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Human Rights Council

Nineteenth session
Agenda items 2 and 7
Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner
for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the
High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories

Human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

Information received from Member States

Summary

The present addendum contains the response received from the Permanent Mission of Cuba pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 16/17, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its nineteenth session on the implementation of that resolution. The response was submitted on 15 December 2011, after the deadline specified by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) for receiving information from Member States. On 20 January 2012, the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations in Geneva requested OHCHR to reproduce, on an exceptional basis, the response of Cuba in an addendum to the report. The present addendum is submitted to meet that request.

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In a note verbale dated 15 December 2011, the Permanent Mission of Cuba, recalling the obligations of Israel under international law and relevant Security Council resolutions, stressed that Israel continued to violate its obligations. The Permanent Mission of Cuba recognized the important efforts of the United Nations to end the occupation of the Syrian Golan by Israel and denounced the role of the United States of America in marginalizing Security Council decisions and its double standards in the application of Council decisions on humanitarian interventions. The Permanent Mission of Cuba reaffirmed the right of the Syrian Arab Republic over the occupied Golan Heights and requested the unconditional withdrawal of Israel from this and all other occupied Arab territories. It recalled the position of the Non-Aligned Movement that the decision by Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan was null and void and without international legal effect, including Israeli settlements, which constitute a violation of international law and relevant treaties. In that regard, the Permanent Mission of Cuba stressed that Israel must comply with Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 497 (1981). The Permanent Mission of Cuba further recalled the support of the Non-Aligned Movement for full Syrian sovereignty over the occupied Golan in accordance with the Arab Peace Initiative, the Madrid peace process, the principle of territory for peace and relevant Security Council resolutions. The Permanent Mission of Cuba also emphasized that Israel must comply with the Geneva Conventions. It particularly condemned the brutal practices in Israeli prisons and the inhuman conditions of detention therein. The Permanent Mission of Cuba urged Israel to reopen the access point in Al Qunaytirah in order to facilitate the access of Syrian civilians of Golan to Syrian territory.