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AGENDA ITEM 18

COMMITTEE B

**HEALTH CONDITIONS IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY, INCLUDING
EAST JERUSALEM AND IN THE OCCUPIED SYRIAN GOLAN**

76th WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

24 MAY 2023

Thank you, Chair.

Indonesia would like to thank the Director General for having prepared the report on 'Health conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan' based on the WHO's field assessment.

We note from the UN Report, that 2022 was **the darkest and deadliest year for Palestinians in West Bank since 2005**. It should trigger us to make more concrete actions, especially to support the health system in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

The occupying power continuing **attacks, illegal policies and unilateral measures** have impacted the health infrastructure, health financing, healthcare access and the wellbeing of the Palestinian population.

We have seen how Palestinians are struggling to get essential medical care and even emergency care. These kind of obstacles are unacceptable and should be removed as soon as possible.

In this regard, we appreciate the active support of the **WHO, UNRWA**, and other relevant UN bodies and international agencies in addressing the health situation on the ground.

We encourage the WHO to continue providing aid and technical support to the Palestinian Government and its people, support the recommendations by the Director-General and call on the international community to support its implementation.

Indonesia is committed to **continue providing assistance to the Palestinian people, including in the health sector** to ensure the fulfilment of their needs. Indonesia firmly believes in the principles enshrined in the WHO's constitution, which

states that the highest attainable standard of health is a fundamental right of every human being.

On this point, Indonesia has provided technical assistance and conducted several capacity-building programmes to Palestine. **Since 2008, more than 185 trainings** have been held to enhance Palestine's capacity in the health sector. The Government has also granted **1 million USD to assist Palestinians during the COVID-19 pandemic.**

Currently, Indonesia is preparing **a capacity building program on food and drug control for Palestinian officials, as an implementation of the MoU on Technical Cooperation on Food and Drug Control.** In addition, the Government is also facilitating the plan to **build a hospital in Hebron.**

It is with this conviction that we express our deep concern for the health conditions of the Palestinian people living under occupation. Indonesia stands ready to work closely with the WHO and other multilateral institutions to provide health support needed by the Palestinians and ensure the realisation of Universal Health Coverage for all nations.

Therefore, Indonesia **supports the Draft Decision proposed by Palestine for this agenda item and we ascribe ourself as co-sponsor to this Decision.** Let us join hands in addressing the urgent health challenges faced by the Palestinians and supporting them to gain unhindered and adequate access to health facilities.

Thank you, Chair.

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