



# General Assembly

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## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/61/443/Add.2 and Corr.1)]

### 61/154. The human rights situation arising from the recent Israeli military operations in Lebanon

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>1</sup> and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of 1993,<sup>2</sup> and recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>3</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>3</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>4</sup> and other human rights instruments,

*Guided* by relevant human rights instruments and international humanitarian law, in particular the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907 respecting the Laws and Customs of War on Land,<sup>5</sup> which prohibit attacks on and bombardment of civilian populations and objects and lay down obligations for general protection against dangers arising from military operations against civilian objects, hospitals, relief materials and means of transportation,

*Recalling* the commitments of the High Contracting Parties to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949<sup>6</sup> and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977,<sup>7</sup>

*Recalling also* the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s adopted by the World Summit for Children, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990,<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>2</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>3</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>5</sup> See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

<sup>6</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

<sup>8</sup> A/45/625, annex.

*Stressing* that the right to life constitutes the most fundamental of all human rights,

*Emphasizing* that human rights law and international humanitarian law are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

*Bearing in mind* Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) of 11 August 2006 and the statement by the President of the Council of 30 July 2006,<sup>9</sup>

*Bearing in mind also* Human Rights Council resolution S-2/1 entitled “The grave situation of human rights in Lebanon caused by Israeli military operations”, adopted by the Council at its second special session on 11 August 2006,<sup>10</sup>

1. *Condemns* all acts of violence against civilians, including the bombardment by Israeli military forces of Lebanese civilians causing extensive loss of life and injuries, including among children, immense destruction of homes, properties, agricultural lands and vital civilian infrastructure, and the displacement of up to one million Lebanese civilians and outflows of refugees fleeing heavy shelling and bombardment directed against the civilian population, thus exacerbating the magnitude of human suffering in Lebanon;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of the safety and well-being of all children;

3. *Expresses deep concern* about the negative consequences, including the mental and psychological impact, of the Israeli military operations for the well-being of Lebanese children;

4. *Emphasizes* that attacks against civilians, wherever they may occur, are contrary to international humanitarian law and constitute flagrant violations of human rights, condemns the killing of children, women, the elderly and other civilians in Lebanon, underlines that there should be no impunity for such acts, and calls particularly upon Israel to abide scrupulously by its obligations under human rights law, in particular the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>4</sup> and international humanitarian law;

5. *Deplores* the death of more than 1,100 civilians, one third being children, as a result of the Israeli military operations in Lebanon;

6. *Strongly condemns* the deliberate use by Israel of cluster munitions in Lebanon, most of which had been used in the seventy-two hours directly preceding the cessation of hostilities and after the adoption of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006), which left over one million unexploded cluster bomblets, threatening the lives of children and civilians and adversely affecting recovery and rebuilding efforts;

7. *Deplores* the environmental degradation caused by Israeli air strikes against power plants in Lebanon and their adverse impact on the health and well-being of children and other civilians;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to urgently provide the Government of Lebanon with financial assistance in support of the national early recovery, reconstruction and enhancing the national economy, including the

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<sup>9</sup> S/PRST/2006/35; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2005–31 July 2006*.

<sup>10</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/61/53)*, part three, chap. I.

rehabilitation of victims, return of displaced persons and restoration of the essential infrastructure, and expresses its appreciation to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the people and Government of Lebanon.

*81st plenary meeting  
19 December 2006*