**Statement by the State of Palestine at the Universal Periodic Review of Latvia, 11h of May 2021**

Thank you Madame President,

The State of Palestine welcomes the delegation of Latvia to the third cycle of the UPR and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.

We welcome the steps taken by Latvia to improve the situation of asylum seekers including the adoption of a new asylum law, however **we recommend that Latvia amends domestic legislation to establish that detention of asylum seekers was to be applied only as a measure of last resort ; and to prohibit the detention of children for immigration related purposes.**

 We welcome the steps taken with regards to business and human rights, and **we recommend that Latvia enact specific legislations to conflict affected areas and to provide guidance and advice for business enterprises on ensuring respect for human rights to prevent and address the heightened risk of corporate involvement in gross human right violations in conflict affected areas including situations of foreign occupation.**

We wish Latvia a successful review.

I thank you