

Oral Statement Item: 3 Interactive Dialogue with the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide

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Islamic Human Rights Commission (IHRC) is a not-for-profit campaign, research and advocacy organization founded and based in the United Kingdom. It was set up in 1997 and works for redress of human rights violations and a better understanding of rights and norms across confessional, ethnic, national, political and other boundaries.

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The failure of this body to properly frame and therefore deal proportionately with the horrors unfolding in the occupied Gaza Strip hold enormous implications not only for the UN but for the future of a rules-based order that can ensure peace for the world's inhabitants.

What has been unfolding in Gaza since October 2023 is a full-blown genocide.

The stomach-churning images emerging daily from Gaza are beyond horrific and have led all major human rights organizations to designate the Israeli military campaign there as a genocide.

Only if we recognize this can we start to take the action that is (a) necessary to stop it (b) hold those responsible accountable and (c) put in place the sanctions and measures required to prevent a recurrence.

As the upholder of international law, it falls on the UN to treat it as such, a crime against humanity, and not any ordinary conflict. Shirking or allowing itself to be bullied into failing to respond with the requisite force not just diminishes the body but also sets a terrifying precedent and emboldens the perpetrators.

The UN faces a defining moment. Either it rises to do its duty to halt the genocide or it stands idly by as a fanatical extremist state tears up international law and sets a precedent for others to do likewise.