent. The injury rate has also fallen, reflecting a reduction of over 30 percent in the past six years.

As a result of those intensive **efforts to empower women**, by the third quarter of 2024, women's participation in the labour market reached 35.4 percent, reflecting a 108 percent growth since 2017 - well beyond the target set by Saudi Vision 2030. Noteworthy to mention that the Kingdom currently chairs the UN Commission on the Status of Women. Through this presidency, the Kingdom aims to globally share its successful experiences in empowering women and advancing women's issues globally through the optimal use of this Commission's mandate and tools.

Saudi Arabia has also made substantial efforts to strengthen international peace and security, grounded in our deep-rooted values and commitments to the UN Charter. It has always supported just causes, and has worked to resolve crises, including the Russian-Ukrainian crisis. His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, played a pivotal role in **mediating the release of several prisoners** between Russia and Ukraine.

For human rights to thrive anywhere in the world, we must foster strong and cohesive societies. This can be done by addressing practises harming society as a whole, such as **disrespect for religions** and for religious symbols, **hate speech**, and the erosion of family values. It is important not to impose one set of values over societies, but to respect the differences of societies at the cultural and civilisational level as of utmost importance to strengthen and protect human rights. Saudi Arabia will host major global events such as Expo 2030, the Asian World Cup (2027), and the FIFA World Cup (2034). These represent valuable opportunities to enhance communication between societies and establish principles of equality, tolerance, and fraternity among peoples.

To conclude, Saudi Arabia reaffirms its continued cooperation with UN mechanisms in the field of human rights, including the Council. It stresses the importance of adhering to the principles of respecting sovereignty, equality among States, impartiality, and objectivity in an atmosphere of fruitful cooperation and constructive balance.



**H.E. Ms. Varsen AGHABEKIAN, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the State of  
PALESTINE**

The Palestinian People faces one of the most serious situations in its history. The occupying power destroys, causes famine, forcible displacement, arrests illegally, and has been perpetrating war crimes and crimes against humanity for the past 50 years.

Palestine stands before the Council to reject plans to forcibly displace its People. These plans are a threat to its sovereignty and they are ways of trying to distract the world's attention away from all the acts caused by the settlers. **18,000 Palestinians** have been killed or injured, mostly women. Palestinians are being displaced. They face famine, illness. The occupation schools and hospitals have been destroyed. Places of worship and other infrastructure has been bombed. This has led to an unprecedented humanitarian crisis. In view of the horror of these massacres, the International Court of Justice issued measures in recent months following the case brought by South Africa.

Summary executions and arbitrary detention continues in the **West Bank**. The occupying power continue to destroy houses, in an attempt to devour what remains of the Palestinian territory. Attacks against innocent civilians continue by settlers defended by the occupying power. **90,000 Palestinians** have been forced into refugee camps in Tulkarm and Jenin. This is the largest forcible displacement operation in years.

Military blockades isolate villages, and they are a blockade on Palestinians in their own land. There are **attacks on holy sites**. There is continuing Judaization. Palestinians do not have access to places of worship. Their right to freedom of religion is being swept away. The Israeli Government is trying to destroy the lives of the original inhabitants. There have been horrendous crimes against Palestinian prisoners. They are beaten. They are subject to verbal abuse and humiliations. Their dignity is being destroyed. They are deprived of food and medical care. Some of them are being tortured into complete physical and psychological destruction.

UNRWA is facing an insidious attack with a view to ending its role. **UNRWA is a lifeline** for Palestinians wherever they are. An international defence of UNRWA is needed. It cannot be replaced. It is being cut off from its sources of finance, but this cannot happen unless the right of return for Palestinian refugees is achieved. Palestine congratulates Switzerland on its accession to the Presidency of the Human Rights Council, and welcomes efforts to organise a Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Geneva Convention, hoping that it will spell out clear obligations of State Parties to respect international law and bring an end to the illegal occupation of the Palestinian territory. Security and stability at an international level will only be achieved if there is international and serious commitment to the two-State solution.

The International Conference on Peace, which will be held in New York in mid-June this year under the co-presidency of Saudi Arabia and France, is a historic opportunity to reach a collective vision and put an end to the occupation and fully recognise the State of Palestine and to ensure that the state of Palestine becomes a **fully-fledged member of the United Nations** with a view to ensuring peace and stability in the region in line with international resolutions, notably Resolutions 242 and 338. There have been attempts to silence the voice of justice. That is why Palestine urges the international community to strengthen the role of international institutions tasked with delivering international justice, including the ICJ, which faces threats and sanctions



to hinder its efforts to hold criminals to account. The aims of the Court must be respected. This is a critical moment.

Palestine praises all the efforts deployed by those States that stand up to war machines. They have clearly condemned crimes against women and children. Palestine pays tribute to the States that have called on international courts to uphold international law and provide justice to victims and ensure that perpetrators are held accountable. In its advisory opinion, the **International Court of Justice** has reiterated the illegal nature of the Israeli occupation and called for measures to be taken immediately to put an end to the occupation. In view of the seriousness of the situation, a programme is needed which clearly sets out States' obligations to put an end to the Israeli occupation and the crimes and expulsion plans. There must be respect for the advisory opinion and the Council's resolution, which includes the prohibition of trading weapons with occupying forces. Justice is needed for those children who have lost limbs and women and families who have been removed from the civil register. Palestine calls on specialised international institutions to support efforts to achieve peace and justice.

'We cannot wait. We cannot put off our action. We must act immediately in order to stop the systematic crimes against humanity and to provide the Palestinian People with justice and hold the criminals accountable.' Palestine reiterates that its People will continue to live on the land of its ancestors. Palestine will continue its legitimate fight for independence, in the belief that an end will come to this illegal occupation.

#### **H.E. Mr. Asaad AL-SHAIBANI, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of SYRIA**

The Syrian People suffered for over five decades at the hands of the dictatorial regime. It suffered torture and violations of human rights that are of political and civil nature. The Assad regime over 14 years used barrel bombs, chemical weapons, cluster munitions and incendiary weapons against the civilians. Prisons in Syria, including Saidana military prison, became places of collective punishment and brutal killings. Survivors related harrowing stories of beating, electrical shocks, hunger and psychological torture. Families forced to disappear live scattered abroad, not knowing whether they will be reunited in the future. Now Syria faces a new phase which saw the victory of the will of the Syrian people, where **a new sun shines on Syria**.

Syria extends its thanks the Council for the interest in attending and discussing the Syrian suffering in its meetings. Today, Syria underscores its endeavour to achieve the freedom and dignity of the Syrians with resolution. Syria faces multiple challenges, various challenges on the political, humanitarian and social levels. The Assad regime left **deep scars** and difficult heritage. There are three groups of people that have to be taken into account with regards to their human rights.

These include, first, the rights of those who passed away, the **victims of the crimes of Assad**. Achieving transitional justice for crimes in Syria over the last and half decade, crimes documented by this Council, is not an easy undertaking. Syria is committed to achieving justice and combating impunity. It has taken already measures to achieve this goal, including measures on the international plane. In the last few weeks following the liberation of Syria, the new Government allowed the UN Commission of Inquiry set up by this Council to enter Syria after it was refused entry by the former regime. The Government received the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in Syria and agreed with it on a roadmap. It also allowed the Independent Impartial Mechanism established by the General Assembly to enter





Syria for the first time since it was established. The new Government plans to work with the Mechanism within the limits of its resources to achieve a transitional justice for its People.

Second, the **rights of the disappeared persons**. Not knowing the fate of these people and the pain of their families is a torture that is unbearable, particularly for the families. Lastly, I was honoured to meet **families who lost their loved ones in prison**. They live in terrible pain. It is an experience that we see in every house and family in Syria. Syria is establishing a Commission in order to look into the disappeared and the forcibly disappeared.

In the future, ‘we have a duty not to see a repeat of the atrocities committed by the Assad regime.’ Syrians deserve a nation that preserves their right, that preserves their dignity and their voice. Over 14 years, the international community **failed to stop the bloodshed** in Syria and to end the suffering of Syrians. It is high time the international community support the Syrians’ struggle in favour of dignity, justice, and the right of the Syrian People.

**Sanctions** should not hinder the construction of Syria and its renaissance. The legal basis of these sanctions was the repression of Assad regime. Now that the regime is over, these sanctions should be over too because they exacerbate the suffering and the economic crisis, increase crimes, destabilise security, and impede the return of refugees.

The international community should **restore the trust of Syrians**. They hope that you will seize the opportunity to restore that trust. In closing, Syria looks forward to your support to Syria, a free country rising from the ashes of oppression by one of the most dictatorial regimes in modern history.

#### **H.E. Mr. Mohamed Ali NAFTI, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Immigration, and Tunisians Abroad of TUNISIA**

Committed to ensuring human rights at the political, national, socio-economic and cultural levels, Tunisia reaffirms its commitment to the various initiatives aimed at protecting human rights through the UN and at the regional level. Tunisia presented its report to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination after having submitted national reports over the last few years to the UPR, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Tunisia is firmly **set on the path of reform** which began in 2021. The purpose is to promote democracy, enshrine the rule of law, ensure good governance and also to guarantee the rights and freedoms of all Tunisians without any exception - be it at the legislative or practical levels. Tunisia ensures that all elections reflect the will of the Tunisian people and that elections are held in respect for integrity and transparency.

Tunisia is firmly committed to the **indivisibility of rights** and that there are no differences in hierarchy between rights and freedoms. Tunisia seek to promote economic, social and cultural rights in order to ensure decent standards of living for all of our society and in all of its aspects. Human rights are intrinsically linked to **social justice**. The Tunisian State is trying to combat subcontracting within its society, for this is a way of hiding human trafficking and slavery.

Tunisia seeks to ensure that all development processes are human-centred. Illegal migrants are the victims of the global system. Tunisia is a victim as well in a sense and it is trying to address this issue by upholding our laws and international law and by ensuring that the dignity of trafficked



persons is respected. There is a need to dismantle criminal networks that thrive on regional crises and socio-economic precarity. Tunisia is adopting an approach of joint and proportionate responsibility in order to try and find solutions. Tunisia rejects all desperate attempts to impose projects for settling illegal migrants and attempts to exploit this issue in the media or for political purposes. It objects to the suffering of migrants being exploited in this way.

Despite the efforts deployed through its justice system and its diplomacy, more than 10 years have elapsed since corrupt regime fell in Tunisia which reiterates its call on Council's members to support Tunisia in the **recovery of looted funds**. It is important to support the project of the African Network adopted by the African Union on the negative impact of the non-recovery of unlawful gains. The latter need to be returned to the country of origin. Recovering such funds is a fundamental right that is enshrined in international law including the UN Convention on Combating Corruption. Many developing countries have had to resort to foreign debt and cannot recover their funds that have been plundered abroad. Regarding the international financial system, the international community should try to reduce the levels of foreign debt and the cost of servicing that debt for developing countries.

Tunisia commends the ceasefire in Gaza and stresses the importance to prosecute the **perpetrators of war crimes and genocide** committed against the Palestinian People, our brotherly People. Tunisia is firmly opposed to the displacement of the Palestinian People which should be able to enjoy its rights to live in Palestine and to create its own State with Jerusalem as capital.

#### **H.E. Ms. Noura bint Mohammed AL-KAABI, Minister of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

The UAE's firm committed to the promotion of human rights is clearly reflected in its efforts to develop its policies and legislations through programmes and initiatives to uphold and advance human rights. The UAE is **home to more than 200 nationalities** who live in peace and harmony, in a tolerant society and a just and effective judicial system. 2024 has seen numerous legislations that cope with the largely diverse population of the State.

At the legislative level, amendments have been made to the Personal Status Code to provide a comprehensive legal framework to regulate personal status, in addition to issuing federal laws to regulate the penitentiary institutions in the country and to realise social empowerment. The family protection is high on the priorities of the policies and plans in order to realise a safe and tolerant homeland where all the members of society have welfare and stability in this respect. The UAE issued numerous **domestic violence laws** to realise social coherence and the protection of the family.

In December 2024, the Ministry of the Family was created to support young people who are able to innovate. 'A strong, coherent and stable society means a nation able to realise its aspirations and address its challenges and soundly plan for the future.' This is a quote from His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the State, where a dedication has been made in 2025 under the slogan 'Hand in Hand' with a view to embodying the vision of the wise leadership of the UAE. **Women** have also been occupying high decision-making posts in this regard. The UAE ranked 7th globally and **1st regionally in the UNDP Gender Equality Index 2024**.



**Tolerance** is one of our main tenets and since the Federation has been created, a principle set by His Highness Prince Zayed. In this respect, the United Nations has issued a historic Resolution 2686 on Tolerance, Peace and International Security, which the UAE co-drafted, recognising that hate speech and extremism can lead to the escalation of conflicts around the world.

In partnership with the OHCHR, the UAE have launched a training programme aimed at preparing human rights-specialised national staff. In mid-December 2024, the UAE hosted the **Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women and Girls** in a field visit, where she lauded the progress made towards combating violence against women and children. The UAE has proudly been a member of the Human Rights Council for three terms. Believing in the pivotal role of the Human Rights Council in promoting human rights, the UAE announce their **candidacy** to the membership of the Council for the period 2028-2030, and look forward to cooperating with all countries to address human rights issues around the world.

The **Middle East** is facing major challenges that require intensifying international and regional efforts to realise all-out peace. The international community has to keep in sight the human beings who have always suffered from political conflicts and wars. The UAE reaffirm their unwavering historical position towards realising the **rights of the Palestinian People**. A political horizon must be found to put an end to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and creating an independent, sovereign Palestinian State with East Jerusalem as its capital. The UAE's position has always been grounded on avoiding escalation, realising tolerance, and relieving human suffering.

In conclusion, the UAE reaffirms its commitment to efforts aimed at promoting and enhancing human rights as well as to cooperation with countries to uphold human rights around the world.