

الجمهورية الجزائرية الديمقراطية الشعبية

RÉPUBLIQUE ALGÉRIENNE DÉMOCRATIQUE ET POPULAIRE

MISSION PERMANENTE
AUPRÈS DE L'OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES
ET DES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES
EN SUISSE



البعثة الدائمة
لدى مكتب الأمم المتحدة
والمنظمات الدولية بسويسرا

First special session of the Human Rights Council Geneva 05 July 2006

Statement of the Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Algeria on behalf of the African Group

Human rights situation in Palestine and other Arab occupied territories

Mr. President

The African Group expresses its deep concern with the continuous deterioration of the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory in particular as a result of the current Israeli incursion in the Gaza Strip, of the use of force by the Israeli troops against the Palestinian civilian population and of their devastating air raids on Palestinian vital public infrastructure and utilities. These acts constitute serious violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law. The Group expresses deep indignation and condemns these acts vigorously.

The African Group also denounces the arbitrary arrest and detention of Palestinian members of Government and Parliamentarians and of numerous other civilians imprisoned under dire conditions. It voices its urgent demand for their liberation forthwith and calls on the Israeli occupation authorities to put an end immediately to their oppressive practices.

The African Group expresses its full support and solidarity with the Palestinian people in the exercise of its inalienable national rights in particular its rights to self-determination, to return to its lands, to recover its belongings and to live in peace and dignity in an independent Palestinian State having Jerusalem as its Capital.

The African Group reaffirms its support to the peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in compliance with principles of international law and with all the resolutions of the Security Council and of the General Assembly of the United Nations, in particular of resolution 194 of the United Nations as well as with the relevant resolutions of the OAU/AU, with the Arab Peace Initiative adopted in 2002 by the Summit of the League of Arab States and with the Road Map of the Quartet Committee.

The Group reiterates the Banjul Summit Declaration of the Executive Council on Palestine and the Middle East which, inter-alia, "calls upon the two parties to refrain from any act of violence to honour their commitments and the agreements reached between them, and abide by the Peace initiatives so as to attain a lasting, just and comprehensive peace in the region".

It calls on the international community and the Members of the Quartet to resume the implementation of their Plan through facilitating a return to the negotiation table in accordance with the above principles and resolutions with a view to achieving a lasting and global solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict predicated on two States (Palestine and Israel) living side by side in peace and security.

I thank you.