



Kingdom of the Netherlands

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Re: B-32 Forcible transfer of protected persons from the West Bank

Dear Mr. Horton,

Thank you for your letter of 7 December 2015 regarding the forcible transfer of protected persons from the West Bank. Apologies for not responding to you earlier.

Your letter has led a number of Embassies in Tel Aviv, including this Embassy, to invite you for a joint meeting on this important issue. As you might recall, in this meeting - which took place on 11 February 2016 - our representative expressed our concern about the treatment of Palestinian minors in Israeli detention and informed you that the Netherlands has voiced this concern on a number of occasions with the Israeli authorities.

Please rest assured that the government of the Netherlands is committed to continuing its engagement on this issue, both through bilateral and multilateral channels, in order to achieve strict compliance of Israel with the applicable international law provisions. For example, during the 29<sup>th</sup> session of the Universal Periodic Review, the Netherlands recommended Israel to ensure that the treatment of Palestinian children in Israeli detention is fully in line with Israel's commitments under international law.

Both the Representative Office of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Ramallah and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Tel Aviv will continue to follow this issue closely and are happy to continue their dialogue with you on this topic.

Yours sincerely,



Mauritz Verheijden  
*Charge d'Affaires a.i.*