



PERMANENT MISSION OF NIGERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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## STATEMENT

BY

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**AMBASSADOR/ DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE**  
**PERMANENT MISSION OF NIGERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

AT THE

**65<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**AGENDA: ITEM 52 FOURTH COMMITTEE**  
**ON THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE**  
**ISREALI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE**  
**PALAESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED**  
**TERRITORIES.**

**NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 8, 2010.**

Let me express the appreciation of my delegation to the members of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting The Human Rights of The Palestinian People and Other Arabs of The Occupied Territories for their comprehensive and incisive report.

The violation of human rights and the unjustifiable treatment of Arabs by Israel, as detailed in the report, are worrisome as they constitute, not only a deep wound to the conscience of the international community but also, pose severe challenges to international peace and security.

Mr. Chairman

My delegation is of the firm belief that lasting peace cannot exist in conditions where a segment of the human population is given subhuman treatment. It is for this reason that my delegation, views with concern, the report under review and joins all like-minded nations to call on Israel to refrain from such practices that are capable of undermining the peace process in the Middle East.

Mr. Chairman

Of specific abhorrence to my delegation is the intensification of Israeli government-initiated construction projects for the expansion of settlements in the West Bank including in East Jerusalem. We join others who have called for utmost restraint, including extension of the moratorium on the construction of settlement which ended on 30 September 2010. Such a measure will bolster confidence between the parties and demonstrate the seriousness that Israel attaches to the peace process.

Mr. Chairman

Similarly, the heinous crime of torture against women and children by Israeli authorities as reported by the Special Committee remains a source of concern to my delegation and to all peace-loving members of the international community.

Mr. Chairman

The Israeli blockade of the Gaza Strip has fuelled human misery, worsened human movement and exacerbated poverty. This situation has further degraded and debased the population for whom life is already a misery. We note the marginal increase in goods and materials entering Gaza which have barely impacted in the humanitarian situation in Gaza. A lot therefore needs to be done to transform the plight of the Palestinians even as we urge Israel to upwardly review the list of goods to enter through Kareem Shalom Crossing.

My delegation similarly abhors the situation where in Syrian Golan, Israel operates two races, two systems through its discriminatory allocation of water resources in favour of Jewish settlers.

My delegation, on the other hand, does not believe that the best guarantee to genuine and lasting peace in the Middle East lies in the firing of rockets against innocent civilians. In our view, a much better option is a carefully designed comprehensive strategy that compels Israel to compliance to relevant Security Council and General Assembly Resolutions, in return for its recognition and sovereign right to exist side by side with Palestine and with her Arab neighbours. The Middle East Quartet, which has opened another window of opportunity for countries in that region, should, in this wise, be given the necessary support to succeed. In this context, Nigeria looks forward to the outcome of the direct talks between the parties and hopes for a new vista of peace and stability between Israel and the Palestinians. We urge both parties to pursue, with determination and commitment, the goal of reaching full settlement that allows the state of Palestine to emerge and co-exist, side by side with Israel.