

**Statement by Mahmoud Abbas**  
**President of the State of Palestine**  
**at the Sixth Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence**  
**Building Measures in Asia (CICA)**

*13 October 2022 Astana*

*Republic of Kazakhstan*

Your Excellency, President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev,

President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, leaders and heads of delegations,

I am pleased to participate in this important summit, in its sixth edition, of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia, which has succeeded since its establishment until this day in strengthening friendship and cooperation relations in areas of common interest, including security, stability, peace, and unifying concepts on many inter-related issues in Asia and in the world.

We assure you, despite being under occupation, that we are active at the level of international forums and the United Nations, and we are aware of the difficult situation in the world in light of regional and international tensions and other challenges facing our countries and the world, such as security threats, including ending the Israeli occupation of the territory of the State of Palestine, food security, energy crisis, climate change, etc.

We in the State of Palestine seek to end the Israeli occupation of the land of the State of Palestine, and to materialize our independent sovereign State with East Jerusalem as its capital, on the 1967 borders, and we still believe in achieving this through political and diplomatic means, respect and adherence to international law and signed agreements, and on the basis of international legitimacy resolutions and approved terms of reference foremost of which is the Arab Peace Initiative, stipulated in UNSC resolution 1515, and we are confident that all of your countries, whose positions we appreciate, support the rights of our Palestinian people to freedom and independence.

Excellencies

After 74 years of displacement of our Palestinian people due to the Nakba in 1948, and the massacres that accompanied it, amounting to more than fifty massacres, along with the demolition of 529 Palestinian villages, and the displacement and expulsion of more than half of the Palestinian people from their land (950,000 refugees according to United Nations statistics at that time).

Excellencies

More than 55 years have passed since the occupation of the rest of the Palestinian territories in 1967, and despite all these tragedies that our Palestinian people have been subjected to, we have concluded agreements with Israel on the basis of the vision of the two-state solution. However, Israel has violated these agreements and continued its settlement regime, demolitions and killings.

And the ongoing targeting of prisoners in the occupation prisons, and the attacks and sieges on our cities, camps and villages, especially in Shuafat, Jenin and Nablus.

We will not accept the continuation of this situation, and we will not remain the only ones committed to the agreements signed with Israel, and we will review our entire relationship with Israel, and we will demand an apology and compensation for the massacres and destruction committed by Israel against the Palestinian people.

Dear President and Leaders ,

We look forward, in these difficult circumstances, that you will continue to mobilize international support for the implementation of the resolutions of international legitimacy and the Arab Peace Initiative, and to support the Palestinian efforts aimed at obtaining recognition of the State of Palestine, especially by European countries that have not yet recognized it, and in obtaining full membership in the United Nations, and convening an international conference peace, securing international protection for our Palestinian people, and implementing international legitimacy resolutions related to the Palestinian cause, including UNSC resolutions 2334, and resolutions 181 and 194, which are two resolutions that stipulated conditions for Israel's acceptance as a member of the United Nations and were not implemented. We also point out that Britain and America must apologize and compensate for the fateful Balfour Declaration.

In conclusion, I thank you, my brother, His Excellency President Tokayev and your people, and for chairing this summit, and I salute you, dear leaders, for your support and stances towards Palestine, assuring you all that we will remain active in serving the issues of this conference of ours, strengthening relations between its member states, and supporting the countries and peoples of our region. To achieve security, stability and peace, and to combat terrorism in our region and the world. Peace be upon you.