

Statement by Pakistan for the UPR of Israel
17th Session of the UPR Working Group
29 October 2013

Mr. President,

My delegation deeply deplores the delay in consideration of the UPR of Israel that has seriously hampered the smooth working of the review process.

We condemn the continuing grave human rights violations in the Occupied Arab territories including in the State of Palestine. The illegal actions of the Israeli authorities such as the construction of settlements, collective punishments, targeted assassinations, restrictions on access to places of worship, excessive use of force and administrative detentions, constitute flagrant abuse of international human rights statutes and mechanisms.

My delegation makes the following recommendations:

1. recognize the birth right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and take concrete measures for the establishment of their independent State with Jerusalem as its capital;
2. immediate cessation of all human rights violations in the occupied Arab territories and implementation of all relevant UN resolutions;
3. immediate cessation of colonization through construction of illegal settlements;
4. cooperation with all United Nations special procedures and mechanisms;
5. immediate release of all political prisoners and administrative detainees;
6. acknowledge the right of all Palestinian refugees to return to their homeland, as enshrined in the Fourth Geneva Convention;
7. protection of and access to all sacred places of worship belonging to Muslims, Christians and others.