*Unofficial Transcript*

SYRIA (right of reply)

November 29, 2011

UN General Assembly, New York

Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, my delegation would like to exercise its right of reply to the statement by Israel. Mr. President, the Israeli delegate has taken it upon himself to -- has been distressed by the fact that the General Assembly was celebrating the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. He felt that the attention paid by the General Assembly to the question of Palestine is biased against Israel and prejudiced against it and its policies of aggression and occupation, and that all the positions of member states supporting the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and establishment of its national state on its national territory and all the international meetings and international resolutions and statements which count in the hundreds are a futile effort that serve no useful purpose and have no value as long as Israel does not attach any importance there too, and as long as all this effort does not support the aggression and occupation by Israel, and as long as it does not protect the crimes against humanity perpetrated by Israel against the Palestinian people for decades.

It seems that Israel's isolation in the serious debate left its delegate with no alternative, except resulting once again to mixing up cards and fabrications and expanding the scope of the discussion beyond the limits of the question of Palestine in order to divert attention from the crux of the matter, which is Israel's occupation of the Palestinian territories and this oppression of the Palestinian people around the clock and in a way which is indescribable.

Mr. President, I believe that everyone here feels surprised that the representative of the Israeli occupation authorities expresses his concern for the Palestinian refugees while Israel caused their plight and it was Israel that expelled them from their homeland under the threat of murder and daily oppression. Israel still refuses to recognize the most rudimentary human rights of the Palestinian, including the right of the -- the legitimate right of the Palestinian refugees to return to their homeland, thus defying the international will and the international unanimity of an unprecedented nature.

This Israel is now claiming falsely that it is concerned for the refugees hosted by Syria and the camp in the south, in Latakia, taking into consideration that these allegations are totally without -- based in reality. We in Syria received these brothers, these Palestinian refugees from you, yourself -- that is Israel caused their ordeal and their tragedy and we provided them with all the possible services. We are most concerned with their lives and rights, which is the duty of Syria.

Mr. President, it has become clear for all that the representative of the Israeli occupation authorities, having heard all these condemnations and rejections of Israeli terrorist and racist policies today, found himself in an unambiguous *[inaudible]* what's happening in Syria and to exploit in order to shirk these condemnations and divert attention from them.