

**General Assembly
Human Rights Council
Fourth session**

Item 2: Implementation of General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 entitled "Human Rights Council"

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 (Mr. John Dugard)

Joint NGO Statement by:

1. **BADIL Resource Centre for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights**
2. **International League for the Rights and Liberation of Peoples (LIDLIP)**
3. **Union of Arab Jurists**
4. **Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples (MRAP)**
5. **International Educational Development**
6. **World Peace Council**
7. **Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)**
8. **Interfaith International**
9. **International Organization for the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD)**
10. **Indian Movement Tupaj Amaru**
11. **Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man**

Mr. President,

Israel's ongoing policies against the Palestinian people of land expropriation, house demolition, population transfer, colonial settlement expansion, denial of freedom of movement, and expropriation of water and other resources, present the Human Rights Council with one of the longest-standing, yet urgent cases of denial of internationally-recognized human rights. Indeed, Israel's practices that victimize the indigenous Palestinian people, constitute a violation of every one of the most fundamental human rights embodied in the Universal Bill of Human Rights.

Enforcing international law: the need for further action

States have a duty to protect the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people, denounce discrimination, racism, and colonization, and find a durable solution to Palestinian refugees and internally displaced persons based on their right to return and restitution. Moreover, the United Nations and member states must act urgently to prevent further population transfer within Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories. Unless a rights-based approach to the conflict that addresses Israel's discriminatory practices becomes the basis of international community actions, the conflict will continue to deepen, affecting the peace and security of all nations. The urgent need for action by the Human Rights Council, and through it, the United Nations bodies, cannot be overemphasized. It is with this hope that Badil request the Council to consider the legality and implications of Israel's historical policies of institutional discrimination being applied in both Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories.

Mr. President,

We calls upon members of the Council to:

1. Initiate a request for the International Court of Justice to issue an advisory opinion on *The Legality of the Israeli Occupation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories*;
2. Preserve the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in the Palestinian territories Occupied since 1967;
3. Appoint a Special Rapporteur or expert to examine discriminatory practices affecting Palestinians and other minorities in Israel;
4. Consider urging states members of the UN to take measures such as economic sanctions and diplomatic boycott against Israel for its breach of international law and non-implementation of UN Resolutions, as outlined by the International Court of Justice in its 9 July 2004 Advisory Opinion on *The Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*.
5. Endorse a call to the United Nations political bodies to act to provide international protection for the Palestinian civilian population through United Nations forces on the ground;
6. Consider urging states to bring claims against Israel under the principle of state responsibility, to ensure that Israel complies with its obligations under international human rights and humanitarian law.

I thank you, Mr. President.