

## **UN decision on Israeli settlements draws Trump's ire, says 'world body causing problems'**

29/12/2016 22:16 by admin

**Washington:** US President-elect Donald Trump on Wednesday criticised the United Nations again for not living up to its potential and causing "problems rather than solving them".

### **File pic of Donald Trump**

"The UN has such tremendous potential, not living up to its potential. There is such tremendous potential, but it is not living up," Trump told reporters in Florida.

"When do you see the United Nations solving problems? They don't. They cause problems," he said.

Trump made these comments while responding to a question if America under his administration is considering leaving the United Nations.

This is for the second time in a week that Trump has criticised the world body. Earlier, he had criticised the UN in the wake of last week's adoption of a Security Council resolution condemning Israeli settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

The President-elect even asked that the US veto the resolution approved by the Security Council on Israeli settlements.

Trump's comment stems from the UN Security Council's decision on Israeli settlements on Palestinian land, a resolution that was approved thanks to the abstention of the United States, which could have exercised veto power over the measure but chose not to do so.

The resolution was approved by a vote of 14 in favour and the US abstention.

The resolution, which received heavy criticism from Israel, was brought before the Security Council by Venezuela, New Zealand, Malaysia and Senegal, after Egypt put the draft resolution on hold.

A day after the landmark vote, Trump had called the decision a "big loss" for Israel, adding that it will make it much harder to negotiate peace between Israel and the Palestinians.

The mogul, who has reaffirmed his solidarity with Israel, has promised to transfer the US Embassy in the Jewish state from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, a move that the Barack Obama administration has consistently opposed.

- IT