

NAM intervention during the interactive dialogue
(Item 7)

Mr. President,

In their last Summit in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt of July 2009, the Heads of State and Government of NAM condemned Israel's military occupation of the Palestinian Territory in breach of international law and UN resolutions. They also condemned the continuing brutal Israeli military campaign against the Palestinian people, particularly in the Gaza Strip, by which the occupying Power has continued to commit grave human rights violations and reported war crimes, including by use of excessive and indiscriminate force that has killed and injured thousands of Palestinian civilians, including children, and has caused vast destruction of properties, infrastructure and agricultural lands.

The Heads of State and Government condemned in the strongest terms the Israeli military aggression against the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip, which resulted in the killing of more than 1,400 Palestinians, including hundreds of children and women, and the injury of more than 5,500 Palestinians and the wanton destruction of thousands of Palestinian homes; business properties; vital civilian infrastructure, including water, sanitation and electricity systems; hospitals and ambulances; mosques; public institutions, including schools and national ministries; farms; and several UN facilities.

In light of the above mentioned clear position taken by the Heads of State and Government of NAM, we welcome the report submitted today by Judge Goldstone. We will actively engage in the discussion in this regard and the draft resolution submitted concerning the implementation of the recommendations contained therein. We believe that serious consideration of the report is of the utmost importance to ensuring the credibility of the Council through taking concrete follow-up steps aiming at holding accountable the perpetrators of such crimes and bringing an end to the persistent situation of impunity and defiance of the law.

Thank you.