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GAERC: COMMIT TO REVIEW EU AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL IN LIGHT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

(Brussels, 17 July 2006) To further pressure Israel to stop attacks on civilians, the EU's foreign ministers meeting today in Brussels should also agree to review relations with Israel in light of the current Association Agreement.

Amnesty International asks for an urgent review that takes into account the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the West Bank and Gaza.

"This review is necessary not just because Israel is systematically and deliberately breaching international law by targeting civilians. It should also address the impact of Israel's overall policies towards the Palestinian territories, which have left the population in an increasingly precarious situation," said Dick Oosting, Director of Amnesty International's EU Office.

In a review of the Association Agreement, Amnesty International urges the EU to address all the actions that are being taken by Israel, including those that do not involve military means but carry grave humanitarian consequences.

Amnesty International at the same time reiterates its call on the Lebanese government and Hizbullah to take immediate steps to end attacks against civilians and civilian targets.

For further comment/background and interviews:

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