*Unofficial Transcript*

LIBYA

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In the name of God most gracious, most merciful, Mr. President, I don't think that any -- let me start again. I don't think that any of the peoples on our planet have suffered as the Palestinian people are suffering because of foreign occupation. Out of approximately 12 million Palestinians, only 5 million Palestinians are present in Palestine's historic territory now. The rest have been spread throughout the world. They have lost all of their rights to historic Palestine, the land of their fathers and their ancestors.

The Palestinians have less than 15% of their historic land and even this small patch of land that they still retain is either under the complete control of the Israeli occupation forces or is under a full siege and under the continued threat of confiscation through all illegitimate means.

The Israeli occupation authorities have used all methods to empty Palestine of its original inhabitants and settle Jews brought from all parts of the world in it. It seeks through all means to control every inch of Palestine's land so that Israel will expand as a racist state that is strictly for Jews.

The Israeli authorities use as a method to entrench this the construction of settlements, the demolition of the homes of Palestinians, abusing those Palestinians, evicting them from their territories and their lands, especially in Jerusalem and the West Bank.

The practices of the Israeli entity leave no room for the Palestinians to establish their independent states, despite all of the concessions that they have made during negotiations that were held between two unequal sides, and despite the fact that Palestinians have agreed to establish their state on only a small part of Palestine's historic land.

The international community's silence and the blind eye it turns to Israel's crimes and the way it avoids criticizing or even punishing Israel has only encouraged Israel to go further in violating human rights and using the excuse of negotiating with the Palestinians to gain time in order to entrench a fait accompli and control more Palestinian territories and to eliminate any chance to establish a viable Palestinian state.

Mr. President, the international community cannot remain perpetually motionless simply looking upon the Palestinian people as their basic rights are being violated, as they are being systematically oppressed, as they are living in misery and deprivation because of abuse and this siege, as the Palestinian people are being driven to despair of any hope to regain their legitimate right to return to their territories and to enjoy self-determination and establish their independent state, which would give them the right to use all the necessary and available means to regain the rights and live in peace as all other peoples of the world.

The increasing number of UN member states who have recognized the state of Palestine confirms the great responsibility attached to the United Nations in ensuring justice for the Palestinians to help them regain their rights and help them establish their independent state. This is an immediate responsibility that the United Nations must spare no efforts to uphold so that they United Nations would not lose its credibility before the people's of the world who look forward to a new era where all peoples of the world enjoy freedom, justice and human rights.

The Palestinian Authority has submitted an application to join the United Nations as a full member. The Secretary General of the United Nations referred this application to the Security Council after he verified that the criteria for membership applied to the state of Palestine. Unfortunately, some members of the Security Council continue to prevent the council from performing its duties and refuse to grant membership to the state of Palestine. Such a position can in no way serve the cause of international peace and security, and it can in no way serve the interests of the Israelis or the Palestinians in the long run.

The time has come for all members of the United Nations to uphold their responsibility towards the rights of the Palestinian people and towards peace and security in the Middle East region. Everyone must realize that the Palestinian people will not forfeit their inalienable rights and that the Palestinian people will find support from many peoples in order to regain these rights one of these days, even if it was through the use of force. We must all work together to achieve the aspirations of the Palestinian people to guarantee peace and security for everyone in the future. Thank you.