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COMMISSION DES DROITS DE L'HOMME
Cinquante-septième session
Point 8 de l'ordre du jour provisoire

QUESTION DE LA VIOLATION DES DROITS DE L'HOMME DANS LES
TERRITOIRES ARABES OCCUPÉS, Y COMPRIS LA PALESTINE

Lettre datée du 15 mars 2001, adressée à la Haut-Commissaire aux
droits de l'homme par l'Observateur permanent de la Palestine
auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies à Genève

Suite à mes précédentes lettres concernant la détérioration constante de la situation des droits de l'homme ainsi que la poursuite de la guerre criminelle menée par Israël contre le peuple palestinien dans le territoire palestinien occupé, y compris Jérusalem, j'ai l'honneur de vous communiquer ci-joint le texte de l'appel urgent lancé par S. E. M. Riyad Za'noun, Ministre de la santé au sein de l'Autorité nationale palestinienne.

Je vous serais reconnaissant de bien vouloir faire distribuer le texte du document ci-joint^{*} en tant que document officiel de la cinquante-septième session de la Commission des droits de l'homme, au titre du point 8 de l'ordre du jour.

L'Ambassadeur,
Observateur permanent
(Signé) Nabil **Ramlawi**

^{*} Reproduit tel quel, en anglais seulement.

Annex

Urgent appeal

In the time the Palestinian people in the west Bank and Gaza are suffering from the arbitrary occupation measures, since more than 5 months in the form of collective punishment, including siege and closure of all cities, in addition to shooting and bombarding of the civilians leading to thousands of injuries.

In the last few days, the occupation authority had escalated their restrictive measures against the civilian population, including complete closure of all enteries and exits of all villages isolating them from each other and from the nearest cities.

A flagrant example is that 33 villages located north west to Rammallah including Beirzeit university, had been completely isolated, and consequently 80000 population are not allowed to leave their villages, or to reach Rammallah where all health and educational institutions are located.

Today 11/03/2001 the same restrictive measures were applied to all villages around Jerusalem.

Under such harsh inhuman arbitrary measures, and circumstances the MOH became unable to provide its vital activities, and its routine medical services both curative and preventive measures, particularly the implementation of the vaccination programs and campaigns to our children, which creates serious situation that can lead to the spread of very dangerous epidemics.

Most of the medical teams are not allowed to reach the hospitals and the primary health care institutions, which are almost paralyzed, and cannot provide their services, and meet their commitments towards civilian population.

Even the waste disposal operations, cannot be carried out, leaving piles of garbage in the towns and villages, and this will impose serious danger and consequences to health and environment.

Nevertheless the ambulances are not allowed to transfer the injured peoples and patients to the medical institutions, such a case seriously endanger the life of our people.

All these measures are considered serious violations to the principles of human rights, and all international laws and legitimacy including the famous fourth Geneva Convention, which stresses on the necessity of maintaining the civilian's health during wars.

On behalf of all our people and deprived children and on behalf of the humanity, we appeal urgently to the united nation, all international society, and peace lovers, all over the world, and in particular to all international human rights agencies, and red cross, crescent institutions, to act immediately and take the necessary intervention, to stop all these none human arbitrary acts against Palestinian people to allow them living in peace with dignity and to enjoy their basic human rights as other nations .

Minster of Health

Dr. Riyad Za'noun