

UNHRC Session #56
Oral Statement under Item 3
Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Internally Displaced
Persons

**Israel's genocide has made Gaza unlivable and obstructs the right to return and
reparations of internally displaced Palestinians**

Mr. President,

Since 7 October, Israel has dropped over 70,000 tons of bombs on the Gaza Strip, generating 39 million tons of debris and rubble.

In addition to the genocide and the repeated internal forcible transfer of 1.7 million Palestinians, the water and sanitation infrastructure has been completely destroyed; soil, water and air have been severely polluted; and ecosystems have been irreversibly damaged.

Untreated sewage is contaminating beaches, coastal waters, soil, and freshwater with a host of pathogens and hazardous chemicals, posing immediate and long-term threats to the health of Palestinians, marine life, and arable lands.

While the immediate impact of the destruction has been devastating, the long-term impact on the environment and climate change is predominately unknown.

The destruction wrought by Israel's genocide is meant to deny the basic and inalienable rights of Palestinians, especially IDPs in the Gaza Strip, not only now but for many years into the future.

In making Gaza unlivable, Israel has intentionally targeted their rights to reparations and return.

BADIL calls on UN member states to establish a committee to investigate and address the long-term impact of Israel's genocide on the environment, climate change and the rights of Palestinian IDPs in the Gaza Strip, especially their rights to reparations and return.

Thank you