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Mr. President, Distinguished Members of the Council,

Last week Israeli soldiers shot and killed 14-year-old Yousef Shawamreh in the Palestinian village of Deir al-Asal as he was on his way to pick wild plants from the countryside near his village. This incident is but one among 8 that have occurred over the past month where the Israeli military has used excessive force against the Palestinian population.

On the same day, Israel approved 184 new settlement housing units and demolished two structures in the neighbouring town of Beit Hanina in East Jerusalem, resulting in the displacement of 4 members of a Palestinian family. House demolitions and settlement expansion have more than doubled in the last 8 months, compared to the same period last year.

The aforementioned acts are familiar and systemic. They were condemned during Israel's first review yet they continue to be carried out by Israel in clear defiance of international law.

Today, Israel has relayed its refusal to accept 132 recommendations presented by the distinguished members of the Council.

In fact, 13 of the UPR recommendations Israel has refused to support simply call upon it to respect international human rights law in the occupied territory and to cooperate with UN mechanisms.

Israel has also refused to support recommendations by Austria and Finland calling upon it to end practises of discrimination, a recommendation by South Africa calling on Israel to prohibit practises of racial segregation, and a call by the Netherlands requesting that Palestinian children are not subject to discriminatory treatment in military prisons.

Israel's persistent non-cooperation with the UPR process shows a complete disregard for this Council, and has resulted in precedents that put the transparency and effectiveness of this mechanism at risk.

In light of the ongoing US-led negotiations, during which Israel escalated its violations of international law, there exists a pivotal responsibility on all Member States to *act* in a manner that would ensure Israel does not continue with its culture of impunity. This begins by taking strong action to hold Israel to account for continuing its persistent non-cooperation with the UN, including this Council.