

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful,

Statement by the

Islamic Republic of Iran

Urgent Debate on Attacks against
Humanitarian Convoy to Gaza
14th Session of Human Rights Council
Geneva, 1st May 2010

Mr. President,

We welcome the convening of this urgent meeting to debate and address yet another horrible event of our time relating to the precarious situation of innocent Palestinian people.

As we stated yesterday, the Islamic Republic of Iran condemns in the strongest term possible the recent cruel attacks by the Israeli forces against the humanitarian aid convoy to the Gaza Strip in the international waters, which resulted in brutal killing and injury of many civilians.

Such inhumane attacks are in flagrant breach of international law, including international humanitarian and human rights laws and explicitly constitute an international crime. Those responsible for these international crimes should hold accountable without any further delay.

The Palestinian people and people of Gaza Strip in particular during the past years have been facing a severe blockade followed by a full-fledged aggression which resulted in killing of more than 1500 civilians including many innocent women and children.

Unfortunately and despite all decisions and resolutions at the international level including those from this august body as well as

the recommendations made by the Judge Goldstone fact finding mission report, no concrete measures were taken to stop such horrible actions and the aggressors continue to commit such heinous crimes in full defiance of all international norms and standards with absolute impunity.

We fully support the establishment of an international fact finding mission by the Human Rights Council to thoroughly investigate this event.

We urge the international community to make every effort to put an immediate end to inhumane sever blockade against the Gaza Strip and other occupied Palestinian territories and to ensure unimpeded provision of humanitarian assistance.

More importantly, we call upon the international community to make more concrete measures for exploring all ways and means to bring the occupation of Palestine and other Arab territories to an end, which constitute the main root cause of all these atrocities committed during the past six decades.

Thank you,