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Statement

by

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before

"The 3rd Session of the Human Rights Council"

on

Follow-up to the decision of the Human Rights Council contained in decision 1/106 and resolution S-1/1 on the Human Rights violations and implications of the Israeli occupation of Palestine and other Arab Teritories

Geneva, 1 December 2006

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Mr. President,

My delegation associates itself with the statement made by Pakistan, on behalf of the OIC. Almost 15 days ago the Human Rights Council took a decisive action in the face of new systematic and gross violation of human rights and humanitarian law in the Beit Hanoun and Gaza stripe by the Israeli regime. In July this year the Council urged Israel the occupying power to release detained Palestinian ministers, lawmakers and civilians. They are still in captivity. Mr. John Dugard, the Special Rapporteur, has still not been able to visit the region to report on the situation in Gaza.

In less than 6 months, the new established Human Rights Council has already convened 3 emergency sessions to discuss the atrocities committed against the peoples of Palestine and Lebanon. However, instead of improving, the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory has further deteriorated and the suffering of the Palestinian people increases, while those responsible for these crimes and violations continue to ignore the decisions of the international community with absolute impunity. The impunity with which Israel regime has been allowed to carry out its crimes, so far, even increase its aggressive policies and terrorist acts against innocent civilians under false pretext.

Regrettably, on the one hand all these terrorist activities and the ones committed previously against the Palestinian people have been going on while there has been serious and meaningful failure in cooperation on the part of the Israeli regime in the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the first special session of the human Rights Council.

On the other hand, the impunity given that the Security Council, which has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of peace and security, has been rendered ineffective due to the shameful exercise of the veto by the main accomplice of Israel, the occupying power.

Mr. President.

It is evident then that the entire populations of the Occupied Palestinian Territories are being victims of a true systematic genocide, collective punishment and crime against humanity planned and carried out as a state policy.

As the ongoing aggression gravely violates international human rights and humanitarian law, the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly urges the Council not only to adopt but also ensure effective implementation of the draft decision before it.

We welcome the establishment of the Fact – Finding Mission headed by Archbishop Tutu a leading figure in the struggle against apartheid. We look forward to the report of the Fact – Finding Mission visit to Beit Hanoun, inter alia: a) to assess the situation of victims; b) to address the needs of survivors; and (c) make recommendations on way and means to protect Palestinian civilians from further Israeli assaults.

Thank you