



From: Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development- PWWSD

To: His Excellency, Mr. Antonio

**Secretary- General of the United Nations
New York, NY 10017**

Date: October 26th, 2024

Open Letter

It is the Time to Put Women Peace and Security into effect in Occupied Palestine

On behalf of Palestinian women in occupied Palestine (Gaza Strip and West Bank), Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development- PWWSD, is submitting this open letter demanding immediate measures to end the ongoing Israeli aggression and genocide war.

PWWSD is a Palestinian independent organization, active in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and dedicating efforts and resources to protect Palestinian women rights per national laws and international human rights conventions and treaties.

Your Excellency,

For over than a year, the Israeli occupation has been commencing one of the bloodiest wars in the history of human beings; a war recognized by several United Nations agencies and rapporteurs/ experts, as a genocide war, which is considered a war crime and a crime against humanity, per IHRL and IHL as well as per Rome Statute. The International Court of Justice (ICJ), through its advisory opinion, ordered immediate measures to stop the war and ensure that no genocide acts should take place in the Gaza Strip. Israel (Occupying Power), is turning a blind eye to all the international demands to halt its aggression and stop the ongoing massacre. Killing is committed daily by the occupation targeting civilians, mainly women and children as they serve a little bit more than two thirds of the victims. Hundreds of children were born and killed during the twelve months of war. Furthermore, more than 90% of the Palestinian citizens in the Gaza Strip have been displaced, including some being displaced for several times. Thousands of pregnant women face the risk of death as a result to destroying the health system in the Gaza Strip. Women had to deliver in inhumane circumstances causing the death of many of them and the death of their new-born babies. Tens of thousands of women are suffering infectious diseases and pandemics due to being displaced more than once and the lack of any medical care or cleaning material. Women suffering from chronic diseases (alike other patients), find no resource for healing and they are facing slow death. Adult girls who experience the period for the first time in their lives, find no hygiene stuff or menstrual kits. Those adolescent girls , for sure, would lose confidence in themselves and bad self-esteem. Many women

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from the Gaza Strip were arrested by the Israeli occupation forces and are forcibly disappearing with no details about their destiny.

While the Israeli military tools are being utilized in killing Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and destroying life essentials, the Israeli government, decided to expand its aggression and started another wave of attacks and crimes against Lebanese people. Similar to the case in the Gaza Strip, Lebanese women and children are the main target of the Israeli airstrikes.

In the West Bank and in parallel with the ongoing genocide war in the Gaza Strip, the Israeli forces are proceeding in the oppressive measures against Palestinians. More than 700 Palestinians, including women, children, youth, and men have been killed. 11 thousand cases of detention have occurred in the West Bank during the given period. Moreover, the current Israeli government is arming the Israeli settlers and providing them with military protection, in order to proceed in their attacks against Palestinians. The settlers are attacking Palestinians, mainly in the rural areas, and banning farmers from accessing their lands and collecting their crops. The attacks of the settlers escalated during this month (October), which marks the olive picking season where since the beginning of the month, the Israeli armed settlers burnt and destroyed more than 600 olive trees in around 15 locations in the West Bank. A Palestinian woman named Hanan Abdul Rahman Abu Salama (60 years old from Faqouaa Village- Jenin- northern West Bank), was shot dead by the Israeli settlers (protected by the Israeli soldiers) while picking olive in her land. Eye witnesses report that the farmers did not cause any risk on the soldiers when the lady was shot dead. Attacking Palestinian farmers will return with the greatest impact on women mainly, taking into consideration that 60% of worker women are enrolled in the agricultural sector.

Your Excellency,

Taking into consideration that the Israeli occupation is violating countless number of international human rights and international humanitarian laws instruments and violating all the human values and principles, we believe that it is the time for the United Nations to take its role in accounting the Israeli occupation for its violations and crimes and we assert that as long as accountability is delayed, then justice is denied. It is time to stop the double standards applied in dealing with global issues and it is time to put into effect the United Nations Charter itself, and enable Palestinians to enjoy their national rights. It is time to obligate the Occupation state to halt its genocide war against Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and against Lebanese people in the southern parts of Lebanon and in Beirut.

In recognition of the anniversary of the UNSCR 1325 and taking into consideration that the United Nations, represented in the respectful personality of the secretary-general, is the sponsor of Women Peace and Security Agenda, PWWSD urges for the following:

- **Issue a resolution by the Security Council to put the Occupation State under Sanctions per Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter to obligate it to adhere to the international law and the UN Resolutions and end its ongoing aggression on Palestinian and Lebanese people. The Israeli occupation must stop the ongoing genocide war in the Gaza Strip and apply the measurements detailed in the Decision of the ICJ to stop the genocide war. In case such a resolution was vetoed by the American Administration as expected, then the resolution should be issued through the general assembly under Uniting for Peace Section.**
- **Authorize Investigation Committees to visit Occupied Palestine and report about the violations of the Israeli Occupation, with a focus on the violations against Women Rights in the light of**

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Women Peace and Security Agenda and the sexual abuse committed by the Israeli forces against Palestinian women, mainly women who were arrested by the Israeli forces.

- Provide immediate Protection for Palestinian and Lebanese women to protect them against the crimes committed by the Israeli occupation.
- Declare the Occupation State (Israel) as blacklisted country that violates women rights.

Amal Khreishe (She/ Her)

Amal Khreishe
Director- General

PWWSD.

