



Statement of Ireland

77th session of the United Nations General Assembly

Third Committee

Interactive Dialogue with Chair of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in Israel, Ms. Navi PILLAY

27 October 2022

Chair,

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the Chair for her detailed presentation today.

Ireland reiterates the need for accountability in the context of the issues that we are discussing here today. So long as there is an absence of accountability and the root causes of the conflict remain unaddressed, cycles of conflict and violence throughout the occupied Palestinian territory and Israel will continue.

Ireland is gravely concerned at the high number of recent Palestinian civilian fatalities in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. The use of live ammunition by Israeli forces has resulted in the killing and maiming of civilians, including children. We call on Israel to refrain from using excessive force, and for impartial and transparent investigations into all incidents that led to death or injury. Those responsible for violations must be held accountable.

Ireland also remains concerned by Israel's relentless expansion of new settlements, in flagrant violation of Resolution 2334 and international law. Plans for settlement establishment and expansion in the Nablus and Ramallah governorates, and on the outskirts of Jerusalem and Bethlehem, pose the greatest threat to the territorial contiguity of a future Palestinian State. Ireland again calls on Israel to cease all settlement activities.

Chair,

Ireland shares your concern about the increase in settler related incidents. Action to bring perpetrators to justice remains extremely limited. We would welcome your views on how accountability for settler violence can be ensured.

Thank you.