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EU statement (check against delivery)

Agenda Item 6: Report on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian People (TD/B/73/2)

Dear President, Secretary General, Excellencies, distinguished Delegates,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

We thank UNCTAD for its report on the “Developments in the economy of the Occupied Palestinian Territory” and for the data it presents.

We take note of UNCTAD support in continuing to assess the economic development prospects of the Occupied Palestinian Territory and examine the economic costs of the occupation in line with the mandate given by the Geneva Consensus, and welcome the call to the international community to act to ensure a permanent ceasefire and take decisive action to mobilize large-scale financial and technical support to rebuild the Palestinian economy.

The EU and its Member States remain the largest provider of humanitarian aid to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, having mobilized over €1.9 billion in humanitarian assistance since 2023. To support the Palestinian Authority and contribute to the Palestinian people's longer-term recovery and resilience, the EU has approved a Multiannual Comprehensive Support Programme of up to €1.6 billion for 2025–2027, linked to the implementation of structural reforms by the Palestinian Authority.

The European Union will continue to work on the implementation of the *Comprehensive Plan to End the Gaza Conflict* in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 2803, and on the reconstruction and redevelopment of Gaza, in line with international law including international humanitarian law. It calls again on Israel to allow immediate, unimpeded access and sustained distribution of humanitarian assistance at scale into and throughout Gaza.

The European Union will continue to support the Palestinian Authority, including in its reform agenda, so that it can securely take back effective control of Gaza; and calls again on Israel to urgently release all withheld clearance revenues, this being necessary to ensure the proper functioning of the Palestinian Authority and the delivery of essential services to the population.

In line with relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, the European Union reiterates its commitment to a comprehensive, just and lasting peace based on the two-state solution and is ready to contribute to the efforts towards this solution.

Thank you,