

Statement by the Delegation of Malaysia
Human Rights Situation in Palestine
And other occupied Arab Territories
Sixth Session of the Human Rights Council
Thursday, 20 September 2007

Mr. President,

Malaysia fully associates itself with the statement by Pakistan on behalf of the OIC concerning human rights situation in Palestine and the other occupied Arab territories, including the Syrian Golan.

2. The persistent grave human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory should continue to be given serious attention and scrutiny by the Human Rights Council if this body is to live up to its mandate and credibility. In this context, the consideration of Agenda Item 7 this morning is therefore pertinent and relevant.

3. For decades, the people of Palestine have been subjected to collective punishment, subjugation and oppression, with all forms of gross and systematic human rights violations by the Occupying Power. Those violations have been clearly enumerated and documented, and should be obvious to all.

4. The persistent restrictions of movement and limitation of access to the Palestinians to their holy sites, particularly in the Occupied East Jerusalem, even during this holy month of Ramadan, are clear violations of their rights and freedoms. The ongoing military operations in the West Bank and the latest hostile declaration against the Gaza Strip will only exacerbate further the hardship and suffering of the Palestinian civilians, particularly women, children and the elderly.

5. It is the collective responsibility of this Council to effectively address and improve the human rights situation of the Palestinians, and to play its part to contribute to efforts aimed at finding a just and lasting settlement to the question of Palestine. The least this Council could do at this stage is to ensure implementation of its own decisions, including in particular decisions of its Special Sessions concerning Palestine. Failing which, the credibility of the Council and its decisions will be called into question.

Thank you.