65th General Assembly

Statement by Iranian Representative

Situation in the Middle East/Question of Palestine

November 30, 2010

IRAN: Thank you Mr. President. The newly released reports on the question of Palestine, particularly the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, once again bear witness to the unfortunate reality that in the period under consideration the Israeli regime has continued with its crime against the defenseless Palestinian people and has been systematically altering the Palestinian land through unlawful policies and practices. Evidently, such a regime cannot be a righteous and trusted partner for peace agreement.

Mr. President, the arrogant occupying powers have made use of all its force, distortion and violence for the last decades in order to establish their control. They try to make the Middle East as a platform of their expansionist policies on other regions of the world. They were not satisfied with anything less than bending the region to their will.

In this respect, I have to make it clear that in the history of the Zionist regime existence, there is nothing but crimes killing men, women and children in Palestine, the use of banned weapons and stockpiling nuclear weapons, blind assassinations, attacks on civilians and aid conveyed in international waters, and war crimes, Lebanon and Palestine. All these ugly acts have become routine affairs of the occupying regime.

The arrogant and occupying powers have attempted for long to create divisions in the Middle East region. They want to divide peoples composed of varied religions and denominations that have lived together in harmony and in coexistence. They want to harm brotherly relations among nations such as the friendly relations so happily exist between the Lebanese, Syrian, Iranian and other nations in the region.

In Lebanon, you find that the sinful hand of treachery assassinated the former prime minister, a respectful personality, and then we see how news is publicated [sic] to direct accusation at other respect groups and leaders in an effort to sew seeds of division, creating sectarian sensitivity and denominational tension and division is the well-known tactic.

The enemies of humanity did not and do not want the people of this region to be united, independent and developed. However, the region's nations know well that the symbol of might is unity and solidarity.

Mr. President, the only way to solve the Palestinian issue and establish peace rooted in the region is to admit the sovereign right of Palestine and the end to occupation. The Palestinian people should be allowed to express their opinion freely regarding their future. There is no doubt that the Palestinian people can practice its national sovereignty itself.

Distinguished colleagues, in November last year, this General Assembly adopted a resolution on the followup to the report on the United Nations fact-finding mission on Gaza complete, but no concrete action is taken to bring into justice the Israeli perpetrators of the crimes as reported in the Goldstone report. The question remains when and where impunity for the criminals would end.

The time has come for the United Nations to prove that it is an effective organization representing the will of the people of the world. Rather than recognizing occupation, the United Nations should recognize the legitimacy and right of the Palestinian people to exercise their sovereignty and bring the criminals to justice. These are prerequisites to a lasting stability to the Middle East.

The trust and confidence, together with active engagement of the international community is the only way forward for the peace. Thank you Mr. President.