

Statement of H.E. Minister Riyad Mansour, Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine, at the meeting of the 6th Committee on measures to eliminate international terrorism, 8 October 2021

Madam Chair,

Allow me at the outset to congratulate you for your well-deserved election.

The State of Palestine aligns itself with the statements delivered by Iran on behalf of NAM and by Saudi Arabia on behalf of the OIC.

Madam Chair,

History teaches us that powers, notably colonial powers, often invoke terrorism to justify their oppression of peoples pursuing their legitimate right to national liberation and self-determination, a right enshrined in natural law, international law and the UN Charter.

Many representatives here can tell you about how their historical leaders were branded as terrorists by the oppressors trying to delegitimize their struggle. In this debate, we stand resolutely on the side of Mandela, not on the side of the Apartheid regime which labelled him a terrorist.

History also teaches us that countries may invoke the fight against terrorism to bend or break the fundamental rules that lie at the heart of the international law based order.

We will never be complicit in such endeavors as they undermine the rule of international law and the fight against terrorism.

