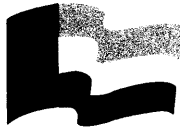


بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Permanent Mission of the  
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES  
to the United Nations  
New York



البعثة الدائمة  
لدولة الامارات العربية المتحدة  
لدى الأمم المتحدة  
نيويورك



Statement by

**H.E. Ambassador Abdulaziz Nasser Al-Shamsi**

Permanent Representative of  
the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations

before

The 60<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly  
on the Item entitled :

The Situation in the Middle East

New York, 30 November, 2005

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Mr. Chairman,

Despite the end of the decolonization and foreign occupation era, and the beginning of the age of enforcement of international law where peoples gain their national independence and exercise their right to self-determination, the Middle East region remains the only region that suffers from the continued Israeli occupation of its Palestinian and Arab territories since 1967, and its illegal settlement schemes which constitute a blatant violation of the 40 international resolutions issued by the Security Council and the 600 resolutions adopted by the General Assembly throughout the last 58 years.

We consider the failure of international legitimacy to end the illegal Israeli policies in the Arab territories throughout these years to be the main reason for its constant violations of the international law which included: confiscation of lands and natural resources, and the enforcement of laws and regulations with a view to imposing its legal and administrative jurisdiction over the Arab and Palestinian territories, especially Jerusalem and the Syrian Golan Heights. These measures, which prevented the Arab population from exercising their basic human rights, were aimed at changing the geographical and historical nature of these territories, and replacing the Arab population with Jewish settlers.

Mr. Chairman,

The UAE has been closely following the reports of the Secretary-General which contained important and disheartening information that has clearly enlightened international public opinion on the dangerous policies practiced by the Israeli Government in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories. The UAE is concerned about Israel's confiscation of more than 78% of the Palestinian territories and its refusal to withdraw from the remaining Palestinian territories especially from East Jerusalem where people are prevented from living or going there. The UAE is also alarmed at Israel's confiscation of 96 per cent of the Syrian Golan Heights and its destruction of all facets of life there by laying siege on its villages, destroying the environment, uprooting trees, setting forests ablaze, moving the soil, burying chemical and nuclear waste, and stealing water. Israel continues to lay siege to the Syrians, it prevents them from visiting their land; it detains Syrians and coercively arrests them; it deprives them of the medical and educational basic services; it distorts all facts relating to the geography and history of the Golan, with a view to obliterating any sense of national belonging; and it deprives Syrian children of their history, heritage, culture and homeland.

Mr. Chairman,

While we strongly condemn such illegal Israeli practices, which proved the true intentions of Israel against peace, we emphasize yet again that the achievement of an

immediate, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the establishment of security and stability in the region, now more than ever requires an effective and urgent international action in order to ensure the full and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, which can be realized through the following:

- 1- A mechanism must be developed to monitor Israel's compliance with its legal obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention, which is applicable to the Arab and Palestinian occupied territories, and to ensure its abidance by the decision of the International Court of Justice, issued last June, calling upon Israel to remove the separation wall constructed in the West Bank and Jerusalem due to its illegality and its harmful effect on the livelihood of the Palestinian people and their plans to establish an independent State.
- 2- The international community must emphasize yet again the illegality and invalidity of all the legal, administrative and judicial measures imposed by Israel on Jerusalem which included the transfer of some countries of their diplomatic missions to Jerusalem, and the changing of the structural, demographic, institutional and legal status of the occupied Golan, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions, particularly resolutions 478 (1980) and 497 (1981).
- 3- The Quartet must be urged to take serious steps to ensure Israel's commitment to resuming negotiations and ensure its timely and strict implementation of the requirements of the roadmap, including the declaration of a Palestinian State based on the borders of 1967 according to a specific timetable. In this context, we also affirm the importance of expanding the requirements of the roadmap to include the Lebanese and Syrian tracks and to stop all illegal activities undertaken by Israel in these territories.
- 4- Demanding Israel to stop its air, land and sea violations of Lebanese sovereignty and cooperate in the disclosure of all landmine maps pertaining to Southern Lebanon. Israel must also respect the Lebanese national will and its right to control its territorial waters in accordance with international law.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, we affirm that the Arab-Israeli conflict can be settled, and security and stability can be established in the region only through complete restoration of all Arab territories and rights based on the roadmap, the terms of reference of the Madrid Peace Conference and the Arab Peace Initiative adopted at the Beirut summit.

Thank you Mr. Chairman