



Mission permanente d'Israël
auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies
et des Organisations Internationales à Genève

משלחת ישראל
ליד משרד האומות המאוחדות
והארגונים הבינלאומיים בג'נבה

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Statement by Mr. Walid Abu-Haya
Counselor
Permanent Mission of Israel
To the United Nations, Geneva

Human Rights Council
Universal Periodic Review
Statement on Lebanon

10 November 2010

Mr. President,

At the outset, my delegation would like to state on record our strong objection to the inappropriate language used to reference the State of Israel in paragraph 2 of Lebanon's National Report. Use of such language within an oral statement would have been subject to a point of order and subsequently struck from the record.

We do appreciate your efforts, Mr. President, to resolve this issue. We regret however that those efforts were hindered by a non cooperative approach by the Lebanese delegation.

Mr. President,

A multicultural and diverse society, such as the one that exists in Lebanon, should serve as an advantage and a source of motivation for advancing freedoms and human rights in the country. Unfortunately, the existence of a dominant terrorist organization, Hizbullah, as well as political tensions and struggles between different vital groups, has created an overall grave human rights situation for the Lebanese people.

Unlawful killings, politically motivated and other enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and detentions, torture and other inhuman treatment, restrictions on freedom of expression and press, systematic discrimination against women, migrants and refugees and governmental corruption are only few areas to mention in this regard.

Mr. President,

Israel recommends the Government of Lebanon:

1. Immediately implement Security Council resolutions 1559 and 1701 by disbanding and disarming all militias and armed factions and restore security and stability for all residents of Lebanon;

2. Submit the initial report to the UN Committee against Torture (CAT), overdue since 2001; and,
3. Amend all discriminatory provisions in personal status laws in particular issues related to child custody, inheritance and divorce.

Mr. President,

In closing, I would like to say that we look forward to the day when the State of Israel and a free and democratic Lebanon enjoy peaceful and friendly relations.

I thank you.