### Statement by the

# Islamic Republic of Iran

## 8<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council Item 7 Geneva – 16 June 2008

### Mr. President,

The international community is, once again, witnessing a new wave of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by the Israeli regime against the people of Palestine which have been occurred in a systematic and consistent manner in the occupied Palestine for more than six decades.

Expansion of settlements, increasing checkpoints, demolition of houses, imprisonment of innocent people, use of torture, closure of crossings and military incursions as well as new violations of human rights and humanitarian law such as the construction of illegal wall, targeted killings the use of Palestinians as human shield and humanitarian crisis have characterized the occupation of Palestine by the Israeli regime for many decades and have featured regularly in reports of international human rights mechanisms, particularly in the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the occupied Palestinian territories of this august body.

Over recent months, new rounds of air strikes and military incursions into Gaze strip and the other occupied territories by the Israeli regime forces against the Palestinian civilians, including women and

children have continued uninterrupted and as a result, just over the past few days a large number of innocent people have been killed and many others have been injured. In addition to that, imposed restrictions on the movement of people and goods had a negative impact on the Gaza strip population's enjoyment of a wide range of their human rights, particularly their economic, social and cultural rights and also rights to life, human dignity and freedom of movement. In accordance with the international reports regular military incursions, the closure of crossings and reduction of fuel have produced a humanitarian crisis which has a destructive impact on life in Gaza in terms of food, fuel, energy and water, health care, education, unemployment and poverty.

The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly condemns recent military attacks, and incursions into the occupied Palestinian territories and calls upon the international community to take all concrete and necessary measures to prevent further deterioration of human and humanitarian situation in the occupied Palestinian territories. We firmly believe that such violent and cruel actions constitute severe breach of International human and humanitarian laws; and are among the crimes against humanity.

### Mr. President,

We regret that despite all decisions and resolutions adopted by the Human Rights Council the human rights situation in the occupied Palestinian territories remains grave and worsening, within a general climate of impunity and the Israeli regime continues to perpetuate massive and systematic violation of human rights in defiance of the Council's decisions and resolutions.

The Council is in dire need of concrete actions and not mere words. We call upon the international community and particularly this august body to take all necessary measures to put an immediate end to the continuation of Israeli regime atrocities against the innocent people of Palestine in the occupied territories.

Finally Mr. President, we would like to express our deep concern over the continued deterioration in the health conditions of the Syrian prisoners in the Israeli regime prisons.

Thank you,