



**NATIONAL STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA ON AGENDA ITEM 20
A78/16, ON 21 MAY 2025**

***Health Conditions in The Occupied Palestinian Territory, Including East Jerusalem, and in
The Occupied Syrian Golan, Report by the Director-General***

**Chairperson,
Director-General,
Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,**

Namibia extends its appreciation to the Director-General for his comprehensive and sobering report.

Namibia is deeply distressed by the devastating humanitarian and health crisis unfolding in the Gaza Strip. The destruction of hospitals and clinics, the deaths of medical personnel, and the denial of humanitarian access gravely undermine international humanitarian law and the fundamental right to health.

We echo the World Health Organization's call for the immediate protection of civilians and medical personnel, in accordance with the Geneva Conventions. We further call for the restoration of safe and unimpeded access to life-saving medical services and humanitarian relief.

Namibia remains particularly concerned about the deteriorating mental and physical health conditions of children and other vulnerable populations subjected to trauma, displacement, and malnutrition in Gaza and across the occupied Palestinian territory. This is a humanitarian tragedy that must not be normalized or ignored.

We are equally alarmed by the continued systemic health inequalities faced by populations in East Jerusalem and the occupied Syrian Golan, including restrictions on access to healthcare, medicines, and essential services.

Chairperson,

Namibia reaffirms its unwavering support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to health, dignity, and self-determination. The protection of public health must not be politicized, it is a shared responsibility grounded in our collective commitment to the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law.

The key to the question we have before us on how States can contribute to the delivery of humanitarian assistance by WHO and Partners, lies amongst us as States. The humanitarian blockade against multilateral systems providing life-saving humanitarian aid must end. Multilateralism and its ensuing global infrastructure, form the catalyst for peace and the protection of civilians, particularly in humanitarian situations.

Namibia urges the global community to redouble efforts toward a peaceful and just resolution of the conflict, based on the relevant UN resolutions and respect for human rights. However, the people of Palestine cannot and must not wait another set of decades for the achievement of peace.

As we continue the fight for the right to self-determination for the people of Palestine, Namibia reemphasises that the end to the blockade against humanitarian relief by the occupying power is critically urgent. This is the only way to enable the sustained international support to rebuild health systems in Gaza and the occupied territories.

I thank you.