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HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL Fourth session Agenda item 2

IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 60/251 OF 15 MARCH 2006 ENTITLED "HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL"

Algeria (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of the Islamic Conference): draft resolution

4/... Israeli violations of religious and cultural rights in Occupied East Jerusalem

The Human Rights Council,

Emphasizing the particularity of Occupied East Jerusalem in its rich religious and cultural heritage and affirming the need to preserve its Christian and Islamic holy sites as part of preserving human religious and cultural heritage,

Aware of the responsibility of the international community to promote human rights and ensure respect for international law,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant or Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

Recalling also article 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which stipulates that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, and that no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, trust, non-self-governing, or under any other limitation of sovereignty,

Afirming the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling further relevant Security Council resolutions on Occupied East Jerusalem,

Deeply concerned at the vast ongoing digging and excavations by Israel, the occupying Power, beneath and around Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, Islam's third holiest shrine, which are blatant violations of the provisions of the instruments and resolutions referred to above and emphasizing their detrimental effects on this shrine of worldwide religious, cultural and historical significance,

Deeply concerned also at the Israeli policy of closures and the severe restrictions, including curfews and the permit regime, that continue to be imposed on the movement of Palestinians and their free access to their holy sites,

- 1. Demands that Israel, the occupying Power, cease immediately the ongoing digging and excavation activities of all kinds beneath and around Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and refrain from any acts or operations that may endanger the structure or foundations or change the nature of the holy sites, both Islamic and Christian, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;
- 2. Stresses that all policies and measures taken by Israel, the occupying Power, to limit access of Palestinians to their holy sites, particularly in Occupied East Jerusalem, on the basis of national origin, religion, birth, sex or any other status are in violation of the provisions of the above-mentioned instruments and resolutions and, therefore, must cease immediately;
- 3. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to respect the religious and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;
- 4. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to report to the Council at its next session on the implementation of the present resolution.