*Human Rights Voices Unofficial Transcript (Translation by official UN Translator)*

Oral Statement by the Palestinian Authority to the UN Human Rights Council, Agenda Item 7

September 23, 2016

UN Webtv

http://webtv.un.org/topics-issues/member-states/qatar/watch/item7-general-debate-27th-meeting-33rd-regular-session-human-rights-council-/5140985277001

PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATIVE: I would like to thank all the friendly states which are concerned with this topic. Our question now is, the three year boycott of this item, has it helped Israel to respect the international law, or has it helped that occupying power to continue violating international humanitarian law and committing human rights violations because this occupation, this Israeli occupation is the most gross human rights violation.

Mr. President, the occupying power has continued to exercise gross violations, especially by settlers, Israeli settlers against Palestinians, and depriving the Palestinian civilians from [sic] their lives. Israel still plays a role of the victim, changing [sic] this course through its statements to this Council, which it claims they're in that it is [sic] being targeted by attacks, despite the fact that they have been primary violators of human rights.

Since the beginning of this year a large number of civilians have been killed, have been martyred, especially in the beginning of this week through lynching. 104 persons were lynched, in addition to preventing medical personnel and paramedics to reach the wounded, in addition to continuing to exercise provocative actions against human rights defenders, peaceful human rights defenders in Palestine through harassment, through intimidation, and through retaliation, in addition to the violations against media professionals during their coverage of peaceful protests, in which Palestinians and international persons in solidarity with Palestine have been participating. Here, we call upon the international community to bring pressure to bear on Israel to commit to its obligations and to investigate into all these acts and to ensure remedies and repairs and to take steps to foster peace reconciliation acts.

We also call upon the international community to stop supporting settlements, whether directly or indirectly, because this prolongs occupation further and undermines the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. We are looking forward in this respect to follow up the resolution of the Human Rights Council to develop a database of the businesses contributing to settlement activities and with a view to compelling businesses to respect human rights. We would also like to recall that those who report [sic] the products of settlements is indeed an accomplice with Israel in the gross violations of human rights.

We also call upon Israel, the occupying power, to comply with the advisory opinion of the ICJ on the construction of the separation wall and occupied state of Palestine, which is according to international instruments which goes completely on Palestinian territories, and this is in fact part of the settlement project, which runs counter to the 4th Geneva Convention and traverses the personal properties of Palestinians, which also runs counter to articles 46 and 52 and 53 of Geneva 4. Thank you.