**UN Human Rights Council**

**46th Session – Item7**

**Explanation of Vote by the Czech Republic**

We welcome the choice of the Mission of Palestine to present one merged text on “Human rights situation in the oPt and the obligation to ensure accountability and justice” under Item 2, thus reducing the number of resolutions under Item 7. This approach meets our two long-standing positions. We therefore wish to thank the Mission of Palestine for its efforts. We have reflected our appreciation in our vote on the respective resolution under Item 2.

However, we have to reiterate our principled opposition to Item 7 - "*Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories*". Item 7 is the only Council´s agenda item devoted to one concrete human rights situation. Human rights situation in Palestine should properly be addressed as any other specific country situation under other Items.

For these reasons, we cannot support the resolutions presented under Item 7 and will vote against them. This is a principled position on Item 7 which alters neither our longstanding position on the right of the Palestinian People to self-determination, nor our principled support to the directly negotiated two-state solution and to the Palestinian aspirations in this regard. We remain committed to achieving a just and lasting peace, ending all claims.

This Explanation of Vote relates to all three resolutions presented under Item 7.

Thank you.