

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY: SUSPENSION OF THE RIGHTS OF MEMBERSHIP OF
THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
EXCERPTED RtoP STATEMENTS**

**1 March 2011
UN General Assembly Chamber**

**Australia
Permanent Representative and
Ambassador
Gary Quinlan**

(...) We condemn the recent events in Libya. The Libyan Government must uphold its **responsibility to protect** its population. The international community has its own responsibility to act in such situations – to protect civilian populations from mass atrocities, including crimes against humanity. (...)

(...) It is our strong belief that the gross and systematic human rights violations recently committed by the Libyan regime warrant its suspension from the Human Rights Council in accordance with the General Assembly's own resolution 60/251. It is untenable that a regime so clearly failing in its **responsibility to protect** its own people is fit to serve on such a fundamental body. The General Assembly has been mandated to take precisely this action in precisely these circumstances. (...)

(...) We urge the Security Council to consider further action to protect the people of Libya. (...)

**Chile
Ambassador and Permanent
Representative
Octavio Errázuriz**

(Unofficial translation)

(...) Libya has also seriously failed to uphold its **responsibility to protect** its civilian population. (...)

**European Union
Permanent Representative of the Republic
of Hungary;
Mr. Csaba Kőrösi**

(...) The urgency and extreme severity of the situation have been underlined by the UN Security Council, the OIC, the AU, the Arab League, various UN Special Rapporteurs, the EU itself and a wide range of international actors. In particular, the High Commissioner for Human Rights has recalled that each state has an obligation to protect the rights to life, liberty and security of the person. The EU fully supports this position and recalls moreover that the 2005 World Summit Outcome document reaffirmed that each individual State has the **responsibility to protect** its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and that the international community, through the United Nations, has the responsibility to act, should the national authorities fail to fulfill their duty. (...)

Guatemala

**Ambassador and Permanent Representative;
Gert Rosenthal**

Unofficial translation: (...) There is not any doubt that the most basic human rights of the population in the Arab Republic of Libya Jamahiriya are being systematically and blatantly violated. Or, to put it differently, the Government of the Arab Republic of Libya Jamahiriya is not upholding its **responsibility to protect** its civilian population. (...)

Maldives

**Deputy Permanent Representative
Thilmeeza Hussain**

(...) It is clear that uncivilized and systematic violations of human rights have been perpetrated in Libya and that these, in all likelihood constitute crimes against humanity.

It is evident that the Libyan Dictatorship has no intention of upholding its principal **responsibility to protect** its people. It is therefore the duty of the international community to intervene. We, the community of nations, have a clear and unambiguous responsibility - to protect innocent men, women and children in Libya; to remove Muammar Gaddafi and his allies from power and hold them accountable for their crimes; and to help build a new democratic country. (...)

New Zealand

**Permanent Representative to the UN;
Jim Mclay**

(...) We call on the Libyan authorities to work with the international community to bring about a peaceful solution to the crisis, to ensure humanitarian assistance is available to those in need, and to uphold their **responsibility to protect** their citizens.

New Zealand urges accountability for those responsible for attacks on civilians, and welcomes the Security Council's decision to refer the situation in Libya to the International Criminal Court. (...)

Panama

**Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the UN;
Pablo Antonio Thalassinós**

Unofficial Translation:(...) Any government has the fundamental and unyielding **responsibility to protect** its own population. The current Libyan regime made a mockery of this responsibility by suppressing its own people. (...)

United States

**Ambassador to the United Nations;
Susan Rice**

(...) The protests in Libya are being driven by the people of Libya. This is about the universal human rights of the Libyan people and all people—and about a regime that has failed to meet its **responsibility to protect** its own population. The United States was pleased to co-sponsor this resolution along with partners from all regions of the world, which underscores the universality of this decision and the depth of our commitment to the human rights we all share. (...)