



**Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mozambique
to the United Nations**

REMARKS BY
H.E. AMBASSADOR PEDRO COMISSÁRIO,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC
MOZAMBIQUE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Public Meeting
On
**« The Situation in The Middle East, Including The
Palestinian Question »**

NEW YORK, 5 JANUARY 2023, At 3 PM

Mr. President

At the outset, I wish to extend our warm congratulations to Japan on your election as non-permanent member of the Security Council and on your presidency of the Council for the month of January. We pledge our full support to your Presidency.

I also wish to extend our congratulations to our fellow new elected members Ecuador, Japan, Malta and Switzerland for assuming their seat as non-permanent members of the Security Council.

We pay tribute to the departing members of the Council and we commend the important and positive role they have played in the Chamber.

Mr. President

We thank you for promptly convening this briefing on recent developments in the Middle East region.

We thank ASG Khaled Khiari for his update.

We recognize the participation of the Representatives of the Observer State of Palestine, Israel, Jordan and Pakistan.

Mozambique is deeply concerned over recent incidents in the region. They have the potential to exacerbate and inflame an already fragile situation. We call on all parties to act in a responsible and restrained manner.

We are particularly disturbed by the real possibility of escalation of the conflict. In this connection, we recall the Secretary-General's latest report on Resolution 2334/2016, issued last December, indicating 2022 as the deadliest year yet, in the conflict.

We regret the loss of lives, the destruction of properties, and the heavy humanitarian toll resulting from the hostilities. We call on all concerned parties to the conflict to adhere strictly to the principles of international humanitarian law.

Mr. President

We strongly condemn gestures that embolden extreme attitudes that can further erode hope in the viability of a political and negotiated settlement of the conflict based on Security Council and General Assembly Resolutions in support of a two-state solution.

In light of the above:

1. Mozambique reiterates its longstanding and principled position in support of the right of self-determination of the Palestinian people and the

right of existence of the State of Israel, the only viable basis for the two peoples to live side by side in two independent and sovereign states, in line, among others, with Security Council resolution 242 of 1967.

2. We call upon all parties to refrain from any action or decision that can potentially undermine international law. We urge the parties to uphold internationally agreed commitments to achieve a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region.
3. We believe that the primacy of a legitimate and negotiated political process to address the core issues driving this protracted conflict is still the only way forward.
4. We therefore call upon the Council and all stakeholders to further enhance their efforts towards a lasting peace in the Middle East region.

I thank you!