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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
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Agenda item 9

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

Afghanistan**, Algeria**, Bahrain**, Bangladesh, Cuba,
Egypt**, Jordan**, Kuwait**, Lebanon**, Libyan Arab
Jamahiriya**, Malaysia**, Mauritania**, Morocco, Oman**,
Pakistan, Palestine**, Qatar, Saudi Arabia**, Sudan,
Syrian Arab Republic**, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates
and Yemen**: draft resolution

1999/.. Human rights situation in southern Lebanon and west Bekaa

The Commission on Human Rights,

Gravely concerned at the persistent practices of the Israeli occupation forces in southern Lebanon and west Bekaa, which constitute a violation of the principles of international law regarding the protection of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as a grave violation of the relevant provisions of international humanitarian law as contained in the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and the Fourth Hague Convention of 1907,

* Re-issued for technical reasons.

** In accordance with rule 69, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

Reiterating its deep regret at the failure of Israel to implement Security Council resolution 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978,

Reminding the parties concerned to abide by the April 1996 Understanding,

Censuring Israel's attacks in southern Lebanon and west Bekaa, which cause a large number of deaths and injuries among civilians, displace families and destroy dwellings and properties,

Reaffirming that the continued occupation and practices of the Israeli forces constitute a violation of the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and of the conventions in force on this matter,

Hoping that the efforts made in order to implement Security Council resolution 425 (1978) and to achieve peace in the Middle East will put an end to the violations of human rights committed in the southern parts of Lebanon and of west Bekaa occupied by Israel, and that the peace negotiations will be resumed with a view to reaching a settlement of the Middle East conflict and achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the region,

Gravely concerned at the persistent detention by Israel of a number of Lebanese, including minors, women and elderly persons, in the Khiyam detention centres, and at the decease of certain detainees from the after-effects of ill-treatment or acts of torture,

Expressing its indignation at the ruling handed down on 4 March 1998 by the Israeli Supreme Court permitting the Israeli authorities, firstly, to keep Lebanese detainees in Israeli prisons without trial and to hold them as hostages and for bargaining purposes, and secondly to extend their administrative detention, which constitutes a flagrant violation of the principles of human rights,

Reaffirming its resolution 1998/62 of 21 April 1998, and expressing deep regret at Israel's failure to implement it,

1. Deplores the continued Israeli violations of human rights in the occupied part of southern Lebanon and in west Bekaa, including in particular the abduction and arbitrary detention of civilians, the destruction of their dwellings, the confiscation of their property, their expulsion from their lands, the bombardment of villages and civilian areas, and other practices violating human rights;

2. Calls upon Israel to put an immediate end to such practices, exemplified by air raids and the use of prohibited weapons, and to implement Security Council resolution 425 (1978) requiring Israel's immediate, total and unconditional withdrawal from all Lebanese territories and respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon;

3. Also calls upon the Israeli Government, the occupying power of territories in southern Lebanon and west Bekaa, to comply with the Geneva Conventions of 1949, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War;

4. Further calls upon the Israeli Government, the occupying power of territories in southern Lebanon and west Bekaa, to cease holding the imprisoned and abducted Lebanese as hostages for bargaining purposes, and to release them immediately together with all other persons arbitrarily detained in prisons and detention centres in the occupied Lebanese territories, in violation of all the Geneva Conventions and other provisions of international law;

5. Stresses the obligation for Israel, the occupying power of territories in southern Lebanon and west Bekaa, to commit itself to allowing the International Committee of the Red Cross and the families of the detainees to intensify their visits, as well as allowing the other international humanitarian organizations operating in the region to resume their visits in order to verify the detainees' sanitary and humanitarian conditions and, in particular, the circumstances of the decease of some of them from the after-effects of ill-treatment or acts of torture;

6. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To bring the present resolution to the attention of the Israeli Government and invite it to provide information concerning its implementation;

(b) To report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session on the results of his efforts in this regard;

7. Decides to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights in southern Lebanon and west Bekaa at its fifty-sixth session.
