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Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories

From: **AINAGCorrespondence@fco.gov.uk**

Sent: 01 May 2015 10:44:03

To: **lphr@live.co.uk**

Our reference: EMOP/205/2015

1 May 2015

Dear Mr Shourou,

Thank you for your email of 13 April to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) about Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs). The Near East Department in the FCO has been asked to reply.

We share your concerns about the case the Ghaith-Sub Laban family who are facing forced eviction from their home. An official from the British Consulate General in Jerusalem visited the house on the 22 March and met with the family. We are raising the case with the Israeli authorities and will attend the District Court hearing on 31 May to hear the Sub Laban family's appeal against the revocation of their protected tenancy status. We will continue to monitor the case closely.

We believe that Israel has legal obligations as an Occupying Power with respect to the OPTs under applicable international law. We have a regular dialogue with the Government of Israel with regard to the implementation of those obligations and regularly and robustly raise our serious concerns on issues relating to Israeli actions in the OPTs.

In addition we continue to support Palestinians facing eviction or demolition through support to the Norwegian Refugee Council legal aid programme which helps individuals to challenge these decisions in the Israeli legal system. We are also funding the International Peace and Cooperation Centre (IPCC), an independent Palestinian non-profit organisation, to support long-term planning for Palestinian communities in East Jerusalem and the West Bank.

On behalf of the

Near East Department

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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