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Set My People Free Intervention

Working Session 1

Democratic institutions, including address by the Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

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Dear Madame Chairman and Excellencies

Firstly I would like to congratulate the OSCE for their 25 year anniversary and their resilience and perseverance during this time, to make the world a better place to live.

In our intervention we would like to emphasise that:

Our actions speak louder than our words in protecting democratic values.

What message does the UN send by removing Saudi Arabia from the Child-Killers List because of funding needs?

What message do we send by choosing Saudi Arabia to lead the panel of Human Rights?

What message does the Canadian and Swedish parliament send by denying the genocide in Iraq and Syria?

What message does Turkey send by its denial of the Armenian genocide?

What kind of message do we send when President Omar Bashir of Sudan, indicted for genocide already in 2009, is still not arrested?

Universal Deceleration of Human Rights is essential to ensure the application of Democratic values. Its success is based on the compliance of the state and all citizens.

Values of Democracy:

Freedom of speech, freedom of thought, conscience and belief and equality, justice, truth and common sense, rule of law, security; not relativism.

These rights have to be known and experienced by each individual.

Authority should not be given to community leaders to dictate and limit the individual freedoms, oppressing the individual.

Freedom should be given directly to the individual.

We need to win hearts and minds:

There are different voices which want to pervert the values of democracy.

Therefore,

We need to teach democratic values to all our citizens, new and old.

We need to lead by example.

We need to walk the talk, if there is a will there is way.

International Executive of SMPF Kamal Fahmi