



Item 2: General Debate

Human Rights Situations in Kashmir and Nigeria

Mr. President,

The ODVV express its concern on two human rights issues:

1 – Human rights situation in Kashmir:

70 years after Kashmir crisis, the issue has not resolved, on the contrary, the depth of the catastrophe has increased. In the unstable region, violation of human rights are taking place through arbitrary detentions, cutting communications links and violent treatment of peaceful protesters.

2 – The condition of Sheikh Ibrahim Yaqub Zakzaki:

ODVV welcomes the improvements in the condition of the Nigerian Shia Islamic Movement leader, considering the terrible conditions of his physical health. Our organization, is concerned about his right of access to a fair trial as well as access to adequate health and medical treatment. ODVV continues to express its concern over Sheikh Zakzaki's limitation of access to medical treatment.

Expressing concern over the abovementioned situations, ODVV calls on:

- The international community and NGOs to facilitate talks between parties involved in the Kashmir crisis, so that the people of the region can enjoy the right to self-determination and the crisis does not lead to collective violation of the human rights of the civilian population.
- The disputing parties involved in Kashmir crisis to immediately release all political prisoners as part of respecting human rights; suspend movement restrictions laws and allow adequate access for the media and independent international observers to the region.
- The Nigeria government to respect the rights of the Shia minority in the country, to take all necessary steps for their leader's access to his basic rights, and prevent the violation of his human rights.