

Statement by Malaysia at the Human Rights Council on
the Reports of the Special Rapporteurs' Mission to Lebanon and Israel

4 October 2006

Having studied the Reports of the Special Rapporteurs on their missions to Lebanon and Israel and having listened to the Statement by Lebanon as a concerned country, Malaysia has to associate itself fully with the Statement by Pakistan on behalf of the OIC.

2. Malaysia shares the view that the joint mission by the Special Rapporteurs seems to have stretched their mandates to cover the remit of the Inquiry Commission. Malaysia also wonders why the Special Rapporteur on food was not included in the joint mission.

Mr. President,

3. We are deeply troubled by general thrust of the joint Report of the mission to Lebanon and Israel. Our review of the said Report oblige us to come to the conclusion that two different approaches or standards had been used to judge the action of Hizbollah and that of Israel. The Ambassador of Pakistan in his Statement on behalf of OIC had provided examples of such unacceptable treatment.

4. We are also deeply troubled by the conclusions and recommendations made by the Special Rapporteurs in their joint mission. In our view, in coming up with their conclusions and recommendations, the Special Rapporteurs set out to provide a balance, in a situation where such balance is not warranted and cannot be justified. And in doing so, their conclusions and recommendations are certainly not impartial, indeed were misleading.

5. On one side is Lebanon which witnessed ~~almost~~ more than a thousand of mainly civilians - particularly children and women - killed; countless injured; massive displacement of population; and utter destruction of civilian and public infrastructure resulting in the violation of the most basic of human rights of the Lebanese, a devastated economy and serious environmental damage; targeted by a state, Israel, which had used the full force of its war machine with its latest technology and military might on a defenseless country and helpless population. And on the other, is the response of a non-state actor.

6. Given the above, Mr. President, Malaysia joins other OIC member countries in distancing itself from the conclusions.

7. As far as the Report by the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Malaysia associates itself with the OIC Statement.

Thank you.