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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by International Association of Justice Watch, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[5 February 2024]

* Issued as received, in the language of submission only.



The Necessity to Combat All Forms of Terrorism

The International Association of Justice Watch is grateful for the opportunity to convey its condolences to all victims of terrorism and share its perspective on the underlying causes of global terrorism and the imperative for effective counter-terrorism measures.

We condemn the use of illegal sanctions and unilateral coercive measures as a blatant violation of international law and a form of economic terrorism. Numerous independent nations, including the Islamic Republic of Iran, have fallen victim to these unjust practices, with the perpetrators often evading accountability.

We staunchly assert that illegal sanctions and unilateral coercive measures constitute a form of economic terrorism. The Islamic Republic of Iran and other sovereign nations have endured the adverse effects of such actions, leaving innocent civilians to bear the brunt of these punitive measures. It is imperative that the international community recognizes and addresses this issue with urgency and impartiality.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has faced historical challenges in combating terrorism, exacerbated by the influence of various groups funded and supported by external entities. It is disconcerting that certain terrorist groups have been removed from the list of terrorist organizations over political motives, allowing for their continued financial backing and even military training. We call for transparency and accountability in counter-terrorism efforts, urging nations to adhere to international norms and actively combat all forms of terrorism.

We condemn any form of terrorism, including acts perpetrated by nations through illegal occupation and invasion. The United States of America's illegal presence in the West Asian region has resulted in tragic consequences for civilians, underscoring the need for indigenous peaceful resolutions to conflicts. Furthermore, we express deep concern over the ongoing humanitarian crisis and ethnic cleansing in the State of Palestine, exacerbated by the unwavering support and funding provided to the regime of 'Israel' by the United States of America. The Israeli regime has received about \$300 billion economic and military assistance since its formation. Amid the ongoing genocide of Palestinians in Gaza carried out by Israel, the United States of America House passed another \$14.5bn military aid package for 'Israel', which is another indication as to who is supporting terrorism and genocide, violating basic human rights of other nations in the West Asian region. This imperial culture of impunity perpetuated by the West's historical disregard for universal human rights is evident in violations and war crimes and is sometimes normalized as 'collateral damage'. The lack of decisive actions by the UN to address these issues is alarming, and we call upon the international community to call for a ceasefire in Gaza, to intervene and stop this genocide, and to uphold justice.

In conclusion, the International Association of Justice Watch recommends the following:

1. Call for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and urge all nations to adhere to principles of justice, respect for sovereignty, and the protection of human rights.
2. Acknowledge the various forms of terrorism including economic terrorism and hold accountable countries and entities that fund, support, and train terrorists for political motivations.