

# ALGERIA

Mr. President,

I take the floor on behalf of the African Group and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for convening this Special Session.

-The African Group expresses its dismay <sup>at, strong condemnations</sup> and its ~~firm~~ condemnation of the Israeli military aggression against Gaza and in particular Beit Hanoun, with over 300 Palestinian civilians killed or injured, including children, women and elderly people. The African Group expresses its deep concern <sup>at</sup> the continued deterioration of the situation in the occupied territories in Palestine and the use of excessive force by the Israeli army.

-The African Group depl<sup>or</sup>es the intensified violence in the occupied Palestinian territories which led to the loss of human lives, destruction of public facilities and houses, ransacking of agricultural <sup>land</sup> and the interruption of <sup>public services including</sup> the running of hospitals, clinics and schools. <sup>to</sup>

-The African Group urges Israel to respect Human Rights and Humanitarian International law, in particular the right to life and the right to property.

-The African Group expresses its support to the draft resolution on violations of Human rights perpetrated by the Israeli military forces following incursions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including the recent incursion in the northern Gaza strip and the attacks against Beit Hanoun, in particular <sup>and</sup> to the ~~dispatch~~ <sup>dispatch of</sup> urgently a High Level Fact Finding Mission to Beit Hanoun.

- The African Group calls upon the Human Rights Council to <sup>rise up to the challenge</sup> ~~assume~~ its <sup>responsibilities</sup>, in order to put an end to these human rights violations, <sup>of its mandate</sup>

- Taking into account the non compliance by Israel with the previous decisions of the Human Rights Commission and of the Human Rights Council, the African Group calls also upon the Human rights Council to take in this regard the necessary steps, including the suspension and even the exclusion of Israel, if the latter is going to persist to ignore all these decisions.

I thank you.