

**Intervention by
Ambassador Mousa Burayzat
Permanent representative of Jordan
On the report of the mission to Lebanon and Israel**

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The report contained in document A/HRC/2/7 of the 3rd of October 2006 constitutes a dilemma of some sort to us. The original mandate of the four rapporteurs as stated in the report is to see "how the conduct of the hostilities by Israel and Hezbollah affected the rights and the life, health and housing of the civilian populations in Lebanon and Israel as well as the rights of persons internally displaced by the armed conflict". Yet, while mentioning here and there the consequences of the conflict on civilians, the report reserves significant space to probe into the issue of responsibility and accountability; namely whether war crimes have been committed by both parties.

Without minimizing the importance of this issue, one cannot avoid here to ask the following questions:-

First: Does the issue of deciding the extent and magnitude of each of the two protagonists' – Israel and Hezbollah- responsibility lie within the purview of this Council as established by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 251/60? Or is it reserved as it should be to the Security Council and the ICJ.

Second: Is it true that the whole exercise purports to "rectify an alleged imbalance in the Resolution adopted by this Council on the Israeli war on Lebanon"?

Third: Is it true that the conclusions contained in the report aim at preempting the conclusions and recommendations of the Commission formed by this Council to investigate Israel's systematic targeting of Lebanese civilian populations?

Fourth: Is it correct to conclude that the report is intended mainly to camouflage a political agenda under the veneer of humanitarian cause?

I would appreciate the four Rapporteurs addressing these questions together with those posed by other speakers; namely Pakistan and Bahrain.

Thank You