

UNIFIL- Adoption of L. Doc

Statement by Daniel Hazanovitz:

Madam Chairperson,

Here we are, once again, voting on this same resolution. The group of 77 and China has chosen, as it does every year, to politicize and thus undermine the work of this committee. Unfortunately, this committee has thus far allowed this outrageous ritual to continue and become an acceptable practice - business as usual.

Israel's position on this issue, which you all know well, remains the same. We deplore this unjustified bias that singles out our country repeatedly every year.

Israel has a deep and profound understanding of the necessity for peacekeeping. As you are well aware, our country has experienced the horrors of war first-hand, and terrorism and violence continue to plague our citizens.

Israel has, and continues to maintain good relations with all peacekeeping forces in our region, including UNIFIL. We continuously demonstrate our support for UN Peacekeeping operations as a whole, and are grateful to the brave men and woman who assume these difficult but crucial responsibilities around the world, as well as the troop and police contributing countries that send and support them. Israel also greatly appreciates the good work of the secretariat in supporting peacekeeping operations, at HQ and in the field.

But our support for peacekeeping is not the issue here today.

Madam Chairperson,

Preambular Paragraph 4 and Operative Paragraphs 4, 5 and 13 are nothing more than an attempt to advance a political agenda in an otherwise a-political discussion on UN peacekeeping budgets. Therefore, we call for a vote and we call on all other member states to recognize this ritual for what it is and vote against it.

Thank You.