



**INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING
FAIR TRIAL & HUMAN RIGHTS**

Registration No. 2795/2012

OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION

Item 7 General Debate

Mr President,

ICSFT continues to be deeply troubled by the suffering of Palestinian people who have been under Israel's illegal occupation for decades in gross violation of international laws. Of recent, during the Great March of Return rallies as Palestinians were marching to bring attention to the their Right of Return and an end to the blockade on Gaza as enshrined in United Nations Resolution 194, Israeli military snipers were prepositioned with shoot-to-kill orders. Palestinians peaceful and non-violent demands have been met with a brutal show of force, with more than 100 Palestinians killed and over 12,200 injured by Israeli forces. Despite several call by the international community to end occupation and urging Israel to refrain from using excessive force against unarmed protesters, Israel continues to act with complete impunity with the support of its allies. While Israel holds the ultimate responsibility, blame also lies with all governments that do not take action to stop the killings.

Mr President,

ICSFT would like to remark that mere lip service and "voice of concern" is not only insufficient but may act to normalize and perpetuate the ongoing massacre and violation of international laws.

We are particularly disappointed by USA's support of Israel's shoot-to-kill policy and dehumanization of the Palestinian people, and Israel's disingenuous engagement with the UN human rights mechanisms.

ICFST calls on all international accountability mechanisms including the UN HRC & SC to take immediate and resolute action to stop this massacre and grave breach of international law, and hold Israel- and its financial and political backers- accountable. There must be legal consequences for the illegal occupation and massacre of Palestinian peaceful protesters, and the only time to act is now!

I thank you