

Republic of Tunisia
Assembly of People's Representatives

Speech by Mr. Ibrahim Bouderbala
President of the Assembly of People's Representatives
At the 151st Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
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Madam Tulia Ackson, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,
Honourable, Speakers of Parliaments, and distinguished colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great honor for us to be among you to take part in this session, and we are pleased on this occasion to greet your esteemed assembly and to convey, on behalf of Mr. Ibrahim Bouderbala, President of the Assembly of People's Representatives, and on our own behalf as members of the Tunisian delegation, our sincere expressions of gratitude and appreciation to all those responsible for organizing the various activities of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, especially Ms. Tulia Ackson and Mr. Martin Chungong, as well as all their colleagues.

Madam President,
Distinguished Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Our general debate on the theme **“Ensuring respect for humanitarian standards and supporting humanitarian action in times of crisis”** is of great importance, particularly in light of the violence and armed

conflicts that have escalated in many parts of the world today. This situation requires us, as representatives of our peoples, to work seriously and effectively, both at the national level and within regional and international parliamentary organizations, foremost among them the Inter-Parliamentary Union—to strengthen our commitment to international law and humanitarian standards, in support of humanitarian action aimed at confronting the blatant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and ensuring the activation of mechanisms of parliamentary and governmental diplomacy.

We are all aware that, while the 1949 Geneva Conventions have long constituted the cornerstone of international humanitarian law, recent and grave global developments have revealed the shortcomings of the multilateral system in addressing major humanitarian challenges and the tragedies resulting from armed conflicts. We are therefore compelled to question the role of the United Nations Security Council in preventing blatant violations of human rights in conflict zones—violations that have reached the level of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes.

There is no doubt that the atrocities and brutal practices taking place on Palestinian soil compel us to once again express, in the strongest terms, our condemnation of the genocide, starvation, abuse, and forced displacement perpetrated by the Zionist entity against defenseless civilians in Gaza, as well as its repeated assaults, together with settler militias, on the West Bank.

Tunisia welcomes the agreement reached for a ceasefire in Gaza and commends the Arab, Islamic, and international efforts that led to this outcome. It calls upon the international community to assume its responsibility in ensuring the sustainability of this ceasefire.

Tunisia also emphasizes that this agreement must not overshadow the international community's duty to continue pursuing and holding accountable the officials of the occupying entity for the crimes of genocide and collective punishment they have committed.

We reaffirm Tunisia's principled and unwavering position in support of the just cause of the Palestinian people and its unconditional backing of their struggle to recover their legitimate national rights, foremost among them their right to establish an independent and fully sovereign State on the entire territory of Palestine, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

In this context, we condemn the unjust aggression that has targeted the sisterly Islamic Republic of Iran, with the blatant and well-known support of certain parties. We also denounce the ongoing Zionist aggressions that continue to violate the sovereignty of our sisterly countries Lebanon and Syria, as well as the continued attacks against the brotherly Yemeni people, the latest of which was the targeting of the sisterly State of Qatar and the violation of the sanctity of its territory and national sovereignty.

Madam President,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

If war is an ever-evolving phenomenon, how can international humanitarian law and human rights treaties remain rigid, without adapting their provisions to changes and avoiding shortcomings in the effective protection they provide to victims of armed conflicts? And how can the United Nations Security Council, which emphasized **in its Resolution 1674 of 2006 that "development, peace and security, and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,"** fail to take real and effective measures to confront the terrorist madness perpetrated by the occupying power, which is pushing the Middle East to the brink of a large-scale conflict, and to prevent its continued disregard for international legitimacy and its self-serving interpretation of the right to self-defense, in blatant violation of international law and in serious neglect of the challenges faced by humanitarian action in

war zones today, thereby threatening to bring the humanitarian system and the entire international order to the point of collapse.

Madam President,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Tunisia, proud of its Arab and African identity, values bilateral and multilateral parliamentary cooperation with the aim of contributing to the success of collective international efforts to protect those most vulnerable to armed conflicts, and to strengthen humanitarian action through the delivery of aid to those who most need it, particularly our brothers and sisters in Gaza, whose very survival is under threat.

At the *Summit of the Future*, held during the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Tunisia called for the establishment of a genuine partnership that would open new horizons for international cooperation within a fair and sustainable economic system—one that alleviates the debt burden on developing countries, reduces developmental, digital, and technological gaps among peoples, and addresses the root causes of irregular migration.

From this platform, my country calls for the unification of ranks and for strengthened cooperation and solidarity at this historic juncture, in order to repel injustice, uphold what is right, and achieve human justice, thereby preserving peace, security, and stability throughout the world.

In conclusion, let us reaffirm Tunisia's determination to advance the completion of its democratic transition and to build its permanent and effective constitutional institutions, in implementation of the principles enshrined in the 2022 Constitution—approved by the

Tunisian people through referendum—which established a bicameral legislative function to strengthen popular representation.

We also reiterate our country's unwavering commitment to upholding human rights and consolidating public and individual freedoms for all citizens, in full respect of national laws and sovereignty.

Thank you for your attention.

Peace, mercy, and blessings of God be upon you.