

Statement by the

**Islamic Republic of Iran**

Under agenda item 7  
11<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council  
15 June 2009

Mr. President,

The international community has been continuously witnessing the deterioration of human rights and humanitarian situation in the occupied Palestine and other occupied Arab territories including occupied Syrian Golan due to gross and systematic violations of human rights committed by the Israeli regime during the past decades.

Expansion of illegal settlements, increasing checkpoints, demolition of houses, imprisonment of innocent people, use of torture, restrictions on freedom of movement, closure of crossings and military incursions as well as construction of illegal Apartheid wall, targeted killings, the use of Palestinians as human shield and humanitarian crisis caused by imposing long and severe blockade have characterized the occupation of Palestine for many decades and have been featured regularly and extensively in the reports of international human rights mechanisms.

In addition to the former Commission on Human Rights, the Human Rights Council since its inception has held several special sessions to address this specific and alarming situation with a view to halt those human rights violations, regrettably with no tangible and concrete result.

Following recent full-fledged military aggression against Gaza Strip early this year, which resulted in brutal massacre of over 1400 civilians including many innocent women and children, thousands of injured as well as indiscriminate targeting and destruction of many civil infrastructure including UN facilities, the Human Rights Council during its 9<sup>th</sup> Special Session adopted a resolution and strongly condemned Israeli Military operation carried out in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Particularly in the occupied Gaza Strip, which resulted in massive violations of human rights of the Palestinian people and systematic destruction of Palestinian infrastructure.

The Council further decided to dispatch an urgent, independent, international fact finding mission to investigate all violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law by the occupying Power against the Palestinian people and called upon

occupying power not to obstruct the process of investigation and to fully cooperate with the mission.

Islamic Republic of Iran while welcoming the establishment of the fact finding mission mandated by the human rights Council as well as its initial functioning, expresses its deep regret that the mission has not been able to fully implement its mandate due to non cooperation by the occupying power which is not new and in fact a common practice in clear defiance to all international community's decisions and resolutions during the past decades.

My delegation once again strongly condemns recent military aggression against the Gaza strip associated with gross and systematic violations of human rights which constitute genocide, war crime and crime against humanity and calls upon the international community and the Human Rights Council in particular to act decisively and take all necessary measures to put an immediate end to all forms of occupation, aggressions and violations perpetuated by the Israeli regime against the innocent people in occupied Palestine and other Arab occupied territories.

Thank you,