

Permanent Commission proposed for Israel human rights violations

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In news- Member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation(OIC) have called on the U.N. Human Rights Council to set up a permanent commission to report on human rights violations in Israel, Gaza and the West Bank.

About the proposed Commission-

- A special session of the council was held to address the grave human rights situation in Gaza, the West Bank and east Jerusalem.
- The **meeting was sought by Pakistan, as the OIC's coordinator.**
- A vote on the draft resolution was held which was largely virtual.
- The draft resolution calls on the council to urgently establish an ongoing **independent, international commission of inquiry appointed by the council president** to investigate violations of international humanitarian and human rights law in Israel and Palestinian areas.
- The commission would also investigate all underlying root causes of recurrent tensions, instability and protraction of conflict including discrimination and repression.
- A commission of inquiry (COI) is the highest level of scrutiny that the council can authorize.
- The **special session is the 30th at the council, and the ninth on the issue of the Occupied Palestinian Territories** alone, the last was in May 2018.
- The council's **most recent special session on Myanmar** was held in February, 2021.

Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)-

- It is the **second largest intergovernmental organization after the United Nations** with a membership of **57 states spread over four continents**.
- The Organization is the **collective voice of the Muslim world**.
- It endeavors to safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world in the spirit of promoting international peace and harmony among various people of the world.
- The Organization was established upon a decision of the historical summit which took place in **Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco in September 1969** following the criminal arson of Al-Aqsa Mosque in occupied Jerusalem.
- In **1970, the first ever meeting of Islamic Conference of Foreign Minister (ICFM) was held in Jeddah** which decided to establish a permanent secretariat in Jeddah headed by the organization's secretary general.
- The first OIC Charter was adopted by the 3rd ICFM Session held in 1972.
- The Charter laid down the objectives and principles of the organization and fundamental purposes to strengthen the solidarity and cooperation among the Member States.
- The **present Charter of the OIC was adopted by the Eleventh Islamic Summit held in Dakar on 13-14 March 2008**.
- The **Ten-Year Program of Action (2016-2025)** has been launched by OIC to face the challenges of the 21st century and focuses on **18 priority areas with 107 goals**.
- **Key bodies of OIC include** – *the Islamic Summit, the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), the General Secretariat.*

Specialized organs are the Islamic Development Bank and The Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and

other subsidiaries/ affiliate organs.