

*See formal*

Special session on Libya

Statement by the Netherlands

Boudewijn van Eenennaam, Permanent Representative

Mister President,

Today we address the serious, gross and systematic human rights violations that are currently occurring in Libya. We have received reports of a Government that has turned against its own people. A Government that kills innocent people because they claim their fundamental human rights of freedom of assembly and freedom of expression.

We have the duty to speak out and condemn a Government that prefers extrajudicial killings over dialogue. We also have the duty to show the world that we stand united in our condemnation of such gross human rights violations, in our commitment to uphold and respect human rights. We ask the Libyan authorities to do the same. Not because Libya is a member of this Council, but because it has the duty to uphold the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights like any other Government.

The Netherlands supports the Council resolution before us. We call for the urgent dispatch of an international commission of inquiry. We look forward to an oral report by the High Commissioner for Human Rights during the upcoming regular session of this Council. We also look forward to the report of the commission of inquiry at the Council's 17th session. Under the current circumstances, we recommend the General Assembly to consider the suspension of Libya's membership of this

Council in line with OP 8 of General Assembly resolution 60/251. This is what the world expects from this Council.

Mister President,

We call on other international bodies to act in the same vein. We also look forward to decisions by the Security Council on measures to punish those who are responsible for the reported crimes and a denial of arms sales.

*for instance through  
the ICC*

[Today we have the duty to call on the Libyan authorities to meet its responsibility to protect its population. To immediately end all human rights violations. To fully respect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to life, freedom of expression and freedom of assembly.]

Today we have the duty to engage our responsibility to protect the Libyan people. This is the only way to show sympathy and compassion for the suffering of the Libyan people. Our thoughts are with those that perished while claiming their human rights.

Thank you mister President.