Statement of the Bangladesh Delegation on the presentation of Mr. John Dugard, Special Rapporteur on Palestine at the Human Rights Council, 26 September 2006

I thank Mr. Dugard for his presentation. I precide for interest objectivity.

Mr. Ghairman, President, in dealing with the Palestinian is me

We are meeting here at a time when the Palestinian people are passing through a miserable period of their history. The situation in the occupied Palestinian territories is alarming. The Israeli army is mounting its military operations in the occupied Palestinian territories almost on a daily basis. Civilians, women and children are routine casualty of their disproportionate use of force.

The people of Palestine were already in dire situation due to Israeli blockades, electrs, confiscation of land, and demolition of houses, erection of separation walls. The current military operations only accentuated their sufferings. In complete disrespect to the international norm, Israel has detained elected public representatives, lawmakers and Ministers of Palestine Government. Israel's continued violations of human rights and disregard for human lives call for immediate international intervention.

Mr. Chairman, President

Bangladesh has consistently supported the termination of illegal occupation of the Palestinian territory as well as the right of self-determination of the people of Palestine. Israeli occupation of the Palestinian land represents a flagrant violation of human rights and international legality.

A number of UNGA resolutions have reaffirmed the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to self-determination including their right to an independent state. Forcible occupation of Palestinian territory is illegal and attempted annexation of territory through use of force is illegal. Israeli settlements, land confiscation and the construction of separation wall in the occupied Palestinian

territories are contrary to the Geneva Convention and other norms of international law.

The Stuty 2003 Advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice and in General Assembly resolution ES-10/15 validated that the separation wall was illegal. It effectively deprives the Palestinian people from enjoyment of their property and access to employment and livelihood, access to natural resources necessary for human survival. The construction also negates the inalienable right to return of the Palestinian refugees to return to their native land.

Mr. Chairman.

We firmly believe that the lasting and viable peace in the region cannot be achieved until the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people are recognized and the Israeli occupation forces withdraw from the occupied territory. The international community and, in particular, countries which are in a position to exert influence on Israel must make all efforts to stop Israel from continuing with the Alle

atrocities and construction of the wall. Enthermore, the Israeli settlement in the actions occupied territories and walls, already constructed must be dismantled. the peru

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process.

Finally, I reaffirm Bangladesh's total and unflinching support to the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people for a sovereign and independent homeland of their own. We call upon all parties concerned for immediate resumption of the peace process aimed at a just, lasting and comprehensive

settlement in the region.

I thank you