Statement of the Palestinian Authority on the UN Human Rights Council Resolution on Gaza

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Thank you, Mr. President.

Clearly many of these issues that have been mentioned are out of place. The representative of the occupying territory and the authority should start by not killing and targeting children

I’d like to take them the groups and countries which co-sponsored this resolution, I’d like to thank them for the efforts they have made that everyone has made to establish contact and to draw up this draft resolution which we have before us, which is entitled "Ensuring accountability and justice for all violations of international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem."

Recalling the report which was presented on Monday. We find the report to be balanced, we welcome the impartiality and with which they carried out their duties. These crimes, such as war crimes, crimes of terrorism, which we can see in bombing of residential territories of Shujaya, this part of the town was targeted during many hours, women and children and elderly persons. Much attention was paid to this. We have seen images on satellite tv. According to the reports, many civilians, there are about 1500, many of them were children. There were hundreds of thousands of shells which were dropped.

The occupying force used the Hannibal directive to target civilians. 6 Israeli civilians were killed, about 1,500 people were killed.

According to the report, religious sites, hospitals and ambulances were targeted. In addition there was the total or partial destruction of more than 18,000 buildings, the destruction of infrastructure in the Gaza Strip.

Yesterday it was one year since someone was burned alive in Jerusalem while terrorist aggressions and violations from the occupying force continue and the settlers

 Since the beginning of last year until now there have been 14 martyrs who have suffered as a result of premeditated attacks and assassinations.

The recommendations presented by the Commission of Inquiry included protection of civilians and we need to uphold these recommendations in order to implement what we talk about every day, protecting lives of civilians, providing compensation. Can we continue to recall the need to implement laws and continue to say men are equal before the law while this process, as soon as we talk about Israel, this changes and there are double standards.

The creation of an independent inquiry panel was set up yesterday. This committee will respect the international parameters while reaffirming respect for international law. We assume our legal responsibilities which we will implement

Mr. President, could you force the occupying force to uphold this criteria. Or are some of you are convinced that, as was reaffirmed by investigations, Israel is innocent?

I would urge members of the council to vote in favor of the draft resolution in respect for international law by sending a strong message to all those who violate the law. I think those who oppose this resolution or those who abstain from the vote will be contributing to ongoing violations and abuses against civilians

Such a position thwarts values and will have a negative impact on the work of the council and human rights mechanisms.