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**Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and
the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory**

Security Council
Seventy-eighth year

Identical letters dated 21 June 2023 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

The dangerous escalation of Israeli terrorism and violence against the Palestinian people compels me to make yet another urgent appeal to the Security Council and the international community as a whole, just one day following my previous letter to you.

Israel and its military forces and settler militias are burning Palestinian villages, terrorizing Palestinian communities, displacing Palestinian families, stealing Palestinian land and attacking, killing and injuring Palestinian civilians, including children.

Although the world is witnessing yet another criminal aggression against our people, it still fails to act to provide them with the protection they desperately need and are entitled to in accordance with international humanitarian law as protected persons under a now 56-year-old military occupation.

It is beyond obvious: despite countless condemnations and demands for cessation, this decades-long terror campaign against the Palestinian people is becoming more virulent because Israeli officials, military personnel and emboldened settlers have come to believe that they can carry on with their war crimes and crimes against humanity without a single consequence, as accountability remains absent.

Today, that impunity manifested in Israeli settler attacks on Turmus'ayya, Lubban al-Sharqiyah, Sinjil and other villages in the occupied West Bank. Hundreds of Israeli settlers, under the watch of and with the support of Israeli occupying forces, wildly attacked Palestinian civilians and set fire to homes and vehicles, deliberately committing such violence as a form of revenge and to terrorize the entire population.

One young Palestinian man, 27-year-old Omar Ketin, was killed by the Israeli attackers in Turmus'ayya, and several other civilians were injured. Also, today, another family from Jenin tragically had to bury their child. The 15-year-old girl, Sadil Ghassan Ibrahim Naghnaghieh, who had been shot in the head by Israeli occupying forces in Jenin on 19 June, died today of her wounds. Sadil had been struck



by a bullet in the front of her head, shot by an Israeli soldier ensconced in an armoured military vehicle as it had driven away from her family home in the Jenin refugee camp.

And still there is no accountability, and still Israel is not listed among the serial violators of children's rights.

The scenes in the Palestinian villages attacked today were reminiscent of the terror attack on Huwwarah in February of this year, which even Israelis considered a pogrom and for which there has been absolutely no accountability. Thus, in today's attack, extremist settler gangs torched at least 30 houses and 60 vehicles and perpetrated countless other acts of violence.

The fact is that Israeli settler terrorism is State-sponsored; it is financially, politically and diplomatically facilitated, encouraged and supported by every branch of Israel's government. Moreover, this State-sponsored terrorism is openly condoned and even celebrated by Israeli officials, among them those who call for such vengeful attacks and who boast of and openly and unapologetically pursue Israel's domination and subjugation of the Palestinian people and theft and annexation of the Palestinian land through all means and measures.

As a result, Palestinian lives continue to be endangered and this illegal colonial occupation and apartheid regime is becoming more entrenched and more lawless, endangering the future of both peoples and the region as a whole, threatening international peace and security.

Only an end to the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and the dismantling of its abhorrent apartheid regime can guarantee the protection of the Palestinian people and the realization of their inalienable rights, including the right to live as a free people in their homeland.

The Palestinian leadership condemns in the strongest possible terms all of these heinous crimes against our people and calls upon the international community to step up to its responsibilities and to act with urgency to stop this dangerous escalation and protect the Palestinian people.

The Security Council, the Secretary-General and all responsible State actors have a duty to act in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and all other relevant provisions of international law, including immediate action to hold Israel and its terrorist settler militias accountable to the full extent of the law, which is crucial for imposing a cost and ultimately halting these war crimes and crimes against humanity against our people.

The present letter is in follow-up to our 794 letters regarding the ongoing historic injustice against the Palestinian people and the crimes being perpetrated by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 ([A/55/432-S/2000/921](#)) to 20 June 2023 ([A/ES-10/942-S/2023/454](#)) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel must be held accountable and the perpetrators brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Riyadh **Mansour**
Minister
Permanent Observer