



Dear Ms Navanethem Pillay,

On behalf of Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development (PWWSD), we warmly congratulate Your Excellency on being awarded the 2026 Nobel Peace Prize. For us, this is a welcome recognition of the courage and care you have brought to a lifetime of defending human rights and seeking justice for victims.

From your work against apartheid in South Africa to your service in international courts and as UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, you have stood alongside people whose suffering was too often overlooked. You have insisted that no one should be beyond accountability and that everyone deserves the protection of the law.

As a Palestinian feminist organisation, we are especially grateful for your contribution to recognising that rape and sexual violence can constitute acts of genocide. Your work helped bring crimes against women into the heart of international justice and affirmed survivors' right to be heard and to seek redress with dignity.

This award carries particular meaning for us in Palestine. We deeply appreciate your leadership of the UN Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel, and the Commission's work documenting crimes in the Gaza Strip and concluding that Israel is responsible for genocide. Your determination to speak clearly about these findings has mattered to those who have seen their suffering denied or minimised.

In our daily work with Palestinian women and young women, we see the lasting effects of violence: the grief of losing loved ones, the uncertainty of displacement, and the struggle to provide for a family when livelihoods have been destroyed. We also see women supporting one another, organising within their communities, and continuing to defend their rights. They deserve justice, support to rebuild their lives, and a meaningful say in their future.

We hope this recognition gives greater strength to efforts to protect civilians, secure accountability, and defend the independence of international justice. At a time when courts and human rights defenders face mounting pressure, your commitment encourages us to keep going.

We share your belief in the importance of justice to peace. For Palestinian women, that means living in safety and freedom, with equal opportunities to learn, work, and shape public life. It also means upholding the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

Please accept our congratulations and our gratitude for your steadfast commitment to victims' rights. Your work means a great deal to us and to the women and girls whose rights we strive to protect.

With respect and solidarity,

Amal Khreishe (She/Her)

Director- General

Palestine — 11 October 2026

*Amal Khreishe*



H.E. Mr Shaun Edward Byneveldt

Representative of the Republic of South Africa to the State of Palestine

On behalf of Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development (PWWSO), we warmly congratulate the government and people of South Africa on Ms Navi Pillay being awarded the 2026 Nobel Peace Prize. As a Palestinian feminist organisation, we share in the joy of seeing her lifelong work for justice recognised.

Ms Pillay has shown courage throughout her life—from confronting apartheid in South Africa to defending human rights through international law. Her willingness to speak out against injustice, including when doing so brings pressure and criticism, makes her an example of leadership that women around the world can look to with pride.

This celebration also belongs to South African women whose resistance, organising, and determination helped bring freedom and change to their country. Their struggles continue to resonate with women elsewhere who are demanding equality and a voice in shaping their societies.

We are especially grateful for Ms Pillay's role in establishing that rape and sexual violence can constitute acts of genocide. Her contribution helped bring survivors' experiences into international justice and affirmed their right to be heard and seek accountability.

For Palestinian women and young women, her defence of Palestinian rights makes this recognition particularly meaningful. She shows that women can lead at the highest levels while remaining attentive to people whose lives and suffering are too often overlooked.

We hope her achievement encourages women and girls to pursue their ambitions and claim their place in public life. It also honours the many women already leading change—in their communities, in movements, and in institutions—often without recognition.

Please accept our heartfelt congratulations. We join South Africa in celebrating Ms Pillay, the women whose struggles helped shape her country, and all women who continue to stand up for justice.

With respect and solidarity,

Amal Khreishe (She/Her)

Director-General

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