



**Remarks by the Indonesian delegation
on the reports presented by five special procedures on their missions
to Israel and Lebanon
at the Second Session of the Human Rights Council**

Geneva, 4 October 2006

Mr President,

First of all, I should like to thank the four Special Rapporteurs for their joint report on their visit to Israel and Lebanon presented to the Council in document A/HRC/2/7. We also appreciate the work carried out by the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Mr Jean Ziegler, in the context of his mission to Lebanon.

At this juncture, my delegation would like to endorse the statement made by Pakistan on behalf of the OIC with regard to the substance of the joint report.

Mr President,

We share the concern of the Lebanese Ambassador with regard to a number of elements in the report, in particular the recommendations given to various actors, including the governments of Israel and Lebanon. We contend that these recommendations do not give a sufficiently impartial and balanced view of the various parties' respective situations, both during and after the conflict, or of their respective capabilities in the face of the damage each has suffered. After three weeks of non-stop bombing of its towns, civilians, and infrastructures, Lebanon was a flattened and crippled country. The same can hardly be said of Israel. Therefore, the same yardstick cannot be used in the various prescriptions applied to each of them. Lebanon, which had only recently managed to recover from years of war and destruction, cannot be expected to be treated on the same footing as an opponent whose territory has been preserved intact by a powerful army.

Aside from its unbalanced approach, the present report unfortunately potentially detracts from any future work by the High-Level Commission of Inquiry appointed by the Council at its second Special Session on Lebanon, on 11 August 2006. This Commission, which only began its mission to Lebanon 10 days ago, on 23 September, should be given the chance to present its own findings and report to the Council before any conclusions from an earlier mission are accepted as conclusive. Indeed, the Commission of Inquiry had a distinct mandate from the Council, therefore recommendations which will result not only in the creation of additional mandates but will also undermine the already established mandates of the Commission are irregular and unacceptable.

On the strength of the above observations, and concurring with others, my delegation considers that any measures to adopt the present report will be problematic.

Before concluding, I should like to commend the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, and to welcome his recommendation which provides sound and balanced conclusions and recommendations.

In closing, Mr President, allow me to reiterate the need for all the Council's special procedures to strictly observe the principles of impartiality and non-selectivity that should imbue the work of the Council at all times. Thank you.