

# URGENT ACTION

## FAMILIES FACING NEW DEMOLITION THREAT

**Three families in the Palestinian community of Hmayyir, in the al-Farisiya area of the West Bank, are at imminent risk of forced eviction from their homes and the destruction of their property. The authorities have not consulted with the 19 people affected, and have not compensated them for damage to their property during previous evictions.**

These fresh eviction orders were delivered on 15 and 16 August to three families living in Hmayyir whose homes were already destroyed in earlier spates of demolitions in July and August. Hmayyir and the surrounding lies within the 60 per cent of the West Bank designated as "Area C", which is completely under Israeli control; Palestinians living there face destruction of their property and severe restrictions on building.

A family of six adults and six children, who already had their home destroyed on 19 July, were subsequently donated tents by the Palestinian Authority's Ministry of Local Government and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in August. On 15 August, local military officials posted an eviction order on the side of the tent which was donated by the Ministry of Local Government.

Another family, consisting of three people, had structures containing a toilet and a kitchen severely damaged in demolitions on 5 August, following which they were given an ICRC tent as well as a Ministry of Local Government tent. On 15 August, an eviction notice was posted on the latter and the next day the family disassembled the tent and their kitchen to avoid them being damaged if the demolition went ahead.

Belongings and tents of a third family of two adults and two children were badly damaged on 5 August and they were subsequently given a tent by the Ministry of Local Government. On 16 August, the day after they had received an eviction notice, they also disassembled their tent and a structure standing next to it.

This latest move by the Israeli authorities points to an apparent policy to destroy communities – including homes and livelihoods – in the West Bank and particularly in the Jordan Valley.

### **PLEASE WRITE IMMEDIATELY in English, Hebrew or your own language:**

- Expressing concern that 19 people again face forced eviction from their homes, damage and destruction to their properties, and urging the authorities to immediately cancel the eviction and demolition orders;
- Reminding them of the 2010 UN Human Rights Committee's recommendations to the Israel government that it should "review its housing policy and issuance of construction permits"; and calling for an immediate end to house demolitions and forced evictions in the West Bank.

### **PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 29 SEPTEMBER 2010 TO:**

#### Minister of Defence

Ehud Barak  
37 Kaplan Street, Hakiryia  
Tel Aviv 61909, Israel  
Fax: +972 3 691 6940/696 2757  
Email: [minister@mod.gov.il](mailto:minister@mod.gov.il)

**Salutation: Dear Minister**

#### Military Judge Advocate General

Brigadier General Avihai Mandelblit  
6 David Elazar Street  
Hakiryia, Tel Aviv, Israel  
Fax: +972 3 569 4526/608 0366  
Email: [avimn@idf.gov.il](mailto:avimn@idf.gov.il)

**Salutation: Dear Judge Advocate  
General**

**Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country.** Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date. This is the third update of UA 148/10 (MDE 15/012/2010). Further information: [www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE15/012/2010/en](http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE15/012/2010/en)

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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

On 29 July 2010, the UN Human Rights Committee issued its observations following its consideration of Israel's report on its implementation of its obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which it is a state party. The Committee expressed concern at Israel's "frequent administrative demolition of property, homes, as well as schools in the West Bank and East Jerusalem due to the absence of construction permits, their issuance being frequently denied to Palestinians... [and] discriminatory municipal planning systems, in particular in "area C" of the West Bank, as well as East Jerusalem, disproportionately favouring the Jewish population of these areas". It called on the Israeli authorities to "further review its housing policy and issuance of construction permits with a view to implementing the principle of non-discrimination regarding minorities, in particular Palestinians" (Ref: CCPR/C/ISR/CO/3,, see <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrc/docs/CCPR.C.ISR.CO.3.doc>).

Further information on UA: 148/10 Index: MDE 15/020/2010 Issue Date: 18 August 2010

