

Statement by the Indonesian delegation
on the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights
in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT)
at the Second Session of the Human Rights Council

Geneva, 27 September 2006

Mr President,

for his informational presentation and

~~At the outset, I should like first of all to commend the Special Rapporteur on this issue, Mr John Dugard, on the very detailed report as contained in the document E/CN.4/2006/29, which he has submitted to the consideration of the Council. Although this report was written before the latest spate of events and the two Special Sessions of the Council on the grave human rights situations in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and in Lebanon, respectively, it remains burningly topical. Since it was written, the violations of human rights and consequent human tragedy have reached new peaks, not just in the occupied territories, but also outside them, exporting the conflict and its humanitarian consequences to third parties.~~

~~We therefore endorse without reservation the views expressed by the OIC and others, not to mention the Special Rapporteur himself (to the effect that this issue remains at the very top of human rights agenda currently before the Council). Notwithstanding the present cease-fire and the immediate, if relative, relief that it brings, or the hopes that solutions may be found to convert it into a more permanent peace, the toll of the humanitarian crisis is as desperate as ever. The exactions, humiliations, harassment and violations of all kinds against their elementary rights to which Palestinians continue to be subjected in their everyday lives, the destruction of property and land, the restrictions on their movements that affect their livelihood, jobs and the education of children, the physical and psychological distress and sundry other forms of suffering imposed on them are inexcusable and unendurable.~~

As we have done in the past, we call on the Council once again to exert its full influence in order that humanitarian law and respect for the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people are implemented in the territories.

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We naturally hope, fervently, that attempts to persuade all ~~the~~ parties to the conflict ~~[including the various factions within the Palestinian authority]~~ to return to the negotiating table will succeed. But this will take time and the current humanitarian crisis cannot wait. It is now urgent that the Council and its mechanisms act decisively, and in a cohesive and coordinated manner, to protect the human rights of

the Palestinian people. It is also crucial that the Council add its own weight to that of the United Nations to heighten the Quartet's awareness of the need to safeguard the human rights of the Palestinian people as a first priority in any efforts towards a settlement of the conflict.

Thank you, Mr President.