

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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Onze Referentie BZDOC-701036393-56

Date [..]-12-2018 Re Detention of Palestinian minors in Israel

Dear Mr. Shehadeh and Mr. Horton,

Thank you for your letter of October 15, 2018 regarding the forcible transfer of protected persons from the West Bank. As stated in our letter dated August 6, 2018, the Netherlands shares your concerns with regard to the treatment of Palestinian minors in Israeli detention and regularly voices these concerns to the Israeli authorities. This is done through bilateral channels, for example during the visit of our Human Rights Ambassador this year and through multilateral channels, and during this year's session of the Universal Periodic Review in which 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.

The Netherlands expects Israel to respect and strictly comply with the provisions of the fourth Geneva Convention, including with respect to the detention of minors. The Netherlands, as a Party to the fourth Geneva Convention, will continue to engage with the Israeli authorities on this issue, as described in the previous letter.

Yours sincerely,

Mauritz Verheijden Deputy Head of Mission