Mr. Chairperson,

I would like to start with thanking Mr. Director General for his comprehensive report.

The report puts the dire humanitarian situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem with crystal clear findings.

Since last year, intensified attacks of the Israeli forces caused further devastation. Hundreds of Palestinian people lost their lives and thousands were wounded.

As the report vividly puts forward, violent incidents have substantially increased since the beginning of the “Great March of Return” on 30 March 2018. Since then, only in Gaza Strip 362 attacks were recorded against health care workers, in which 3 workers were killed by live ammunition and 565 were injured.

On the other hand, ongoing blockade on the Gaza Strip has a severe impact on the health capacity of the region. Limited and unpredictable electricity supply – as well as shortages of essential medical supply and medicines, deteriorate the conditions.

People living in the occupied Palestinian territories are under systematic attack from Israeli forces and are deprived of basic healthcare.

We strongly condemn all of these actions.

Mr. Chairperson,

Our humanitarian assistance has a particular focus on Gaza.

To answer the urgent needs in the health sector in Gaza, Turkish Red Crescent completed the shipment of over 8 tons of medicine and medical supplies to Gaza last December.

Also, the installation of the medical equipment of the Turkish-Palestinian Friendship Hospital in Gaza has been finalized with an investment of more than
65 million Dollars. Once operational, it will be among the largest health facilities in all of Palestine, with its 180 beds and 35,000 square meters indoor capacity.

Mr. Chairperson,

We commend the efforts of the WHO and other UN agencies working to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people.

In this vein, we expect the international community to fulfill its responsibility to end this acute humanitarian crisis.

Therefore, we co-sponsor the draft decision and invite all member states to support it.

Thank you.