

Statement by the Kingdom Saudi Arabia on behalf of the OIC Group
Before the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly
On “Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism”
(Agenda item: 109)
New York, 6 October 2025

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honor to speak on behalf of the OIC Group on the agenda item: “Measures to eliminate international terrorism”. At the outset, allow me to congratulate you on your election as Chair of the Sixth Committee, and I would like to assure you of the OIC Group’s full support throughout the work of the Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

The OIC Group condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, regardless of the motivations, the identity of the perpetrator and the location where it was committed. OIC reaffirms that terrorism constitutes a flagrant violation of international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law, in particular the right to life. Terrorist acts endanger the territorial integrity and stability of States as well as national, regional and international security.

The OIC Group reiterates its respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States in accordance with the UN Charter.

The Group reaffirms that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, race, faith, culture, ethnicity or society. The Group strongly condemns any politicized attempt to link Islam with terrorism. Such attempts serve only the interest and aspirations of terrorists and promote polarization, hatred, discrimination, xenophobia and hostility against Muslims and Muslim communities worldwide.

Accordingly, we reiterate the importance of promoting dialogue, understanding and cooperation among religions, cultures and civilizations for the sake of peace and harmony in the world, and welcome all regional and international initiatives and efforts to that end.

Mr. Chairman,

The OIC Group also reaffirms its commitment to strengthen international cooperation in the fight against terrorism. The group believes that it is essential to follow a comprehensive approach in combating terrorism. This should be done by addressing the root causes of terrorism, including the lack of sustained economic growth, lack of development, lack of socio-economic opportunities, unlawful use of force, aggression, foreign occupation, prolonged international disputes, and political marginalization and alienation. Moreover, it is necessary to combat all terrorist groups and organizations wherever they exist without any distinction.

Once again, the Group reiterates the need to distinguish between terrorism and the exercise of the legitimate right of people to resist foreign occupation and would like to stress that this distinction is duly observed in International Law, International Humanitarian Law, Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, and the General Assembly resolution 46/51 which also endorses this position.

Furthermore, the Group believes that it is essential that Member States should enhance their cooperation and coordination with the aim of prosecuting the perpetrators of terrorist acts, denying terrorist groups access to any finance, safe havens, assistance or weapons. It is also imperative to enhance the cooperation and coordination to refute the narratives and ideologies of terrorist groups and organizations.

The OIC Group denounces the system of oppression and terror by the illegal Israeli colonial occupation and condemns the genocide committed against the Palestinian people in Gaza. It condemns Israel's illegal military occupation of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and calls on the international community to end this settler colonial occupation and apartheid regime. OIC asserts that all crimes committed by Israel, the occupying power, including all acts of aggression, genocide, ethnic cleansing, destruction, the illegal blockade of the Gaza Strip, the use of starvation as a weapon of war, along with other colonial settlement policies, terrorism including, acts of settler

terrorism, of extremist settlers, land confiscation, home demolitions, repeated attacks on Islamic and Christian holy sites, and attempts to annex Palestinian land in the West Bank, including Al-Quds, enforced disappearance, execution, abuse, torture, terror, and all other violations faced by Palestinian prisoners constitute war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity that necessitate accountability under international criminal law.

The OIC Group affirms the significance of the case presented to the International Court of Justice concerning Israel, as the occupying power, having violated the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, and welcomes the increase in the number of Declaration of Intervention and the necessary follow-up actions to the advisory opinion issued by the International Court of Justice, with the goal of ensuring that Israel, the occupying power, is held accountable for the acts of genocide it has committed and continues to commit in the State of Palestine.

The OIC Group underscores the recent official confirmation of genocide in the Occupied Palestinian Territory by the United Nations Independent International Commission of Inquiry.

The OIC Group warns of the danger of the escalating terrorist activity by extremist settlers under the protection of the Israeli occupation forces in the West Bank, including occupied Al-Quds, and stresses the need to take the necessary steps to hold the settlers accountable for their crimes, including through the imposition of sanctions and prosecution. The OIC calls for the classification of extremist settlers and Jewish settlement movements as terrorist groups and organizations and include them on global terrorist lists, and to work at all levels, including United Nations, and especially the Security Council, to hold the Israeli leaders and settlers accountable for the crimes they commit. The OIC Group appreciates the decisions made by States that have enacted resolutions, laws, and punitive measures against Israeli settlers and settlements.

OIC also condemns the Israeli Knesset's adoption of racist laws, including classifying the so-called UNRWA as a terrorist organization, preventing its operation in the Occupied Territory, and rejecting a Palestinian State.

The OIC Group condemns Israel's ongoing aggression against Lebanon since October 2023, including land, sea, and air assaults on Lebanon's sovereignty, which have been alarmingly increasing, Israel's persistence to

continue its policy of intimidation and threats against Lebanon, the targeting of civilians and children in southern Lebanon and deep into Lebanese territory in a flagrant violation of International Law and International Humanitarian Law. The OIC further condemns the cyberwarfare launched by Israel against Lebanon. It calls on the international community to take deterrent measures to stop this aggression and make Israel accountable for the crimes committed. The OIC condemns in the strongest terms the brutal unprovoked acts of aggression by the Israeli regime against the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 13 June 2025 and onwards, including repeated terrorist attacks killing more than a thousand civilians including women and children, the assassination of Iranian scientists, university professors, senior military commanders, and former Palestinian Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh, in grave violation of international law and the UN Charter. It stresses that these brutal attacks, together with the unprovoked assault on the Iranian Embassy Complex in Syria, constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity and a blatant violation of the sovereignty of Iran and Syria .

The OIC Group further condemns the Israeli regime and the United States of America for attacks on Iran's peaceful nuclear facilities, calls upon the IAEA to unequivocally condemn them, and urges the UN Security Council to take decisive measures under Chapter VII. It reaffirms Iran's inherent right to self-defense and to take all necessary measures to protect its sovereignty and citizens and prevent recurrence of such criminal acts.

The OIC Group wishes to recall the emergency Arab-Islamic Summit held in Doha on 15 September 2025 to discuss the Israeli aggression against the State of Qatar, and in this regard, condemns in the strongest terms the cowardly and illegal attack launched by Israel on September 9, 2025, on a residential neighborhood in the Qatari capital, Doha, which housed residential buildings designated by the State to host negotiating delegations as part of its multilateral mediation efforts, in addition to a number of schools, nurseries, and diplomatic missions. The attack resulted in the deaths of martyrs, including a Qatari citizen, and the injury of a number of civilians. We further emphasize that such aggression against a neutral venue for mediation not only violates the sovereignty of the State of Qatar, but also undermines international mediation and peacemaking processes, and Israel bears full responsibility for this attack.

The OIC Group expresses solidarity with the government and people of Pakistan, the Group expresses its deep concern over the recent military escalation in the South Asia region, including the unjustified Indian strikes carried out on multiple locations in Pakistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir, and stress the need

to exercise maximum restraint and avoid actions that would destabilize the region.

The OIC Group reaffirms the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the UN Charter regarding the sanctity of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and recalling the numerous unimplemented UN Security Council resolutions on Jammu and Kashmir dispute which declare that the final disposition of the state of Jammu and Kashmir will be made in accordance with the will of the people to join India or Pakistan expressed through the democratic method of a free and impartial plebiscite conducted under the auspices of the United Nations, stressing that lasting peace in South Asia cannot be achieved without a just settlement of the core Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with UNSC resolutions.

The OIC Group reaffirms that the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy constitutes an ongoing effort and is a living document, which should be up-dated and re-examined regularly, by taking into account new and emerging trends in the context of terrorism particularly threats posed by the rise of terrorist attacks on the base of xenophobia, Islamophobia, racism , right wing extremism, state sponsored extra-territorial assassinations and disinformation campaigns, use of terrorist groups as proxies and hydroterrorism.

The OIC looks forward to the upcoming 9th Review of the Strategy in 2026 which will coincide with the 20th anniversary of the launching of the GCTS. The OIC sincerely hopes that all Member States will be able during the next review of the strategy to engage more effectively and with a spirit of consensus and compromise to realize a review document that is more reflective of the concerns and priorities of Member-States, while learning from the shortfalls from previous reviews.

The Group also reaffirms that the Counter-Terrorism Strategy should be implemented in a balanced manner across its four pillars. We stress the importance of enhancing capacity-building of Member States to assist them in the implementation of various obligations of UN resolutions, through increasing the resources for UN entities and departments entrusted with this task, as well as enhancing bilateral technical assistance and transfer of technology. In this regard, the OIC recognizes the central role and the contribution of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) in this context.

Mr. Chairman,

The OIC Group reaffirms its commitment to the process of negotiating a draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT) and underscores the need for progress in this process. We reiterate our previous proposal on the scope of the draft Convention. We reaffirm our determination to make every effort to reach a consensus agreement on the draft convention, by resolving the outstanding issues including those related to the legal definition of terrorism. particularly on the distinction between terrorism and the struggle for the rights of self-determination by peoples under foreign occupation, and colonial or alien domination, as well as on the scope of the acts covered by the draft Convention.

In this regard, OIC still sees merit in convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations with the purpose of finalizing the outstanding issues in the CCIT and further enhancing the international community's response to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.