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PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

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Statement at the 55th Session of the Human Rights Council

Item 2 – Interactive dialogue with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on the human rights situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories

28/29 February 2024

Mr. Daniel Batliner

Permanent Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Mister President.

Liechtenstein thanks the High Commissioner for the presentation of his report.

We are alarmed by the high number of civilian casualties in the reporting period and afterwards. Thousands of Palestinians have been killed, the vast majority of them women and children – a death toll that is just unacceptable.

Liechtenstein strongly condemns the heinous terrorist attacks on Israel by Hamas on 7 October last year which has cost 1200 lives and likely amounts to a crime against humanity. We furthermore reiterate our call for the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages.

While we recall that all States have the right to defend themselves in accordance with international law, we also recall that the basic principles of international humanitarian law, in particular proportionality, distinction and precaution have to be respected at all times. We are deeply concerned by manner in which Israel is carrying out its military operation, many features of which do not appear to be consistent with international law, have grave humanitarian consequences and constitute collective punishment.

An immediate, durable, and sustained humanitarian ceasefire and the granting of access to humanitarian organisations is necessary in order to address the massive suffering of the civilian population and the rapidly increasing humanitarian needs.

Liechtenstein is committed to the rule of law at international level and supports the role of the International Court of Justice in the settlement of disputes under the Genocide Convention and emphasizes the obligation to comply with provisional measures ordered by the Court.

In the long run, a two-state solution is the only way to a peaceful, stable and sustainable solution for the region.

I thank you, Mister President.