

Intervention by Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)

Under Agenda Item 17 “Health conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including east Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan”

At the resumed session of 73rd World Health Assembly, 12 November 2020

(Mr. JONG Myong Hak, Counsellor, Permanent Mission in Geneva)

Mr. Moderator,

Ms. Chair,

First of all, the Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea would like to appreciate WHO Director General for his comprehensive Report on “Health conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including east Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan”, while taking this opportunity to commend the humanitarian activities of WHO and other UN Agencies to alleviate the sufferings of the Palestinian people.

As all know, the brutality of Israeli atrocities against the Palestinians and other Arabs within the occupied territories has become institutionalized and ever more undisguised over the past few decades, and there can be no justification for the acts of Israeli occupiers who have taken tens of thousands of innocent Palestinian lives in flagrant violation of the very right to life and existence - the fundamental human rights.

We maintain that all recommendations reflected in the Report should be fully implemented, including the one for the Israeli authorities to ensure access of all Palestinians to health care, in particular, during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

From this point of view, we vote in support of the draft decision proposed by Palestine and express our expectation that WHO would continue to make efforts to enhance humanitarian health response capacities in the occupied Palestinian territory including east Jerusalem and in the occupied Syrian Golan.

Thank you.