**Statement by the State of Palestine at the Universal Periodic Review of the Czech Republic, 6th November 2017.**

Thank you Mr. President,

The State of Palestine welcomes the delegation of Czech Republic and thanks it for the presentation of its national report.

We commend the progress made by Czech Republic since the previous cycles to further promote and protect the human rights of its people.

We have noticed the efforts made by the Czech Government in combatting racial discrimination, however, we remain concerned about acts of racially motivated violence and stereotypes against refugees and asylum seekers. **We recommend the Czech Government to continue its efforts to combat hate speech by public officials and to investigate racially motivated violence and prosecute perpetrators.**

We welcome steps taken by the Czech Government with regard to business and human rights

and its work to develop a national action plan in accordance with the UNGPs on Business and Human rights. **We recommend the Czech Government to intensify its efforts to oversight over Czech companies operating abroad with regard to any negative impact of their activities on the enjoyment of human rights, particularly in conflict areas, which includes situations of foreign occupation, where there are heightened risks of human rights abuses.**

Thank you Mr. President.