

**GNRD**

**Oral Statement: Human Right Situation in Palestine.**

GNRD would like to take this opportunity to denounce the grave situation that citizens of Palestine are going through today.

The Israeli Defence Forces attack on Gaza in August last year left in its trail widespread destruction, with more than 2,200 people, most of them civilians, dead, against 70 Israeli fatalities. The Israeli assault also left 1,100 people with serious injuries, 18 000 homes destroyed and 500,000 civilians displaced, according to UN data.

A September 1 report, presented to UNCTAD at its headquarters here, stated that Gaza could become uninhabitable by 2020 if the current economic trends persist.

It is however certain is that Gaza is already uninhabitable after eight years of economic blockade, three consecutive military operations, an economy in ruins and a stalled reconstruction process resulting from the fear among donors that another conflict will destroy all over again whatever is rebuilt.

In addition Gaza's civilian population is tired of living in a prison without roof, with food insecurity, power shortages, scarce drinking water, lack of medicines, destroyed schools and chronic unemployment, to mention just a few of the pressing problems.

This report also reveals that in the first four months of 2015, Israel withheld almost \$700 million of Palestinian revenue from taxes it imposes on imports into the occupied Palestinian territories, compounding a fiscal crisis for the Palestinian National Authority, on whose behalf Israel collects the revenues.

GNRD, in its commitment to the defence and promotion of human rights, has carried out awareness, humanitarian aid and cooperation projects in Gaza in realization of the conclusions of its report on the situation of Palestinian civilians, especially the women.

Mr/Madam President, the Palestinian people are suffering 66 years of exile. How many more years must we wait for the international community to stop looking the other way? How long do the Palestinians have to wait for a life with dignity? We demand immediate action for the reconstruction of Gaza.

Thank you, Mr / Madam President.