



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

13 February 2012

Dear Ms. Rasmusson,

I wish to thank you for your letter of 30 January 2012 on the work of the Norwegian Refugee Council in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) and requesting my assistance for the immediate cancellation of stop work and demolition orders on Palestinian structures in Area C and East Jerusalem of the West Bank.

During my recent visit to Israel and the oPt, I urged both parties to act constructively and rebuild confidence through goodwill gestures and positive developments on the ground. A freeze on demolitions and the cancellation of stop work orders would be an important step and would have a significant impact on the lives of Palestinians.

Ms. Valerie Amos, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, and humanitarian partners in the oPt are leading efforts to engage with the Government of Israel in this regard. I am aware that the Norwegian Refugee Council is playing an important role in these efforts.

I very much support these initiatives and am encouraged by recent positive outcomes. I understand that this month, Israeli authorities provided the Khan Al Amar Bedouin community in Area C with assurances that demolitions of their structures would be halted.

Achieving such progress will be important as we look to rebuild momentum in the peace process.

↑
XX
in the peace
process.
(Am)
I agree (LT)

Yours sincerely,

Ki Moon Ban
BAN Ki-moon

Ms. Elisabeth Rasmusson
Secretary General
Norwegian Refugee Council
Oslo

SG NRC
Drafter: OCHA
Proofread by: NH/MZ /30
Approved by: 1

Date: 13 February 2012 76