

EGYPT



مصر

The Permanent Mission of Egypt
to the United Nations
New York

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**Statement
of the Delegation of the Arab Republic of Egypt**

**Before
The Special Political and Decolonization Committee**

Agenda Item (33)

**“Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli
Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People
and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories”**

**New York
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Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, I would like to express our gratitude to the Chairman of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories, H.E. Ambassador Prasad Kariyawasam, the Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations and members of the committee, H.E. Ambassador Hamidon Ali, the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations and H.E. Ambassador Moussa Bocar Ly, the Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations Office at Geneva, for their efforts to prepare for the issuing of the annual report of the Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

Today we discuss the Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories, at a time where the Peace Process faces a very important cross road, either to go in the direction of resuming negotiations aiming to reach an agreed solution for the final status core issues on the basis of the two state solution, or to enter in a new cycle of violence and tension where frustration and disappointment will prevail and where Israel - the occupying power - will continue its violation to the Palestinian human rights, without any care to its obligations under the International Law, the Fourth Geneva Convention and the relevant General Assembly and Security Council Resolutions.

It's a matter of growing Concern the continues rejection of Israel - the Occupying Power - to allow the Special Committee to visit the Occupied Arab Territories, side by side with its continues rejection to the visit of the Human rights Council mission headed by Bishop Desmond Tutou, in a try to affect the work of the Committee and to prevent it from discovering the real human rights situation in the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan. Despite the continues attempts of Israel to efface the signs of its violations, these attempts did not achieve the estimated results, as the Committee's Report reflected the negative sides

of the continued occupation and the scope of the grave humanitarian crisis which the Palestinian suffers, as well as recalled Israel commitments under the International Humanitarian Law. In addressing the Committee's Report, the Delegation of Egypt would like to emphasize his support its content, stressing the following:

First: What the Committee's noted regarding that occupation in itself is a violation of human rights, and its note regarding the serious deterioration of the human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and in the occupied Syrian Golan, all of which arises from the continued occupation and the collective punishment measures applied by Israel.

Second: The systematic violations of the Israeli Occupying Power of the basic Palestinian human rights as stated in the Human Rights Declaration, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other charters and tools that the international community determined and accepted as a base for human being future. The Occupying Power continue to impose restrictions on the freedom of movement and access and other forms of collective punishment measures banned by article (33) of the Fourth Geneva Convention. Same, the Occupying Power imposes restrictions on the freedom of religious practices, especially in the occupied city of East Jerusalem, which reflects on the efforts of confidence building between both Palestinian and Israeli sides and raises questions regarding the real Israeli intentions towards the peace process.

Third: Israel continuous building of the Separating Wall on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in order to isolate the Palestinian people and to affect its political, economic and social unity, and in a continuous violations and negligence of the United Nations resolutions and the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice. In this regard, the Delegation of Egypt welcomes the establishment of the Register of Damage resulted from Israel construction of the Wall, in implementation to the 10th Emergency Special Session of the General Assembly resolution of 2006 (ES-17/10). We look forward to implement the highest degrees of transparency

and neutrality in the work of the Register, and we denounce Israel refusal to authorize the Register to exercise its role in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which prevent the Palestinians from registering their claims of damage.

Fourth: Israel continues confiscation of Palestinian territory and natural resources resulting from settlement policy and the construction of the Wall, bypass roads, checkpoints and other measures that affect the unity and territorial integrity of the state-to-be of Palestine and the goal of achieving just and lasting peace between the Palestinians and the Israelis. In this context, the Delegation of Egypt highlights what the Special Committee's Report stated regarding the further erosion of the possibilities of the emergence of a viable Palestinian State as a result of the Occupying Power practices and its attempts to deprive the Palestinian people from exercising his natural right of self determination and establishing his independent viable state on the West Bank and Gaza Strip territory, including the occupied city of East Jerusalem.

Fifth: The continuous unlawful Israeli endeavors to annex the Occupied Syrian Golan and to change its character and judicial position through the expansion of settlements, the use of natural resources and other illegitimate practices, as well as its endeavor to impose its law and administrative mandate on the Golan, in violation of Security Council Resolution 497 of 1981. In this context, Egypt renews its rejection to all those measures, and emphasizes that Just and comprehensive peace will not be achieved in the Middle East without Israel full withdrawal from all the Occupied Arab Territories in 1967 and the return of the Syrian Golan to the Arab sovereignty.

Mr. Chairman,

The policy of force and violence did not and will not achieve its targets, the evidence is: Israel has not achieve security despite all its military measures, the Palestinian situation has become in the same time much more deteriorated, and the Palestinian people persists for restoring

his full legitimate rights have grown up. The International Community should seize the rising opportunity to re-launching negotiations and pushing the peace process forward. We look forward that Israel will seize the opportunity of the International Meeting called for by the President of the United States of America to push for achieving an agreement on the six core issues of the peace process, side by side with the stopping of its illegitimate practices on the Palestinian track, in a manner that leads to the establishment of a Palestinian independent State before the end of 2008 and leads also to a parallel breakthrough on all other tracks.

Egypt will continue to bear its historical responsibility towards the Palestinian people and his just cause till the restoration of all his inalienable rights, on top o fit his right of self determination and establishing the independent sovereign state. Egypt will also continue to exert all possible efforts, in coordination with different international and regional relevant parties, in order to resume peace negotiations, to achieve the goal of Two States and to establish just and comprehensive peace on all tracks.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.