



Statement on behalf of the OIC, delivered by Amb. Khalil Hashmi, Permanent Representative during the Introduction of Draft Resolution “human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan, A/HRC/52/L31
52nd HRC Session
4th April 2023

Mr. President,

On behalf of the OIC member states and co-sponsors, we have the honour to present the annual draft resolution on "Human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan", as contained in document L31.

We reiterate strong condemnation of Israel’s illegal occupation of Syrian Golan and the ensuing grave human rights violations in the occupied region. Imposition of illegal Israeli citizenship on Syrian citizens, arbitrary arrests, torture, exploitation of indigenous resources, changing demographic composition and prohibition of visits of Syrian citizens to their families in Syria are some of glaring manifestations of these violations and the entrenched impunity fueling them.

We reject all unlawful actions, aimed at perpetuating Israel’s illegal occupation.

Reaffirming the illegality of Israel’s 1981 decision to impose its laws in the occupied Syrian Golan, the draft resolution highlights the established international legal principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force. It expresses hope for the resumption of peace talks to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the region on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973).

Mr. President,

The operative part of L.31 calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to comply with the relevant UN resolutions in particular Security Council resolution 497 (1981). It rejects Israel’s imposition of Israel’s own domestic laws and jurisdiction in the occupied Syrian Golan and the occupation regime to rescind its decision immediately.

The resolution deplores continuing illegal settlement policies and practices including plans to expand illegal settlements, and to double the numbers of the settlers in the occupied Syrian Golan within the upcoming years. It demands immediate cessation of all such settlement-related plans and activities as well as repressive measures against the Syrian citizens.

It rejects Israeli actions aimed at changing the legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan as flagrant violation of international law and of the Fourth Geneva Convention.

The text also calls upon member states not to recognize Israel’s illegal legislative or administrative measures.

L.31 reaffirms the principles of international law and calls for upholding human rights of people who are victims of decades long foreign occupation. We, therefore, trust that the resolution would be adopted by consensus. **I thank you.**