GA Fourth Committee

Explanation of Vote

November 15, 2010

SYRIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My delegation has voted in favor of the draft resolution entitled The Work of the Special Committee on Investigating Israeli Practices Affecting Human -- the Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs in the Occupied Arab Territories in Document A/C4/65/L12. My delegation has also voted in favor of the resolution entitled Israel Practices Affecting Human Rights of the Palestinian People in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Including East Jerusalem in Document A/C4/L15.

Proceeding from Syria’s belief in the justice of the cause of the Palestinian people, and its legitimate struggle to liberate itself from Israeli occupation and establish its independent state that it has aspired to, on the basis of the understanding of my country of the two paragraphs in the draft resolution is that their implementation is directly linked to compelling Israel to observe the other portions of the other paragraph regarding putting an end to violating the human rights of the Palestinian people systematically and its excessive use of force and its resort to the policy of collective punishment and its confiscation of land and persistence in settlement policy and establishment of the Upper Thidol [?] [01:04:30] and its detention of thousands of Palestinian innocents and all other acts it undertakes to change the demographic and legal status in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

However, we would like to record -- to place a record that these two resolutions include certain paragraphs which are inconsistent and which do not fulfill our aspirations. In particular, my delegation would like to place on record its rejection of the suggestion in the Ninth Preambulary Paragraph of Resolution -- of the Resolution titled The Work of the Special Committee on the Investigation of Israeli Practices Affecting the Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arab Inhabitants in the Occupied Territories and its injection of the suggestion in the Preambulary Paragraph Number 20 of the resolution entitled Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Including East Jerusalem.

The reason, Mr. Chairman, is that those two paragraphs give the impression of equality between the aggressor and the victim of aggression. This would convey an erroneous political message to the Israeli occupation authorities and encourage them to persist in their aggression and in their inhuman practices in the Occupied Arab Territories.

We would like to indicate in this regard the fact known to all, which is that Israel occupies Palestinian territories, and not the other way around, and that Israel launched its aggression against Gaza using internationally prohibited weapons to kill civilians, including women, children and the elderly, and not the other way around, and that Israel, the occupying power, legitimizes blind and unjust occupation of the Occupied Palestinian Territories despite total international rejection of this irresponsible, provocative policy.

Mr. Chairman, the distortion of facts is a denial of the rights under occupation to resist the occupier. Syria will never accept that injustice be transformed into injustice and that that murder triumph over justice and law, and my delegation will continue to reject any approach that equates between the occupier and those who struggle to end foreign occupation, because such an oppression, such an approach is erroneous and contravenes the provisions of the charter and the spirit of human rights, endures over decades of the existence of this international organization. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.