



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK**

NEW YORK, 1 MARCH 2011

GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 65TH SESSION

ITEM 117: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

**STATEMENT AFTER THE ADOPTION BY H.E. AMBASSADOR CHRISTIAN WENAWESER
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mr. President,

As a co-sponsor of the draft resolution contained in L.60 we welcome today's consensual decision of the General Assembly to suspend Libya's membership rights in the Human Rights Council. The reports from Libya continue to be alarming and include widespread incidences of extrajudicial killings, arbitrary detentions and arrests as well as torture. The scale and systematic nature with which the regime seems to be committing and inciting to commit these offences causes the serious concern that these acts may amount to crimes against humanity. We therefore welcome the establishment of a Commission of Inquiry by the Human Rights Council and the Security Council's referral of the situation to the International Criminal Court. The fact that both decisions have been taken by consensus shows that the UN stands united to ensure full accountability for those responsible.

Mr. President,

Today, the General Assembly has acted for the first time in a case where a member of the Human Rights Council has blatantly violated its pledge and duty to uphold the highest standards in the promotion and protection of human rights. While the suspension was recommended by the Council itself, it is clear that the General Assembly can act on its own under the terms of resolution 60/251 – a resolution, which in its integrity enables us to promote and protect human rights in a comprehensive manner. The Assembly, the only universal organ of the United Nations, has acted in accordance with the letter and spirit of this resolution and thus assumed its responsibility to react decisively to the situation in Libya. It has thereby strengthened its own authority, the standing of the Human Rights Council and once again sent the message that the international community stands with the people of Libya.

Thank you.