The humanitarian issues are an ever-growing concern for the international community due to their scale, nature and complexity. They feature high on the international agenda.

The drivers of forced displacements are conflicts, climate change, untenable socio-economic situations, intolerance, persecutions, natural disasters...

More and more children and women are among the refugees. Children constitute more than half of them. It means that a whole generation has to reinvent its life in other places without knowing when it can come back to its home country if ever. Their education is also jeopardized.

Another worrying trend is the disregard for international humanitarian law which makes conflicts even more violent. The civilians are paying a heavy price.

It renders also the delivery of assistance more difficult and perilous for humanitarian workers.

Against this backdrop, we are witnessing a rising global food insecurity and looming famines.

The Covid 19 pandemic has added another layer of vulnerability to people already facing many hardships.

All these developments constitute new challenges for the international community and the humanitarian institutions. The latter have to operate in a more complex setting, with less means at their disposal.

Against such a backdrop, the theme of this present session of the Ecosoc/HAS is very topical.

We are indeed at a critical juncture, where we need to look for innovative and more coordinated humanitarian assistance.

At a time where we witness an erosion in the implementation of IHL, its effective respect on the ground should be a matter of priority for us.

In terms of prevention, we need to develop our toolbox in the fields of early warning and early response. The paradigm shift in the humanitarian system from reaction to anticipation is a very important issue.
The UN system has already initiated some reforms in order to better respond to the multiple challenges induced by large flows of refugees which need to be further pursued.

In this regard, there is a need to strengthen the triple nexus approach. As 86% of refugees are hosted by developing countries, the latter should count on the international solidarity.

To reach the objectives we have set, predictable financing is critical.

Our common objective is resilient societies and sustainable development for all.

In a globalized world, partnership and coordination are key words.

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation, for its part, is fully engaged in the peaceful settlements of conflicts and crises.

The OIC has strengthened its mediation capacity and is engaged in many situations where it contributes to appease tensions.

In line with its 2025 Programme of Action, OIC is engaged in setting adequate disaster response mechanisms to help its Member States enhance their resilience against disasters and increase preparedness for response and recovery.

OIC has fostered its partnership with the UN and other regional organizations towards conflict resolution.

Recently, on the occasion of the World Refugee Day, Dr. Yousef Al Othaimeen, Secretary General of the OIC, recalled that the OIC countries are hosting the majority of refugees in the world, offering them protection in line with Islamic teachings and the International Humanitarian Law. He invited the international community to assist them per the principles of just partnership and in accordance with the Global Compact on Refugees.

He also reiterated the OIC’s commitment to coordination and cooperation with relevant international, and regional organizations.

In 2020, the OIC and UNHCR signed an MOU aimed at strengthening their collaboration.

OIC and ICRC have recently agreed on a 2021-2024 Plan of action, which notably promotes awareness-raising on key principles and standards of IHL.

As to the Covid-19 pandemic, for OIC, the contribution of efforts to address this sanitary crisis and its intertwined health, humanitarian, social, and economic impacts is an absolute priority. To this end, fast and equitable access to the Covid-19 vaccine to all countries is an absolute necessity.
In concluding, we would like to flag that there is an urgent need for the international community to come together to devise on the best possible innovative and efficient options to better respond to the growing humanitarian needs.

This is an issue of peace and stability for all. In this same vein, we need to tackle the root causes of forced displacement.

The multifaceted humanitarian crises that are unfolding before our eyes are jeopardizing years of hard-won development. We should react quickly to stop the dangerous trends we are witnessing and well-illustrated in the numerous reports issued by the UNHCR.

As many have said during the debates of this session of Ecosoc/HAS, we have a blueprint, which is the 2030 Agenda that we need to fully implement for the benefit of all without any exclusion.

Thank you.