

**EGYPT**



**مصر**

The Permanent Mission of Egypt  
to the United Nations  
New York

بعثة مصر الدائمة  
لدى الأمم المتحدة  
نيويورك

**Statement of  
Delegation of the Arab Republic of Egypt**

**Before**

**The Third Committee**

**on**

**Agenda Item 64:  
“Report of the Human Rights Council”**

New York- 2 November 2011

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Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of Egypt wishes at the outset to welcome H.E. Ambassador "Laura Dupuy Lasserre", President of the Human Rights Council in the opening of the general debate in the Third Committee on the report of the Council, in accordance with General Assembly resolution (60/281), as the third committee is the negotiating expert body of the General Assembly responsible for dealing with all issues related to human rights and International Human Rights Law.

In 2006, the General Assembly adopted resolution 60/251 establishing the Human Rights Council as one of its subsidiary organs, which has been adopted by a vote despite the importance the vast majority of the membership attaches to the role played by the council in supporting the efforts of Member States which have the primary responsibility in promoting and protecting all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to the fact that the promotion and protection of these rights and freedoms rests on the principles of non-intervention and respect of sovereignty, thus providing the needed framework to overcome the obstacles of politicization, selectivity and double standards that shackled in the past the international efforts aimed at consolidating universal respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms and resulted in constraining the works of the commission on human rights.

The members of the Human Rights Council, during its first years of operation, strived to develop the role of the council by adopting a constructive and cooperative approach in dealing with human rights questions, and ensuring that the council addresses all these rights on equal footing, and is effective in providing the needed advice and necessary support, upon the request of national governments. The council played an important role through the Universal periodic review, the complaint mechanism, the forum on minorities and the institution-building package, which includes clear regulations defined by the Code of Conduct for Mandate-holders adopted by the council in its resolutions (5/2) and reaffirmed by its resolution (11/11) in June 2009.

Mr. Chairman,

The General Assembly this year concluded the first review process of the council and adopted the Geneva outcome document on the its works and functioning and the outcome of the review process of its status in New York. While the results of the review process reinforced important principles and

practices related to the council, and reaffirmed its subsidiary status to the General Assembly, they were adopted in a voted resolution thus undermining the principle objective of the process which aimed at supporting the council as one of the General Assembly tools to promote respect for all human rights.

The international community has a responsibility and commitment to ensure that the council carries out its responsibilities and functions within a transparent, and cooperative framework; reinforces the universal, indivisible, interrelated and mutually reinforcing nature of economic, social, cultural, political and civil rights; and the obligation to prevent the council from becoming a political tool to enforce the trusteeship of the few on human rights issues, or to enforce controversial notions that has no legal foundations in international humanitarian and human rights law, in complete disregard to the diversity of social, cultural, legal and religious values of societies and nations,

Mr. President,

All member states have made the commitment to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, a commitment which requires us to strive towards ensuring that the implementation of the Universal Periodic Review on all States, on equal footing and without exception with the participation of civil society, and to deal positively with the special procedures, each within their respective mandates, and in return mandate holders must perform their duties in accordance with the Code of Conduct and the tasks mandated to them by the Human Rights Council, to be objective in their reporting and to establish a dialogue with the governments of the States concerned on the basis of transparency and mutual cooperation.

Furthermore, the international community must support the role of the council by ensuring the cooperation of all member states with the fact-finding missions established by the Council, especially in cases of peoples under foreign occupation, and the full implementation of the recommendations contained in their reports.

Mr. President,

Egypt is currently witnessing a principal transition in its history based on the unwavering commitment to the principles of democracy, transparency, accountability and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms. In this regard, we reiterate our commitment to cooperation, dialogue, mutual respect and understanding as the cornerstones for international cooperation in the field of human rights, and on these bases Egypt is committed to support the role of the Human Rights Council, based on our conviction that human dignity, guaranteed by all human rights and fundamental freedoms, is the cornerstone needed to ensure and guarantee respect for all these rights.

In this regard, Egypt reiterates the importance of the unity of the international community when dealing objectively and comprehensively with human rights issue within a framework that promote economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights on equal footing. We also look forward to reinforcing our efforts to realize the rights to development and food, combating all forms of discrimination on the basis of race, sex, language or religion, within the context of the follow up on our mutual commitments according to the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action, the outcome document of the review conference, and the political declaration on Durban the General Assembly adopted by consensus this session.

Thank you.

