

From: June Kunugi [mailto:[jkunugi@unicef.org](mailto:jkunugi@unicef.org)]

Sent: Monday, June 16, 2014 12:18 AM

To: Gerard Horton

Cc: [raja@palnet.com](mailto:raja@palnet.com); Laskylaw; Nramati; Raghad Jaraisy; Katherine Cocco; Laurent Dutordoir; Bruce Grant; Anne-Claire Dufay

Subject: RE: Concerns relating to the effective implementation of UNICEF's recommendations

Dear Gerard,

I am writing in reply to your letter to UNICEF on the effective implementation, by the Government of Israel, of UNICEF recommendations on children in military detention.

As you know, following the publication of UNICEF's Paper on "Children in Israeli Military Detention" in March 2013, the Government of Israel issued a public response stating that it would work with UNICEF to review and implement the 38 recommendations outlined in the Paper.

In this regard, the Military Advocate General appointed the Military Prosecutor for the West Bank as focal point to lead, on behalf of the IDF, the interaction with UNICEF.

In the course of its dialogue with the Government of Israel, UNICEF has also met with Israeli representatives from the Ministry of Justice, the Israeli police, the Israel Prison Service, the Military Advocate General and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

This dialogue with Israeli authorities has led to an increased body of knowledge on the military detention and military court system, and resulted in some concrete outcomes, including the pilot-testing of summonses in lieu of night arrests, and a number of military orders strengthening legal safeguards for children.

UNICEF's documentation work on the ground indicates the need for more actions to achieve a concrete impact for children, and we view dialogue as an important tool towards further reforms. This approach is being used globally by UNICEF in the best interests of children. We will continue this dialogue as long as results are achieved.

UNICEF attaches great importance to engagement and consultation with relevant Israeli and Palestinian civil society organizations, the Palestinian Authority, as well as Member States and human rights mechanisms. We welcome the interest of Military Court Watch on this issue and note that we share a common advocacy goal of stronger protection for children in the military detention system.

Best wishes,

June

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