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المجلس الاقتصادي والاجتماعي



لجنة حقوق الإنسان

الدورة الثامنة والخمسون

البند ٤ من جدول الأعمال

تقرير مفوضة الأمم المتحدة السامية لحقوق الإنسان ومتابعة المؤتمر العالمي لحقوق الإنسان

رسالة مؤرخة ١٦ نيسان/أبريل ٢٠٠٢ موجهة إلى رئيس الدورة الثامنة
والخمسين للجنة حقوق الإنسان من رئيس وفد المملكة المتحدة لبريطانيا
العظمى وآيرلندا الشمالية لدى الدورة الثامنة والخمسين للجنة

في ٥ نيسان/أبريل ٢٠٠٢، اعتمدت لجنة حقوق الإنسان القرار ١/٢٠٠٢ المعنون "حالة حقوق الإنسان في الأرض الفلسطينية المحتلة". وقد امتنع وفد المملكة المتحدة عن التصويت. وكما تذكرون فإن وقت اللجنة كان قد نفذ ولم تسنح لجميع الوفود الفرصة لتعلييل تصويتها.

وأرفق طيه تعليلا لذلك التصويت كان وفد المملكة المتحدة قد أعده ولكنه لم يتمكن من إلقائه. أرجو أن تتمكنوا من تعميم ذلك التعلييل كوثيقة من وثائق لجنة حقوق الإنسان.

(توقيع) أندريه غلوفر
السفير
رئيس الوفد

* مستنسخ كما ورد باللغة التي قدم بها وهي الإنكليزية فقط.

The United Kingdom abstained from voting on the resolution on the situation of human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territory under item 4 of the agenda of the Commission on Human Rights.

The United Kingdom would like to thank the High Commissioner for Human Rights for her efforts to improve respect for human rights and welcomed her statement to the Commission.

The United Kingdom is greatly concerned about the situation in the Occupied Territories and the deaths and injuries to innocent Israelis and Palestinians. The United Kingdom has urged both Israel and the Palestinian Authority to take steps to establish a meaningful ceasefire.

The Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary have repeatedly called on Israel to withdraw its forces from the towns under the authority of the Palestinian Authority. Israeli actions are only contributing to the escalation of the crisis in the Middle East. The United Kingdom is deeply concerned by the evidence that medical and humanitarian assistance is being prevented from reaching those in need by the Israel Defence Forces. The United Kingdom has raised its concerns in the strongest terms to the Government of Israel, and urged Israel to ensure respect for international humanitarian law and investigate allegations of misconduct.

The Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary have also called on the Palestinian Authority over the course of the last 18 months to do more to prevent further terrorist attacks. The relentless onslaught of suicide bombers must end. As President Bush said on 4 April, suicide bombers are murderers. The United Kingdom condemns them. The UK calls again on the Palestinian Authority to demonstrate its commitment to ensuring the protection of the life of Israelis civilians.

The United Kingdom has called on Israel and the Palestinian Authority to implement UN Security Resolutions 1397, 1402 and 1403, including the establishment of a ceasefire, the withdrawal of Israeli forces and the implementation of the Tenet and Mitchell recommendations. The United Kingdom welcomed President Bush's decision to send Secretary of State Powell to the region and will support US peace efforts in any way it can.

The United Kingdom abstained from voting on this resolution because of its unbalanced description of the humanitarian situation on the ground. The United Kingdom insists that the Commission work constructively for improvements in human rights. The United Kingdom was disappointed that the resolution failed to explicitly state that the Palestinian Authority has responsibilities to stop the suicide bombings which have contributed so terribly to the escalation of this crisis. Nor did the resolution acknowledge the suffering of innocent Israelis. Such an omission is unjust and contrary to the principles of the Commission. The UK could not support it.

This text also called for the establishment of a one-sided international monitoring presence. The United Kingdom has long advocated the deployment of a monitoring mechanism, accepted by both parties, which would help the parties sustain a ceasefire and implement the Tenet security work-plan and the Mitchell recommendations. A mechanism will only be effective if it has the agreement of both Israel and the Palestinian Authority. The United Kingdom could not support a resolution which called for the establishment of a mechanism with the aim of monitoring human rights violations only by one party against the other, and which fails to recognise the need for the consent of both parties.

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