

Departing General Assembly President Discusses Responsibility to Protect in Closing Statements at 63rd Session

UN Department of Public Information 14 September 2009 (...)The Assembly held two meetings to wrap up its work ahead of the opening tomorrow of its sixty-fourth session. Mr. d'Escoto's wide-ranging address capped a day when delegations took action on a number of outstanding issues and adopted key resolutions on matters related to system-wide coherence, "the **responsibility to protect**", cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union and Assembly revitalization.

(...) He expressed satisfaction that during his tenure the Assembly had been able to carry out its agenda and remain attuned to events of international relevance not on its work programme, such as the financial and economic crisis, the recent coup d'état in Honduras, and "the Israeli aggression against Gaza", at the beginning of the year. At the same time, inertia on the Palestinian issue had been "my greatest frustration this year", he said. Indeed, the Security Council's apparent indifference to Israel's ongoing blockade of Gaza had been "disgraceful". With the humanitarian situation in Gaza threatening to deteriorate even further, now was the time to demonstrate "with action and not words, a true commitment to the **responsibility to protect**".

Source:

<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2009/ga10854.doc.htm>