

Second Session

Minutes No.

**of the meeting of the Judea and Samaria Region Subcommittee of the Foreign
Affairs and Defense Committee**

Sunday, 27 Nissan, 5774 (April 27, 2014), 09:05

The Agenda:

Judea & Samaria Region Subcommittee – Illegal Palestinian construction in the C Territories

Present:

Committee Members:

Mordechai Yogev – Chairman

Orit Struck

Invitees:

Major General Yoav Mordechai	--	Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT), Ministry of Defense
Marco Ben Shabbat	--	Director of the Inspection Unit in the Judea and Samaria Region, Ministry of Defense
Avi Elimelech	--	Head of the Infrastructure Department, COGAT, Ministry of Defense
Mali Cohen	--	Assistant COGAT, the Ministry of Defense
Guy Inbar	--	Speaker of COGAT, Ministry of Defense
Colonel Einav Shalev	--	Operations Division Officer, Central Command, IDF, Ministry of Defense
Lieutenant-Colonel Nir Baron	--	Central Command, Operations Officer, IDF, Ministry of Defense
Captain Eli Levratov	--	Legal Advisor, Judea and Samaria Region, IDF, Ministry of Defense
Deputy Inspector General David Bitton	--	Deputy Commander of Judea and Samaria (Shai) District, the Israel Police, Ministry of Public Security
Commander Shuki Tahauka	--	Commander of Jerusalem Envelope, the Israel Police, Ministry of Public Security
Commander Izhak Brick	--	Deputy Commander of the Border Police, the Judea and Samaria Region, the Israel Police, Ministry of Public Security
Superintendent Meirav Etinger	--	Legal Advisor, Shai District, the Israel Police, Ministry of Public Security
Yossi Edelstein		Director of Enforcement and Foreigners Administration, the Immigration Authority, Ministry of the Interior
Tuvia Israeli		The Middle East Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Adv. Roy Shweika	The High Court of Justice Department, the State Attorney, Ministry of Justice
Amir Kidon	Intern, the State Attorney, Ministry of Justice
Benjamin Weil	Director of the Programs Department, Ministry of Construction and Housing
Benny Kashriel	Mayor of Ma'ale Adumim
Davidi Pearl	Head of Gush Etzion Regional Council
Ron Snir	Assistant Head of Binyamin Local Council
Dr. Danny Tirza	Chairman of Kfar Adumim and Chairman of the Gush Adumim Settlers Society
Boaz Ido	Land Protection Forum, Gush Adumim
Yaniv Aharoni	Coordinator of Activities of the Gush Adumim Forum
Hadar Sake Livne	Representative of the Land Forum, Resident of Kfar Adumim
Adv. Bezalel Smutritz	CEO of the Regavim Association
Ovad Arad	Field Coordinator, Regavim Association
Yoni Blum	Speaker of Regavim Association
Aharon Ben Hamo	Parliamentary Assistant of the Committee Chairman

Committee Director:

Assaf Friedman

Parliamentary Minute Taking:

Ahuva Sharon – Hever Hametargemim

Subcommittee Judea and Samaria Region – Illegal Palestinian Construction in C Territories

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Good morning to all those present. This is not our meeting. Our issue is enforcement of the law against illegal construction around Judea and Samaria. Before then, also for the military, police and guests – we will soon hold a short round so that people will know who they are sitting with – I would like to mention that we have the new Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories, Major General Poli Mordechai here with us. I would like to congratulate him upon his promotion to the rank of Major General and also upon his entrance into a position, which is a complex position, but from the little I know Poli, he is a professional, and an experienced person. We all wish him a lot of success in the new, sensitive and complex position. For those who do not know, he was also the head of the Civil Administration in Judea and Samaria, as well as the head of the Gaza Civil Administration, and also an Intelligence man and a citizen of the center of the country. Again, we all wish him luck.

Also present are Assaf, the manager of the committee, Dana and Noa.

I rely now not on the repetition of three and even four committees in which we engaged and I think we did not feel any progress therein, but actually on a report of the State Control Committee headed by Member of Knesset Amnon Cohen, which is the one that stated, on March 24, including a field tour, that approx. 35 thousand various illegal Palestinian buildings had been built around Judea and Samaria, in the C Territories. We have received applications, and even cries for help, from various council heads, whether in the [Jordan] Valley opposite Massua, or in North Samaria in the Reichan area, whether in Benyamin in the Givon area, or in other areas, whether in Judea, I think in the area of Yad Carmel, and we really focused on the strategic point of the Gush Adumim Area region of the settlements of Alon, Kfar Adumim until the entrance to Jerusalem. Who says they are not building in EI Territory? There is construction in EI Territory and there is a lot of very massive and industrious construction in the last two years. It is no longer a matter of the past month. The construction is not being enforced. There might be orders issued, but it is carried out very massively on weekends, Saturdays and holidays, and it is not done only by people who come to pitch their tent and herd their flock, but probably under the auspices of the Palestinian Authority and with the assistance of international organizations. Industrial buildings with signs of international organizations. It in fact sets strategic facts on this section of Jerusalem towards Jericho, Route 1.

We have raised a few points for discussion. It is clear to us that there is a need to regulate those who indeed wander and have no home, whether they wandered there when the conditions were better, or if they tried to enter inside the green line, towards Jerusalem, namely, we have placed the whole issue of the regulation, and maybe even first. I have no doubt – I have said in previous committees – that if there would be a school, preschool and grocery store, public buildings and lots in the place to which they are supposed to go – it is clear that they would go there because this would be regulated for them.

The second issue is the activity of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which will prevent the pipeline, the money, the resources, the organized and organizing assistance. What is being done against the international organizations or enforcement against other entities.

Open parentheses. There is an issue which we want to handle, both in respect of the international entities, and also in respect of very extreme Israeli parties who also encourage harming IDF soldiers, also encourage – while drawing a strong distinction – a reflection of those who try to harm the IDF soldiers. I close parentheses. We have material on this matter but this is not the issue of the meeting today.

The last issue is the enforcement issue. Enforcement that the Civil Administration leads the treatment of Arabs or Bedouins and the Israel Police and the Central Command assist

therewith with forces for the purpose of implementation. This is also an issue, in respect of which we have understood there is a weak point.

We shall hold a short introduction round and start with the position holders.

Introduction round.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

I warmly welcome also Davidi, who might represent here the councils, as well as Roni, Avi's deputy.

With your permission, let us start. I request that you hold it short. I will skip my presentation because it is old and it presents what everyone here knows and I assume that the Major General also knows. A presentation on the EI Territories.

Bezalel, present your news and we will hear the people after that. The Major General will decide who will talk.

Bezalel Smutritz:

Upon the request of the Chairman, we shall not add more of the same to this discussion, but we would like to comment and analyze a point which was raised here in previous discussions and we think requires some clarification and a very short review. We, at least in the first discussion presented a phenomenon, and the phenomenon is learned before the trees through the wood. We observed it on the Palestinian side, and identified a regular pattern, a long term involvement of the Palestinian Authority and international organizations, and focus on strategic areas. This indicates that there is a very organized thought of the other party, and not some sporadic action of someone who happens to have no place to live in.

On the Israeli blue side, again, this policy of avoiding inspection, not something coincidental, the HJC's part, about which we shall elaborate in the discussion today, and the commander's spirit, as we have identified it, who is probably giving downwards instructions not to try too hard.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

I see here also representatives of the Ministry of Construction and Housing. Sitting in the second row. The mayor of Ma'ale Adumim, Benny Kashriel is here.

Bezalel Smutritz:

In the previous discussion, which was held on March 3, 2014, we put on the table a report which takes the enforcement data for 2010 until 2012.

The Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Do you have a problem to forward the presentation as is, to COGAT afterwards?

Bezalel Smutritz:

Not at all. The presentation will be open.

We have prepared a presentation with analysis of these figures, and demonstrated that in fact, most of the statistic figures are really statistic and not enforcement against significant buildings, in total eight percent.

In the two previous discussions, a discussion was held here regarding who is to blame for the phenomenon. A whole chain of enforcement, inspection, legal system, HCJ department, the HCJ itself and somehow there was a feeling that everyone pointed their arrows against the court, whether by a light trigger finger and interim orders which delay enforcement, or later through piling further obstacles. To be honest, I must say that it will be very difficult to get me to defend the Supreme Court in these contexts, however we are not sure that in the context of this specific discussion, the Supreme Court is really the right address, and we would like to examine this through two very recent test cases.

One case is a petition, which we, Regavim, filed together with Susia, against two illegal building clusters, of a clan named Navaga, from both sides of Susia, while during the hearing

of the petition, an interim order was issued, prohibiting the continuation of construction. We updated regarding the violation of the interim order and continued construction contrarily to the order, and the State's position, as stated in several proceedings to HCJ, is that where interim orders are being violated, the enforcement against the violator becomes a top priority. Indeed, the judgment which dismissed our petition, addressed the same violation as well. Obviously, Respondents 1 to 3, namely the State, the Civil Administration, must act as quickly as required in order to inquire whether indeed the interim order issued by this court had been violated, and if so, they must perform the demolition. Again, of course, according to the same policy declared by the State itself.

After this judgment, we contacted the Civil Administration, quoted the judgment and asked to act immediately for the demolition of the buildings which were built after the issuance of the interim order, according to the reports provided by our attorney's client, to the Court. Often a claim is raised that it is difficult to implement demolition orders because those who reside in the house have no residential alternative, and therefore, we filed an application to the Population Registration of the Palestinian Authority against all of the residents of those two clusters, we attached – here I only provide one example – to our application, all of the registration's printouts. Note the right bottom corner. All of those residents who live in the complex are registered and have houses in the Palestinian town of Yata, in the A Territories. Namely, they have no problem of where to go to. Meaning, demolish their illegal buildings, those built contrarily to the interim order, they all must be demolished, but definitely those which were built contrarily to the interim order.

The answer that we received was, that indeed, from the factual aspect, Section 2, four new buildings were found which violated the interim orders of HCJ. However, if it were possible to anticipate, according to what was said in the judgment – here HCJ, not only does it not interfere with the enforcement but even orders enforcement and requires the Civil Administration to implement the demolition orders against such buildings. We accept the claim whose relevance [to the matter?] is unclear according to which the owners of the buildings filed an application for a permit to the Planning Bureau. It is not clear what is exactly the implication of this sentence, but the definitive sentence here is that they state that another petition had been filed to HCJ by the same Palestinian residents, and that in such petition, there was a demolition order [צו הרס = צו הריסה] issued pertaining to enforcement proceedings. Namely, that probably means that there is a demolition order which prevents the possibility of implementing the judgment. Namely, HCJ, in the first judgment, determines that those same four buildings must be demolished, because they were constructed contrarily the interim order, the Civil Administration tells us that these guys appealed to HCJ again and that HCJ is issuing an interim order. We went and checked the decision, and there it says that the response to the motion for the issuance of an interim order by the State would be filed within ten days, there was no demolition order issued or anything else. There is nothing preventing the Civil Administration. Not only is there nothing, but the Civil Administration is obligated, by virtue of an explicit judgment of the Supreme Court, to demolish at least those four buildings which were constructed while violating the interim order.

No one should live in illusions, because to date – the decision was issued two months ago, on February 24 – the State's response was not filed and therefore there is no demolition order and there is nothing preventing the demolition. The State as well – I do not know who, the HCJ Department or the Civil Administration – probably someone there is not too keen on filing an answer and postponing this petition and having it thrown out of the window. These houses are standing until today, and their residents sleep in them, live in them, continue to live a nice life.

The second case is in Masua', the Jordan Valley. We are referring here to four petitions, Palestinians from the Tobas area. Again, we recognize here immigration from A Territories, residence improvers who go out to C Territories – they have a very bad time under the Israeli occupation and therefore they run away from the A Territories and come to live with us – they took over also private areas which had been allocated to Moshav Masua. They are filing four petitions. Moshav Masua together with us, are filing a counter-petition and moving

to consolidate the hearing. Ultimately, those petitions are dismissed without prejudice based on the State's willingness to allow them sixty days to file applications for buildings permits. The Court adopts this agreement. The interim order given within the proceeding and indeed prevented demolition expires within 45 days. We, a year after the issuance of this judgment, approach the Civil Administration and first of all complain about the mere agreement. We think this was inappropriate, especially that these are offenders who took over a private area, built illegally and there is no reason in the world to reach understanding with them and give them now sixty days to obtain regulation. After this happened we examined and found that they did not file applications and received no permit. A year has passed and no enforcement action had been carried out yet. Again, here too, as of this moment, there is no decision of HCJ which prevents. Here we also receive an answer.

Yoav Mordechai:

What does private area mean? Private land?

Bezalel Smutritz:

Land which was allocated from the Settlement Division to Moshav Masua. We deem this as land which is no less than private. Proprietary rights are transferred also by allocation, right of lease, right of ownership. It is true that this refers to Jews and I am talking about Palestinians. We of course do not accept this distinction and hope that no one here believes that this is an appropriate distinction.

Here too we receive an answer which says that even though the Administration very much wants to enforce, makes a lot of effort, here too there is probably another petition being filed by the offenders to HCJ and here too it says that therein, the Court decided on May 26, 2013, almost a year ago, to issue a demolition order which prevents the implementation of the planning orders issued against the buildings. Guys, what do you want from us? It is not our fault, there is a demolition order.

Here the friends, is much more severe [sic]. The State is required to file a response to the interim order and explicitly, at this stage and in view of the HCJ decisions – namely, the Supreme Court is aware of the previous proceedings which were conducted and it is aware that there is no justification in the world to issue a demolition order because it understands that the Palestinians are playing a game here and using HCJ to thwart the enforceability – the Court explicitly states that there is no room to issue a demolition order. I have no idea who at the Civil Administration decided that there is a demolition order. Regrettably there is a policy which maintains that if anyone appeals to HCJ – by the way, if such someone is Jewish, this procedure does not exist and we have examples, such as Gal Yossef and others – if he is a Palestinian, if he appealed to HCJ, NIS 1,700, he receives an automatic immunity and at the Administration they automatically answer us that there is a demolition order even though in both these cases, there is nothing to it. Here too my friends, the State, until this day, 11 months, four motions for extension, there is already warning before dismissal for neglect to prosecute. The Supreme Court is starting to lose its patience because the State is not responding. On the one hand, the State is not responding, and had it responded, this petition would have been thrown out of the window, because there is really nothing there, after four previous futile proceedings. On the one hand, no response is filed, we convince ourselves that there are court orders which prohibit and after that we come here for a discussion and point the arrows and blame HCJ.

Mr. Chairman, Major General, HCJ is not to blame here. HCJ, not only did not issue an order, but said that it was not issuing a demolition order because it is aware of the broader context and the fact that prior proceedings had been conducted here and it is not willing to be the excuse of the Civil Administration for not enforcing the law.

We requested clarifications. Not us, but we sent a journalist. I do not know who can manage to read what is written here, but I cannot. Section 3 says that it had been determined in view of prior petitions, that there is no room to issue a demolition order since the State's response has not been filed. Section 4 says that in the coming days a summary dismissal is due to be filed within the motions for extension as aforesaid, by the State, by which the

State is bound, etc. Maybe Adv. Shweika, as an attorney, will explain to us what it says here, because I cannot understand while reading this answer.

Another point. Before Passover, the people of Israel received the news of a new enforcement policy of the Minister of Defense, Buggy Ya'alon. Probably as of this new policy, where there will be violence, a matter which becomes a relevant consideration in enforcement, where there will be violence, the enforcement against the illegal building in this area will become a top priority. We of course very much welcome this policy and think that it is an appropriate policy. Until the Civil Administration finish studying the matter in depth, we have put together for you all of the illegal construction [בבית] in the village of Tarkumia, close to the murder location of Commander Baruch Mizrahi, may the Lord avenge his blood, on the eve of Passover, in the evening [עשר=ערב:] of the Seder. All of these houses are definitely adjacent to the place where severe violence occurred, and we call you to realize. I let myself assume that until the next discussion, no stone from any house will fall and the plaster will not peel.

We have been warning for many years about a very significant weak spot in the weekend enforcement in general with an emphasis on very long concentrated holidays of the Jewish holidays, both the Tishrei Holidays and the Nissan Holidays, when the Civil Administration goes on company leave and there is no supervision at all. No one is left on duty. There is here between a week and ten days – depending on what happens with Thursday, Friday and Saturday and how those days connect to the holidays – of complete anarchy. The Palestinians are prepared for this. At the time, Abu Indi, which we had discussed in previous discussions, was established in Passover three years ago. We prepared – and with your permission, Mr. Chairman, we shall soon distribute – a completely factual report regarding what happened during the days of Hol Hamoed in the past week. We need to strike while the iron is still hot. We will of course be happy if the Civil Administration, even though it does not work during the holiday, at least immediately after the holiday will gird up its loins and send a message that the inspectors' holiday cannot be exploited in order to run wild in the field. Thank you very much.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Thank you very much. Member of Knesset Orit Struck.

Orit Struck:

Good morning. I did not manage to be here in the last discussion.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

We will provide a brief context. We are discussing general illegal construction of the Palestinians in the C Territories, construction which has significantly expanded and is almost not being physically enforced, focusing on AI Territory, which is a real strategic problem, and is also being done in a very blatant manner with international sponsorship entities, with the Authority and with money, and the question of what do we do with the regulation of the location for these Bedouins or Arabs, because as we see these are not Bedouins but people who come out of villages such as Yatta, Tobas and others. How do we enforce and how do we handle internationally.

Orit Struck:

I started by saying that I did not manage to come to the last discussion because I was committed to a discussion in another committee. In the discussion preceding that one, we asked whether there was a policy of regulating illegal Palestinian outposts and received a stammering response. Thereafter, I received the State's response as filed to HCJ in which it was explicitly stated that indeed there was such a policy. Thereafter, I heard that in the discussion which I had missed, it was said that there is such a policy, and the number 19 was even stated, and it was stated that in 19 places the current Minister of Defense has a policy to regulate them [sic.]. Thereafter we heard, following the appeal of the Palestinian Authority to the UN, that such regulation was suspended.

I would ask to receive an orderly and full report regarding these 19 places where the current Minister of Defense, Bugi Ya'alon regulates illegal Palestinian outposts and why he regulates them, whether they were indeed suspended and at what stage of each of these 19 it was suspended, so that we can follow up on this suspension. It is important to examine whether indeed some of them are in the area which we are talking about.

Following what was said here by Adv. Smutritz regarding the Passover holiday. At the eve of Passover holiday, I sent to your office, Poli, a highly urgent letter which was received by the secretary, in which I warned of illegal construction which was about to be carried out adjacently to New Givon, and that all of the signs in the field indicate that this was going to happen on the moment that the inspectors would go on holiday. After returning from the holiday, I received an update from New Givon that indeed, the buildings there were connected by an illegal connection to the electricity grid, I also received pictures and I want to know what you did when you received the letter and what do you intend to do now regarding this matter.

Another point which I had raised in the previous discussion. I understand that there is a policy to cooperate with the international organizations because they are acting for human rights and improving the living conditions of the Arab populations. I am referring to international organizations, foreign countries etc. I understand that there is clear policy to cooperate with them and to even give them priority within the Civil Administration's priorities. The question which I asked in that discussion and have received no response to until now, is when such organizations operate in places where building is prohibited, and help with the construction of illegal buildings, doesn't the State of Israel consider subjecting the cooperation therewith in the permitted places, to them not operating in the prohibited places, and if they do operate in the prohibited places, to stop their operations altogether because otherwise there is no end to this.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

In fact there were questions asked here, which were also raised in the letter sent by Assaf, the manager of the committee, and they referred to the status report regarding those 19 points, as stated in the previous meetings, of regulating illegal Arab villages while a tent becomes a tin house, a tin house becomes a building, a building becomes concrete and concrete becomes a village and receives the application which is done quickly compared to applications in the Jewish sector. The second question was regarding the issue which was referred to here as dates for construction, those dates on which the Administration is not available. The third question is regarding the international organizations, who come for a humanitarian purpose, and in fact cooperate with the illegal side of things. This is a question which had been constantly referred both to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and to the International Organizations' Officers of the Civil Administration, the Coordinator of Activities.

Ron Snir:

It should be stated, that with respect to the matter of Givon, it shall be said in favor of the Administration – and I am not being cynical here – that Amir, who is in charge of Benyamin, on the holiday eve, carried out enforcement action there, and two tools were seized there, taken by the Administration in mid work. True, there were also Alfa [sic] and stone throwing by the same builder, Mr. Sous. The casting was stopped in the middle of building the roof. The same... with all of the pressure that he has been an informant of the army in recent years, it can be put this way, there was a lot of pressure on Amir Matous and I know that on Marco Ben-Shabbat as well – he sought to release the tools but they resisted the pressure and confiscated the tools.

I do emphasize with what Member of Knesset Orit Struck said, and indeed we have a very big problem when on dates of company leave, construction takes place by all of the Palestinians in the whole of the Judea and Samaria region, and to our great sorrow, there is no one to enforce it.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

You present a blessed change, together with a strategic problem. We shall hear the Council Heads.

Benny Kashriel:

First of all, congratulations to Poli. I have been mayor for 22 years and went through approximately ten heads of the Civil Administration and the same number of COGATs. I am very happy about this meeting, which is one of many meetings held. There is construction in Judea and Samaria, but it is of the Palestinians. In EI there is constant construction of panels, not tents and not tin houses, and when a cry comes out of the committee, two shacks are torn down near Azaria and another single shack in the end of EI but meanwhile, for every two shacks, two hundred residential Palestinian units are built, and I am not exaggerating.

There is also a problem between us and Keidar, which has to be eventually annexed to Ma'ale Adumim according to the decision of the borders committee. Both during the period of Poli as the head of the Civil Administration and in the period of his predecessors, they promised to evacuate and permanently settle the Bedouins on an area which was subtracted from our area. There were there then about sixty-seventy families, currently there are there about two hundred Bedouin families, and no one moved to a permanent settlement. Keidar's situation with its 300 families is difficult. This is exactly the area which should connect between us and Keidar might be outside the fence. An HCJ was filed about it, and therefore, at the time, Minister of Defense Barak allowed HCJ to delay the hearing because he said that there was no interest at the time. The area between us and Mevaseret Adumim was built by the Palestinians and this would cause detachment not only between Ma'ale Adumim with 41 thousand residents and Jerusalem, but all of the residents of the Valley, all of the Kfar Adumim towns – namely East Benyamin – and Megilot, ultimately, we are liable to go through a sleeve, because the construction of Azaria has already reached the road and the construction of Isawia is already on the road. On the other side, the building of Aziaim is also on the road, and we only have one island left, in order to somehow connect to Pisgat Ze'ev, a little towards Mount Scopus, and we are losing this as well, because of all kinds of excuses according to which they have filed HCJ and HCJ has scheduled a trial in a year's time. The Civil Administration is not doing enough in order to expedite the HCJ, sit with the legal advisor and move the court to expedite proceedings. There are such proceedings within which it is possible to sit and regulate the issue. On the other hand, there are inspectors of the Civil Administration, but either there are not enough inspectors in order to control all of Judea and Samaria or their work is easy, and then, they build not only on holidays and not only on Saturdays, but they also build on weekdays, and it is complete anarchy. We see this in Ma'ale Adumim's approved outline plans. By the way, EI is an approved outline plan. Not only in EI but also in the city of Ma'ale Adumim, in an approved outline plan we see the Palestinians building without our supervision. When I want to build something, a balcony or a storage room with no permit, the respectable Civil Administration, comes to us in the city of Ma'ale Adumim, gives notices and seeks to demolish. We will have ten more meetings in ten years' time. Thank you very much.

Davidi Pearl:

I have not much to add. Things are known and clear. I assume that Poli knows them also from his past in his previous positions. It seems that this is really not in Marco's hands, but it is in other places, and there should be a commander spirit, as started under your new command. There should be a new spirit. The same as in the previous suspension fifty inspectors were recruited, who started working in order to stop our construction, bring one hundred inspectors who will commence daily work and get rid of everything which needs to be gotten rid of, without turning to HCJ and injunctions.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Anyone else from this row who wants to respond? Danny Tirza, in the name of all of the residents of Gush Adumim.

Danny Tirza:

Obviously I am very grateful to you, Mr. Chairman for dedicating time to a problem which is not our private problem. We happen to also live there, but the problem is a problem of the entire State of Israel, from the strategic aspect and construction aspect.

I would like to raise another aspect here. Before that, I would of course like to congratulate Poli, but to thank the Civil Administration for very extensive and intensive work, and quite often very Sisyphean work thereof. Regrettably, it seems to me that there is here a misunderstanding of the problem.

You need to understand that we are representatives of the public. The public residing in the area is extensive and large public who would like to be law abiding citizens of the State of Israel and expect the State of Israel to provide them with protection like any other citizen. Our residents see these violations every day and turn to us every day with complaints about those violations. When we approach and seek a meeting with the head of the Civil Administration after a very severe incident in which the Palestinians came and ruined the fence of the olive grove which we finally managed to revive, the police could not file indictments against them, even though there are seven people. The police filed everything, however, the prosecution at the Civil Administration sent them to bring certifications regarding ownership in the land, so that they can transfer this case. Meanwhile, the residents know what is going on and understand what is going on. An officer of the Civil Administration was involved in a severe Palestinian riot and nothing was done about that. Our residents see and understand. Afterwards, when the question is raised why do the residents take the law to their hands, and we all the time try to prevent this everywhere in Judea and Samaria, but the very difficult problem must be understood, the public leadership which on the one hand, wishes and believes that there should not be a gap created between the State and the residents who are here. There should not be lack of identification created, and on the other hand, the system, as a military system and a civil system, does not give this feeling. It demonstrates every day that those who violate the law, it is worthwhile for them. It demonstrates every day, that the Palestinian Authority manages to introduce more and more buildings, first they are covered with a tent, and two days later they are not even covered with a tent. It succeeds in bringing groups there, it succeeds in bringing the Italians there, and it succeeds in the creation of a situation where this place is a place of violation of law. When we say HCJ etc. – it is not interesting. Ultimately the residents understand and then the extremists come out, which must be prevented, but the entire public stands in awe before our hopelessness as the State of Israel for the solution of a small problem which is clear to everyone, and this is the national significance that this place will remain ours, and not a place which will become another Palestinian elephant. I am sure that everyone is making an effort, but in practice, things do not reach action. Thank you.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Before we turn to the official representatives, is there anyone else who wants to respond?
No.

Yoav Mordechai:

I suggest that I will first give a general picture.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

With your permission, let us focus. I made the regulation issue a top priority, because there is a difference between an Arab who has a house in Yatta or in Tobas and has to be sent there, and someone who is in the field, and if you send him away, he will go to the nearest wadi. There is a need for basic regulation which requires a work plan, as they are trying to do in the Negev. The second thing is really the activity of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, because this is the feeding pipeline. The international organizations who have come for humanitarian [מניטרית צ"ל הומניטארית] aid and have been found to be assisting felonies and law offenders, the question is how you enforce them [sic]. The additional thing is the enforcement. The distress as expressed here when you see before you how illegal activity is being carried out and there is no one to enforce. I said also in the beginning that there are

also military personnel and police personnel here and there is a need to join [לאגור] all of the forces, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and find an answer.

Yoav Mordechai:

First, I thank the Member of Knesset Motti Yogeve – who I have known for many years – both for the invitation and also the Forum and the distinguished men who are here, some of whom I know.

It is important for me to emphasize, and say that indeed in this meeting, the focus is on Palestinian illegal construction, but ultimately, the Civil Administration and myself, as the Coordinator of the Activities in the Territories, have responsibility over the enforcement and the law and order in Judea and Samaria, both on the enforcement in the field of infrastructures – electricity, water and I will soon elaborate – and over the Palestinian illegal construction, which is the focus of the discussion, and ultimately, also over the Israeli illegal construction being carried out in Judea and Samaria. These are also plans in a very similar manner.

I would like to talk about the policy. The statement which I saw in the presentation of Regavim - who in my eyes are doing an important job and the full picture must also be viewed – of avoidance of inspection and unacceptable enforcement, does not exist. There are challenges, there is no one hundred percent, the same as in the area of the State of Israel there is no one hundred percent, but there is ongoing activity, with a policy to be implemented and the figures will be presented soon.

The second thing. The commander spirit of the Minister of Defense and of the State of Israel is very clear, with priorities, because ultimately, there is a difference between the demolition now of a house in the edge of Territory A in Shchem and the Jerusalem Envelope, main routes and important areas, with priorities and unhesitant statements and activity anywhere possible, of course within the limitations of the law and priorities. This exists, this is the policy and this is how we continue.

I find it difficult to address the specific cases, but they will be examined on the merits. You are right, but I would go more to Idna and not to Tarkumiya because probably, the terror attack area was more from the direction of Idna.

As to the questions of Member of Knesset Orit Struck. First, the one who approved the outline plan was the previous Minister of Defense, while I was still head of the Civil Administration. The plans 19 [?] are really outline plans which were reapproved within the nine months of the negotiations.

Orit Struck:

Is this part of the negotiations?

Yoav Mordechai:

Yes. They were approved already before the negotiations by the Minister of Defense Ehud Barak, were validated and approved within the nine months of the negotiations and two weeks ago, when Abu Mazen unilaterally addressed the UN institutions, the Minister of Defense and the Prime Minister decided, in a consultation in which I was present, to suspend those plans which were part of the steps package. I cannot remember the whole plan to describe to you here, but there is no plan which is in the EI Territory and in the area of Route I which goes down to the Dead Sea, but this is in other areas in Judea and Samaria.

Orit Struck:

Will it be possible to receive a list in which the stage in which they were suspended will be stated?

Yoav Mordechai:

We shall provide the list in an orderly fashion through the Ministry of Defense.

Chairman Mordechai Yogeve:

The list will be transferred to the Committee Manager.

Yoav Mordechai:

We hesitated whether to present this openly or not. Since I think that we have nothing to hide and since we operate while maximally exhausting our force, I do not have a problem to also openly present here what I have, and not to narrow down the forum.

I would like to present the scope of activity so that we understand what the fields of our activity are. 2013, the Inspection Unit and the Civil Administration have to confront over 1,600 illegal buildings, both Israeli and Palestinian, out of which 520 were eventually materialized. An enormous scope. In addition, the Civil Administration, as a small body, has also responsibility of protecting the roads, almost seventy enforcement actions. This means blocking routes, breaking routes, protecting ways, breaking through routes which eventually affect human lives. Note also the figures regarding the water, while one of the water problems is water stealing. 217 kilometers of droppers, pipelines and reservoirs were demolished during 2013, speaking of avoidance of inspection and enforcement, and I strongly protest against that.

Military fire zones some of which are in strategic areas, in addition to their significance to the IDF, over two hundred activities, while each such activity – soon you will also see pictures – is not an activity in which you arrive and collect a tent, but sometimes it is activity with violence, with Molotov cocktails, and sometimes, when evacuating in an Israeli area – you also confront one type of violence or another, and there is quite a bit of that.

Mining and quarrying – over twenty activities. Protection of the environment, and sometimes, protection of the environment means to confiscate fifty camels which are wondering around in Jericho and go onto Route 90 and thus cause road accidents. Only yesterday we have a casualty in Uga due to a road accident. This is an operation. Removing agriculture where taking over State land, over 4,000 trees. Confiscation in the performance of an offence, at the time of performance, over 260 confiscation activities. This is in addition to the activity which the Inspection Unit has, in view of its expertise in land, with the assistance of other entities at the Civil Administration, from planning to land, in order to see how it is possible to promote survey land and blue line problematic areas.

In this transparency I demonstrate that there is a scope of activity here both against the Palestinians and against Israelis, on an ongoing, intensive manner with very clear priorities.

In this transparency I show you the comparative graph.

Benny Kashriel:

Question. The 1,646 include the illegal buildings in our G Territory and in the wadis. Namely, 250 Bedouin families and they are illegal buildings.

Marco Ben-Shabbat:

They are illegal buildings but they are old.

Benny Kashriel:

What is old?

Yoav Mordechai:

I am providing the picture for 2013.

Benny Kashriel:

Maybe give the committee the real picture of all of the Palestinian illegal buildings which exist, because when there are illegal buildings of Israelis, it goes out to the press in Israel and abroad. Maybe provide the picture of all of the illegal buildings which are built and how many are added every week.

Yoav Mordechai:

We provided 2013.

Benny Kashriel:

1,646 are maybe a tenth.

Yoav Mordechai:

We can also take years back.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Mayor of the City of Ma'ale Adumim, I am taking a figure from the State Control Committee. Based on the report of the State Comptroller in which it was said 35 thousand illegal buildings in the C Territories by Palestinians. This is an enormous number. Recently, really hundreds of houses.

Orit Struck:

Sorry that I am saying this, but there is some kind of deception here, because the 1,600 represents what was found and the 520 represents what was handled. We know that the real amount is thousands.

Yoav Mordechai:

Tens of thousands, since when?

Orit Struck:

Tens of thousands of illegal buildings which you must demolish and you demolished 520. I would like to hear, out of the 520, how many are Israeli and how many are Palestinian.

Yoav Mordechai:

I will show this right away.

Orit Struck:

Also with respect to the 4,000 trees, I would like to understand out of how many.

Yoav Mordechai:

You want with regard to the Israeli or the Palestinian?

Orit Struck:

Both.

Yoav Mordechai:

Here, I continue. There is a comparative graph here of years back, Palestinian illegal buildings of findings and demolitions. We see that in 2013, 373 demolitions were carried out, out of 1,288. By the way, according to strategy, planning and priorities therein, it is Jerusalem Envelope, routes, security related illegal buildings and military fire zones, in my eyes this is a scope of action, and some of it continues and will continue. I have also put the Israeli illegal buildings, while by virtue of our responsibility we are busy here as well [and?] the 358 illegal buildings which were found. For the sake of decency I would like to say that where it is delineated, we do not issue orders in all of the delineated areas but in what is outside the delineated areas, otherwise the number would have risen. This is the level of enforcement carried out.

I receive complaints both from the right and from the left regarding us not fulfilling our responsibility. Each party thinks that we have strict enforcement as a policy against the Palestinians, this is what I hear from the left wing organizations, human rights organizations from the left, and right wing organizations blame us for discriminating the Jews, but when I show the figures here, I think that ultimately there is a balanced conduct and policy here.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

However, it is implicated, and this is also our job, that actually, vis-à-vis the large scopes of Judea and Samaria, there is a need here to enhance the manpower in all of the systems of the Civil Administration.

Yoav Mordechai:

Possibly. We have enhanced.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

I think otherwise. I think that this should be given directly to the control of the Government of Israel and the Israeli Police with Israeli law, but when it is actually with you, under your responsibility, under the responsibility of the defense system, it is possible that there is manpower missing here, and that is a conclusion.

Yoav Mordechai:

Possibly. We are trying very hard to exhaust our power in our internal conduct. Also during the suspension period, there was enhancement, some of which is now directed to the Palestinian arena. Ultimately, there are areas beyond construction in the field of infrastructures, electricity and water, environmental quality, which has the significance for the level of national security in which we invest, but ultimately there is a lot of work and with the existing manpower, the challenge is indeed very big.

The second issue was the activity against illegal buildings with international financing. As far as we are concerned, it is really unimportant who finances the illegal building. In the past three months, I said that **[with?]** every embassy and every international organization of a certain state which builds illegally, we also carry out confiscations in real time, we both handle and complain. In the past three months, any organization which we caught building illegally, such was accompanied with a letter to the embassy, an hour later. I took **[presented?]** here the examples.

Orit Struck:

And then what happened to them?

Yoav Mordechai:

We will soon hear the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. I have no policy of boycotting states.

Orit Struck:

Any such organization, which performs a prohibited action, why not tell it that from now on it will not operate, neither in a prohibited manner nor in a permitted manner.

Yoav Mordechai:

I do not say that to a head of council who builds illegally either. I do not tell him that from now on he will not get a certain thing. There are entities at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the police who should act according to law and statutes. I do not boycott a state which operates. I complain, I raise it to the state level, but it is not the duty of the army to decide that it totally boycotts bodies.

There are figures here. There was a confiscation here of the Italian embassy which operated in the area of Route 1, and we carried out confiscation in real time of a truck with equipment. We see here a confiscation of another organization in the Valley area. We see here a confiscation which we carried out to UNDP which is a UN organization – in Habla, next to Alfei Menashe, Kalkiliya – which arrived with equipment for water pumping and a confiscation took place. Any such thing which occurred, was accompanied also by a letter to the embassy and a complaint. There are confiscations of military fire zones of the **Ucha [?]** organization which is, regrettably more active in the C Territories, and this is an organization, that as the COGAT, we have narrowed the contact with to the possible minimum, in view of the fact that it acts frequently and at larger scopes. There is a specification here of confiscations. Namely, against international organizations as well, there are pictures here which show the performance of confiscations. We see here a confiscation of the pump, we see here demolition and confiscation in real time. The left picture refers to the Italian organization which operated and tried to act.

I emphasized that confiscation and such activity, is not something which is carried out in sterile conditions. This confiscation in the picture, the Beit Hanina area, Begin North, we see that it is accompanied by violence with burning Molotov cocktails. This is a previous day plan, this is a next day plan, speaking of exhausting our resource at the scopes and numbers presented.

Orit Struck:

What was confiscated there?

Yoav Mordechai:

Mobile buildings were confiscated here. You see the picture on the left when they are lifted with cranes because they were placed where it is prohibited to place them.

This is demolition in Ramadin of the Ucha Organization which built them. Ramadin not in the South of the Hebron Mount but Ramadin next to Alfei Menashe, where there is a Bedouin tribe located in the area, illegally, with no outline plan. Also when an international organization is involved we appeal. Speaking of that attack in Idna, that is why I corrected and said not Tarkumiya. There is enforcement in Idna here as well.

There are more examples here but I don't think we need to go through all of them.

I would like to understand what is Israeli and Palestinian demolition because we cried out to the level of tarnishing the Civil Administration personnel, the lawyers and the Inspection Unit, in the demolition we had recently carried out in Kida. There was a cry because a building was demolished there. In the scopes of the handling in Judea and Samaria against the Palestinians, we demolish populated houses, frames of advanced construction, high-rises – we can see pictures here – and buildings in very advanced construction stages and we do this very frequently, commencing from Uga, the Jordan Valley and anywhere possible. We see here in Barta, there are buildings which already exist and built, in all sizes.

I would like to talk about the Bedouins and afterwards about EI. The first main issue with which I coop regarding the Bedouins is the multitude of petitions to HCJ against demolitions. We have a statement, even though it is not a judgment of the court, that the Bedouins, contrarily to the demolitions of the other illegal Palestinian construction, since they do not have a permanent alternative place, is accompanied also by handling them, and their evacuation, finding an alternative place for them so that they have where to go to. Therefore, in respect to Barta or Ramallah or Hebron, when it is clear to us that there is an alternative location in terms of the housing culture and the dispersion of the Palestinian population, contrary to the Bedouins, we know that they do have alternatives. This is why it is one of our biggest challenges.

The second challenge is that around EI – and I will soon zoom in on it, Route 1 and the entire Ma'ale Adumim area – building carried out there, right adjacently thereto there is already a petition to HCJ and then our ability to perform physical enforcement there is very limited and very difficult. Therefore we act in order to try and settle outline plans so that we will later have moral and legal validation for performance of the enforcement.

The mayor is right, and indeed this is something which takes quite a long time, in view of problems of environmental quality, environmental quality memorandum, around Abu-Dis to establish outline plans for Palestinians there, in the entire Ma'ale Adumim area and on route 1. One of them is what we call Ja'alim West, a plan which took a long time. This is very close to the waste removal site there. The plan is valid and is already in preparation for a performance tender. This means a performance tender which will divide the area there into areas, how many Dunams each family will receive, and then I can come to the court and claim that I am now taking someone out of EI Territory or from Route 1 or from Mishor Adumim, he has a place ready.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

How much does it contain?

Yoav Mordechai:

I do not remember by heart how many residential units.

Marco Ben-Shabbat:

35

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

This is really peanuts compared with the broad phenomenon.

Yoav Mordechai:

There is another attached plan. The additional plan is in the process for performance of a survey of the effect on the environmental quality in view of the proximity. There are two hundred lots contemplated there. Namely, these are two hundred more families.

Orit Struck:

At what stage is this plan for two hundred lots?

Yoav Mordechai:

This plan is now before a survey of the effect on the environment. So we will see the implications and continue to promote it.

Benny Kashriel:

It will not be approved.

Orit Struck:

What does this mean timetable wise?

Benny Kasheriel:

Poli, it will not be approved. You know it will not be approved. Why are you going there?

Yoav Mordechai:

Why will it not be approved?

Benny Kashriel:

Because until the landfill will not be restored, they will not approve it for you. The landfill will be restored within ten years, no less. We proposed an alternative site to you but you did not go to that place.

Yoav Mordechai:

What site?

Benny Kashriel:

You know very well.

Marco Ben-Shabbat:

The proposal you made was ruled out. It was examined by the GOC, the Head of the Administration and the Shai District.

Yoav Mordechai:

You are referring to the downward slopes to Nebi Mussa. Right?

Benny Kashriel:

Yes.

Yoav Mordechai:

I remember that.

Benny Kashriel:

On the one hand you do not approve an alternative site which is available and it is possible to go there, for all kinds of reasons, possibly financial, and on the other hand, you wait for the survey, and in this survey you will receive a response from the Ministry of Environmental Protection which says that until the site will not be completely restored it will not grant [it]. Until the site will be completely restored, ten years will pass.

Yoav Mordechai:

Ja'alim West, is also adjacent and ultimately they did approve it for us.

Benny Kashriel:

Then, but now things changed in the Environment Protection. There are new ministers.

Yoav Mordechai:

I am not sure.

Benny Kashriel:

Even though the livelihood of the Bedouins is there.

Yoav Mordechai:

I know. That is why I am not sure that it will not be approved.

Benny Kashriel:

With the help of God, I hope you will obtain [it?].

Orit Struck:

What is your estimate regarding the pace of the approval?

Yoav Mordechai:

It depends on the objections and on the survey.

Danny Tirza:

Six years had elapsed since.

Yoav Mordechai:

I am working opposite a pace that an outline plan undergoes in statutory proceedings and also the 19 Palestinian outline plans, already four-five years – already from the term of the former Minister of Defense – they were stopped because they did not mature, because it takes a long time. There are objections, surveys, committees and statutory proceedings.

Orit Struck:

Meanwhile they are developing. I am asking you, is what you are describing to us not the race of the Hare vs. the Tortoise?

Yoav Mordechai:

What I am describing to you, regarding to illegal building in C Territory, outline plans are established, there are continuous proceedings also against the enforcement, both against the Israeli construction and against the Palestinian construction, because of restrictions which exist, they are not new and not from recent years.

Orit Struck:

This means that everything will remain and continue.

Yoav Mordechai:

Definitely not.

Orit Struck:

You are talking about a solution.

Yoav Mordechai:

I have shown figures, and I will soon show activity that we carry out at EI and policy which we are trying to develop. In the Jordan Valley we plan, and there are already outline plans waiting for deliberation for deposit around Jericho adjacent to A Territory for regulation of the existing condition of the Harsheida tribe, as well as a new outline plan which is supposed to provide a response to the Bedouins from the Yitav Valley area, also from the Rimolim Route and from the entire area of the Alon Route, in order to gather and regulate them in an orderly and proper manner. I think this is an appropriate solution therefor. These plans are already in deliberation for deposit and I hope that we will promote them soon.

I would like to address EI. The policy in EI. First, it is important to say that most of the illegal buildings have been there for decades.

Benny Kashriel:

No. There is panel building there only in recent years.

Yoav Mordechai:

This was my next sentence. Recently, we see – this is exactly what the mayor is saying here, justly – that the existing building of tents is changing its form and the same tent is becoming light building. The vast majority – I am reluctant to state in order to avoid failing with the correctness of the figures – over ninety percent, are under one statutory proceeding or another, in the legal instances, a fact that limits our ability to act. Despite that, in view of a clear directive of the political level to prioritize this area for enforcement, you have here, from the last two months alone, activity which we performed – disassembly and confiscation of three caravillas at Ras Azaria, a caravilla at the Han el Ahmar area, a sty at Abu Indi Wadi, a carwash facility in the entrance to Ma'ale Adumim, an already built stone building at Ras Azaria, confiscation of the playground of the same Italian organization and complexes of huts in Azaria. In addition, in view of our understanding that they quickly turn here to HCJ, we are trying, together with the Shai District, of whose it is the area of responsibility, together with the Jerusalem Envelope Border Police and the Central Command, to carry out confiscations in real time, and then it solves the legal proceeding for us. Therefore, quite a few of the events here are of this kind. For that purpose we are required to allow tours also in the weekends for the Civil Administration officers as well. I hope that no one here expects the inspectors of the Civil Administration, who work also at nights and during Hol Hamoed, will tour on Friday-Saturday and on the Seder evening as well. We have a policy vis-à-vis the Shai District, the Border Police and the Civil Administration, vis-à-vis the DCL [District Coordination and Liaison], to try to find activity during tours during weekends. So an officer at the Civil Administration has authority, if he sees now a truck unloading, to stop it, hold it up, call an enforcement team immediately and carry out confiscations. I think that the more we shall know in real time about the committing of an offence and we shall know to stop it and confiscate, we will be able to narrow down the scope of building there and thus we know actually how to confront the immediate transition to the legal instance, because immediately, 24 hours later, we are at the legal instance.

Danny Tirza:

You appealed to HCJ regarding all of the new buildings which replaced the tents? In the same places which you say that currently there are orders stopping the possibility. We currently have 16 buildings which turned into a building from a tent, a fact which constitutes a violation of an HCJ order. Are we, the State – that is not we and you – doing so?

Yoav Mordechai:

I suggest that this will be responded by the HCJ representative sitting here. I do not know how to answer you at this level of resolution.

I would like to show here, speaking of the helplessness and policy of non-enforcement, the examples of EI. Here is Ras el Azaria and I would like you to see what it means to confiscate an existing building at the eve of a holiday. By the way, here we managed to legally coop, because the Legal Advisor of the Judea and Samaria Area – and any problem for which we

cannot find who to blame, we blame on the legal system – managed to find a legal solution, that since it is detachable, even though the caravillas had already been built, we received an approval here because they were detachable, to seize them as building which is light construction and we received legal support to disassemble them. There are three caravillas here which were disassembled and confiscated.

Orit Struck:

Anyone initiates proceedings here?

Yoav Mordechai:

In this case – I think that here too there was an international organization – we addressed the same embassy. The information is known to the police as well in every such performance and usually it is also a partner therein and supports us in all matters related to law and order.

Benny Kashriel:

Another question. Sorry for interrupting you. The question of Member of Knesset Orit Struck, are proceedings being initiated, is not only proceedings against the organization. The same one who built the illegal building, do you continue, after demolition with legal proceedings in order to fine him and bring him to court, as a deterrent? The organizations finance them, you demolish but he will continue again. Beyond the enforcement activity, there must be deterrence activity. Do you do that like I do it and fine the same person at the city of Ma'ale Adumim who violates building-code?

Yoav Mordechai:

Recently we have been guided by the Attorney General, and this has also been approved by the Ministry of Defense, to build at the Civil Administration a unit which will know how to regularly file complaints regarding building offences and prosecution with criminal charges both to [against?] Palestinians and Israelis with illegal building. This is a mechanism which we are currently studying in order to propose how it should be established. Currently, the Civil Administration, after I had presented its occupation in the field of electricity, water, environmental quality and construction, will engage also in investigations in order to find – you need to investigate who built it, who stands behind it, who finances and who receives [הקבלות] – currently the abilities of the Civil Administration to carry this out, both with the Palestinian construction and with the Israeli construction, are nonexistent. We have been directed to carry out work in order to establish such a unit. There was discussion whether it should be in the Ministry of the Interior or in the Civil Administration or at the Shai District. Such a unit, will have the abilities to also prosecute in respect of the committing of offences.

Orit Struck:

What is the timetable?

Yoav Mordechai:

I do not know. It is under very initial administrative work which has only just begun.

Benny Kashriel:

These are two parallel separate proceedings. Even if you have an HCJ, you can continue with the proceeding.

Yoav Mordechai:

No, it is not related to HCJ. I did not say HCJ. I said that in order to present to the police, who investigates now, who is the financier, who is the builder, who is the contractor. Currently at the Civil Administration we address construction and not people. Dealing now with the people who build means change of policy.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

This requires continued enforcement and follow up of a complaint, whether at the Israel Police or at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. A representative of the Israel Police is here. There were periods which I personally remember, when Shlomi Katabi was the district commander, in which he indeed exhausted this issue with a complaint. He would take the complaint, bring it to court, the court ruled whatever it ruled, mainly against international organizations and ensured – which is the expression since yesterday for the agreement with Abu Mazen – that those same law violating international activists boarded an airplane back to their homeland, after the Supreme Court ruled as it ruled. I would like to say that enforcement work which leads the finishing leg to completion and makes it efficient and does not make the Administration's work Sisyphean when it enforces and brings law violators to whom nothing is done, whether it is the builder in any sector or the same international organization which finances and instigates [sic]. I would focus on them, the international organizations because they are ultimately the financiers and they constitute the pipeline which beyond the local Arab, enables the offence.

Orit Struck:

I have a few more questions. If I understand correctly, there was a line in the presentation which says that where there is [sic] or an illegal building which is built on an area under regulation proceedings, you do not demolish. Is this the policy?

Yoav Mordechai:

No. It is highly dependable. Also on the Israeli side, when there is building done now in an area which is still not approved, but I know that I am under a regulation process, I carry out the proceeding of issuing an order, because it is still illegal, but I do not materialize it through demolition because I understand that the policy is for regulation. There is no difference in this policy between Israelis and Palestinians. If there is a village now which we are about to regulate and there is construction there now, I issue orders but I do not demolish. This is how I handle outposts with us as well.

Orit Struck:

It appears therefrom that those 19 places which are under regulation proceedings, even though that currently the regulation proceedings have been suspended, whomever is living there or developing there, knows that he can continue building with no interruption because he is under regulation proceedings. In fact, it does not bother him that it had been suspended and he can do whatever he wants.

Yoav Mordechai:

He cannot do whatever he wants. The policy will be re-determined now, in view of the development of the negotiations and the policy might be changed and adjusted.

Orit Struck:

I would like to ask you. You said that the legal advisor found this trick or another for you, and I am sure that the legal advisor is very talented, and so are all of the legal advisors. In 2004, when they wished to quickly evacuate settlements and they saw that it was impossible because the caravan was moved from one point to another, the tent as well and so forth, the legal advisors were approached and they invented the delineation orders. I am sure that if you ask the legal advisors to find special orders which would allow quick enforcement, they would invent them with all of their talent. The question is why you do not ask for that.

I would like to tell you, with respect to the issue of the holidays. I often receive communications regarding demolitions carried out against Israeli illegal building. By the way, only from the data provided by you here, you can see that only out of what was constructed in 2013, with the Israelis about half was demolished and the Palestinians less than a third. This is interesting. I can tell you, that there, at the Yom Kippur Eve, one hour before Kol Nidrei, some building was demolished at Ramat Migron.

Yoav Mordechai:

In 2013?

Orit Struck:

In 2013. There was high dedication, to the point of coming one hour before Kol Nidrei to demolish. The issue of the holidays seems to be slightly flexible.

Another question I would like to present to you is regarding the Bedouins. Is the definition of HCJ that the Bedouins need to be treated otherwise than just Arabs, how do you absolutely verify that a Bedouin is a Bedouin? Is there a mapping of this matter carried out or do the entities organizing this illegal expansion just exploit the Bedouin brand in order to expand further? Is there real thorough examination work carried out in order to ensure that these are Bedouins who have no alternative residential solution in each and every one of those buildings? I do not understand how we reached such enormous numbers of Bedouins.

Yoav Mordechai:

The Bedouin does not announce that he is a Bedouin and therefore he is a Bedouin. By the way, all of the rest are not just Arabs, rather they are Palestinians who live in some of the areas in Judea and Samaria.

Orit Struck:

I call them just Arabs.

Yoav Struck:

No. I said in the context of the word just. Regarding the Bedouins, we are mapping all of the tribes. We can tell from what tribe they are, what clan, and we know to define that they are Bedouins. We are already within very thorough mapping and therefore I do not think – I do not know, and if it is so we would like to know – that there is a dripping here of city people who become Bedouins. We do have to be very alert when the migration of Bedouins from areas which are less in Israeli interests such as the south of the Hebron Mount or out of areas in the cities or in A Territories, to see if there is no migration to other areas such as the area of Route I and E1 and we follow up on that.

I am not familiar with the evacuation which you said was carried out in the eve of Yom Kippur and I also propose not to adhere to the numbers and to say that there is more enforcement with Israelis than with Palestinians, because if I specify, exactly what is enforced to the level of numbers and what is exactly being enforced and in what areas, I think that the Coordination of Activities in the Territories and the Civil Administration work in a fair and proportionate manner. The numbers here do not reflect on what side there is more.

Regarding the polygons. It is very likely that in certain areas, we will also delineate areas for the Palestinians and say that from here and outwards, what is built now will be demolished just the same.

Orit Struck:

It is advisable to consider it.

Yoav Mordechai:

Yes.

Bezalel Smutritz:

Mr. Chairman, may I add a few words?

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Yes. We shall give the right of speech to other people and thereafter we shall have a round of more questions and answers. We shall start with the police entities, Jerusalem Envelope, the Shai District and thereafter the Envelope commander. We shall also hear the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the office of the **State/District [?]** Attorney and the Ministry of Construction and Housing who is also present.

Shuki Tahauka:

I am the Jerusalem Envelope Commander. I am one of the operating units, not on the decision side, not on the side of HCJ and not on the side of the legal personnel. I think that at least in the past year, there has been very strong cooperation between the Shai District, the Jerusalem Envelope, the Jerusalem District, the Civil Administration. Coincidentally or not coincidentally, I participate once every two weeks in status evaluations of the GOC. A very large part of the status evaluation focuses on this issue.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

With your permission. You too, both the police and the command – and there is also the command's operations division officer present – if you can address a point heard from various entities, not with us, that in fact, when you want to perform enforcement, there are no forces and therefore the matter disintegrates, becomes permanent and the phenomenon expands. At least in this area, these are your forces, as well as ultimately forces of the command, and forces of the Israel Police.

Shuki Tahauka:

There are always forces. The one who determines the priorities for us, at least at the Jerusalem District is the District Commander. By the way, I find myself, once a week or two performing demolitions in the area of the Jerusalem District, in the areas adjacent to the fence. It is not in vain that we remember the big incident which occurred a little over half a year ago at EI when tens of Palestinians came up or such a phenomenon which started, and the IDF, the Shai District, the Jerusalem District, the Command, the Civil Administration – the Command Operations Division Officer is also sitting here – did work. There are holiday eves being discussed here, and we found ourselves there at holiday eves, and at Saturday eve with hundreds of policemen and fighters lying there. This phenomenon was stopped because of the massive work of the forces, of all of the forces together, police and army. This should also be mentioned.

As to the inspectors of the Civil Administration. I must state that the officers who stay on duty at the DCLs, excellently filling in the place of those inspectors also on Saturday eves and on holidays. We find ourselves also on Saturday eves and on Fridays confiscating all kinds of tools. I believe that forty or fifty tools were confiscated in the area of Jerusalem Envelope only in the past few months. The people are performing their work excellently. There is no vacuum here on holiday eves and on holidays. There might be less people, but the same people who are on duty and stay, the officers, fill in the place and do it excellently.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Thank you. Deputy Commander of Shai District.

David Bitton:

In all matters related to the EI Territory, every time we were required for assistance, we assisted. It has to be said that the duty of the police in enforcement, on the matter of illegal building is the provision of assistance in order to prevent opposition. The one who performs the enforcement, the actual demolition, is the Administration. Therefore, at the EI Territory, only in the context of EI or in the context of an area of the Ma'ale Adumim region, we are required to provide assistance and the policy of the District Commander, the way I know it since I have been in office, in the last year, is that every time there is such a request for assistance, we provide assistance. I do not remember even one case in which we claimed to have a manpower problem. Of course the provision of such assistance is subject to priorities or verification of certain dates in terms of sensitivities etc., but every time we were required, we provided the assistance and I do not see a problem in this matter.

In all matters related to the investigation, we know what goes on in the Ministry of Defense. We are currently not a part of that. I think that the investigation issue, as occurs in the areas of the State of Israel, the Israel Police does not carry out investigations on the matter of illegal construction but the ones who do it, are the planning and building committees, and definitely not the Israel Police.

In all matters related to foreign international organizations or entities, the more we know and are exposed to materials or complaints are filed against international entities who are involved in any criminal offences – regardless of what offence is contemplated, whether riots, violence or even construction – we of course initiate an investigation against them, arrest and ultimately also deport.

Orit Struck:

Explain the difference between the two things you said. When do you investigate and when do you not investigate illegal construction?

David Bitton:

Also in the State of Israel, the Israel Police does not carry out investigations on the issue of illegal construction.

Orit Struck:

What do you investigate?

David Bitton:

When there are foreign entities involved in criminal activity, usually in the friction areas, which come and assist the Palestinians in one way or another.

Orit Struck:

With the criminal activity but not with the illegal construction activity.

David Bitton:

Mainly with criminal activity, when riots, attacks are involved, in any matter which is related and is referred to as an event which is related to a construction incident. We arrest, investigate and deport as well.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

When did you last get a chance to close a circle vis-à-vis a law violating international entity and see it boarding an airplane? This is of course through the State/District Attorney. I know the procedure. I was a division commander at Judea and Samaria. How as a commander in the field you ultimately care about closing this circle and you lead to his removal from here, or to his being at an Israeli prison is there is such a way? As far as I can remember, the way was to just return him to his country of residence and make sure that his friends also cease to be active here.

Yossi Edelstein:

It is usually carried out with our assistance, the Immigration Authority, the Administration which I head. We assist both the IDF forces and the Shai District by removing the foreign nationals who violate the public order in the areas of Judea and Samaria or anarchists who carry out various activities. We help them remove them by virtue of the authorities that we have.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

I assume that these are parallel people.

Yossi Edelstein:

Not parallel people. This is by virtue of the authority we have to handle foreigners. We handle. Instead of going with them to long proceedings of criminal proceedings which could be prolonged and ultimately come out with no significant results, we act for their removal and thus obviate this activity.

David Bitton:

I do not hold the exact figures, but it happens every day as a matter of routine. Anywhere there is involvement of foreign entities in criminal activity, we close circles on short ranges.

As the representative said, instead of trialing in Israel – we perform deportation to their country through the Immigration Authority.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

I am still asking again, and will later ask the Coordinator of the Activities in the Territories to address as well, regarding figures. How many were deported?

David Bitton:

We will be able to provide the Committee with these figures, the police figures.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

I would like to say that the audacity in the past two years is higher, unless it is a conspiracy. There is accurate signage, there are labels posted on the mobile buildings or on the industrial service buildings or on the water buildings or on the industrial water containers which are placed. There are labels of international organizations and they are photographed in the field.

Orit Struck:

He said that he does not initiate proceedings against them and does not deport them for illegal construction unless they throw stones.

David Bitton:

For the related offences.

Orit Struck:

If they breach the peace. For illegal building they do nothing to them. Complaints can be hung on the wall and put in the drawer. There is no enforcement.

Benny Kashriel:

By the way, illegal construction is a criminal offence.

Orit Struck:

True. Illegal construction is a legal [sic] offence.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

We need to understand – and I am saying this to the State/District Attorney's representative as well – that when a methodic offence is identified, which is very problematic, I know with regard to the Israel Police, that when the injury of policemen was identified as an acute problem – and I justify – that does not allow them the protection of law and order, then focusing was done and extra enforcement against this phenomenon was carried out, including aggravation of punishment. Here too, when the action is an action which we know about, it is a methodic action, it is an action of law violation, and therefore the tools ought to be provided here. Here I am telling the State/District Attorney that there is a need to provide the tools and follow up on this matter. I am saying it to the Legal Advisor for Judea and Samaria as well. It should be focused on, and the focus ought to be put on those international offenders who enter our space and create the chaos, I am saying unequivocally, as a mission for those countries and as an anti Israeli mission, in order to take over state land or other things. This is activity which is supported by very professional and very clear international organizations. We shall not map them here, but maybe in another meeting we shall focus on the international organizations and I intend to hold such a meeting in the coming session.

We requested, and I am saying this here, to the Civil Administration representatives, the Coordinator of the Activities in the Territories, to bring the list of the international organizations and those who assist. Some of them engage only in humanitarian issues and therefore they should engage in humanitarian issues. We have experienced this. Some distribute food and other things in places where there are poor people and others, and indeed, they should carry out their activity, especially that thereby they are an assisting arm

to the Civil Administration, to the Coordinator of the Activities in the Territories and to the State of Israel. However, any of them who cooperate with the law violation, I say, that once, the Civil Administration will cease cooperation therewith and the COGAT will cease cooperation therewith through the international organizations officers, and the second time, focus the claim, focus an investigation at this point, because it is the generator and it is the root of some of this acute problem [in respect of which] we are all sitting here for the tenth time – and the Mayor of Ma'ale Adumim says that as far as he is concerned already over 22 years – around the same issue. Take the root of the matter and nip it in the bud because then we might be able to stop some of the phenomenon. An Arab from Yatta does not have the funds to place a caravilla which costs NIS150-200 thousand and he does that only as the agent of entities who incite him, instigate him to such and transfer him there with all of the implications thereof. They finance him and act against the State of Israel, whether there or in other areas within the green line, which I will not specify right now. For the sake of the matter, Har Zion if we take it as an example. War over the land.

I request that you will hold a discussion about this at your District, because it is very focused. Ultimately it is focused maybe in ten, 15 and twenty people and not more than that. It could extricate some of this problem here that everyone afterwards deals with days and nights, in the uprooting and enforcement thereof, including enforcement of funds which are going around or other things in the way of such people. It does focus and I think that it will allow the narrowing down of a very large part of the problem. I am not certain about it but I think so. I am saying it also from the experience from previous years, and I have two systems of experience, once, when I was a division commander in Judea and Samaria, and the second when I saw the activity of the District Commander at the time of Shlomi Ka'atabi when I was a deputy Council Head in Judea and Samaria about six-seven years ago. I think that these were the years during which he was in his office and this enforcement was done and it drastically narrowed down this activity and in any case allowed the Jewish settlement see that there was indeed enforcement. Non-enforcement creates, as stated here before by Danny Tirza, and reflects distress in the field, because residents see that a Palestinian school is built in their area, in the outline area of Kfar Adumim, on Route I, with no distance of rights of way and nothing is enforced. We will catch the matter at the root, both at the root of those same international people who make it happen and at the root of enforcement over those same areas.

Orit Struck:

The question is who is authorized to make a decision to open criminal investigations and deportation proceedings against those who build illegally on State land. Who assumes the responsibility to commence this project? In my opinion it should be you, Poli, and not anyone else among those sitting here. It must be done with the Police, with the Planning Department.

Yoav Mordechai:

I said that we were instructed to thoroughly study the significance of the establishment of such an entity that will gather the materials. The significance is, as I assume is clear to you, that a criminal indictment would be filed against an illegal builder in EI and also against an illegal builder elsewhere, where an Israeli is building. In other words, this unit will not only be responsible to file criminal complaints against foreigners who are building and helping, but against any illegal construction. There is a decision to perform an in-depth study in order to examine and establish such an entity and there were several alternatives, as to what ministry it would report to. Currently, the Civil Administration and I have absolutely no ability to investigate building offences at the level of investigating and knowing who stands behind these events, except in very unusual cases in which the writing is clear.

Orit Struck:

That's not what we are talking about. Deputy Commander, Shai District is telling you that in cases of disorderly conduct, they don't even bother to file indictments but perform an expedited move of deportation from Israel and are done with it.

Yossi Edelstein:

The deportation move is only performed after there is evidence.

Orit Struck:

Based on evidence.

Yossi Edelstein:

After there is fairly solid evidence about a criminal offense having been committed, it is not something arbitrary because otherwise we will lose in court every second day.

Orit Struck:

Based on the same method, you don't have to perform the entire process but there can be very simple evidence because the writing is on all of the walls and I don't mean as an idiom but simply that there is writing on each and every wall stating who built the wall. That's the situation today. You don't have to perform a lot of investigations because it's written there. They are proud of it. You just take this photograph, go to the entity which built illegally, which signed.

Yoav Mordechai:

Who do you expect to investigate? That IDF officers will go to perform criminal investigations? What do you suggest?

Orit Struck:

I suggest that the in-depth study which you are doing ---

Yoav Mordechai:

We are examining it.

Orit Struck:

Instruct one of the bodies to take pictures of the signs on the walls. You don't need more than a photograph of a sign. Then deport that entity whose sign is hanging on the wall. Let's start with that.

Yoav Mordechai:

There are implications here and I assume that the representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will address foreign policy, who and what is deported, but there are other aspects to it. I completely understand what you are saying.

Benny Kashriel:

Your Inspection Department can also file a complaint with the police, like we do, against that family who lives in that illegal construction. You guys can also file a criminal lawsuit against that one. Why don't you file a criminal lawsuit against that family who lives in that illegal building, like I file, and like any local authority files? You begin with a criminal proceeding, go to court, there is a legal proceeding where there is a system of penalties for illegal construction violations, which begin with imprisonment, also with fines and all of that. That's the best deterrent against such families who go to live in that illegal building.

Yoav Mordechai:

I accept what you are saying but I want it to be clear that if I decide that the inspectors immediately file a complaint on each illegal construction, when they are now building in **holy** **קודש** Judea and Samaria, they have to go and complain, when they are building in Rass Al Azzaria, they have to go and complain, and instead of performing the enforcement you requested, they will go to courts to give testimonies. That's why I do work today, because it has implications.

Benny Kashriel:

You can both demolish and file the lawsuit.

Yoav Mordechai:

After the lawsuit, the supervisor is required to go and also give testimonies. Then you'll complain and tell me that while he's giving testimony, they are now building in the South of Mount Hebron and ask why I am not enforcing. Ultimately, the resources are there. There is a decision to go in the legal direction as well.

Orit Struck:

You spoke of a list of priorities and very rightly said that Jerusalem is top priority. EI is top priority. Please, in a place which is considered to be top priority, act accordingly. All of these buildings, there is writing on them, and it says who built them. What more do you need? It doesn't get any clearer.

Yoav Mordechai:

But there is no one to perform the investigation. Complaints have been filed with Shai District, Shai District is telling you here, that it does not handle building offences, so what do you want? Who will investigate? In recent years complaints have been filed on illegal construction. The Deputy Commander of the District is telling you that he does not investigate building offences, he does not file cases.

Orit Struck:

He is saying, that the Police doesn't investigate building offences.

Yoav Mordechai:

That's correct. Not in Israel either.

Exclamation:

Only in Shilo and in Eli, where the police does investigate building offences.

David Bitton

Not there either.

Orit Struck:

Who investigates building offences throughout the country?

David Bitton

Let's put things in order.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Let's allow people to answer because our time is limited and I do want to hear them. Like we said, this is not going to be the last discussion.

David Bitton

Let's put things in order. When Benny spoke about filing indictments, when he has illegal construction inside the city for example, the one filing the indictments, as he will tell you, is his legal department and not the Israel Police. Period. That's why the Sovereign in the area of the Judea and Samaria regions is the Civil Administration. Right now, an in-depth study is being performed, and we know and are familiar with this in-depth study, in order to establish an investigation unit that will handle these investigations. It has still not been established. The part of the Israel Police in the establishment of this unit, I guess it's obviously in the professional content, how do you perform an investigation, how do you perform an investigation of one type or another, but the entire matter of investigating of illegal construction, is not performed by the Israel Police in the territories of the State of Israel and also not in the Judea and Samaria regions.

Orit Struck:

But by the municipal bodies? By who?

David Bitton

That's correct, by the municipal bodies. The one who files indictments in such cases are the municipal bodies, the City's legal department.

Orit Struck:

In EI is that you or Benny?

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Perhaps if they give you a continuum between Keidar and Ma'ale Adummim, you will be able to file.

Ron Snir:

Even the Head of Binyamin Council, Avi Roe, was in an investigation in Beer Sheva which lasted more than six hours on the subject of the waste purification facility in Ofra.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Let's hear the blue-green bodies.

Meirav Etinger:

I would like to add something. We really don't investigate illegal construction offences, but what we do investigate, and that's with the consent of all of the political bodies, is only in cases where there is a violation of an interim order from the High Court of Justice and then the police does investigate. These are probably the cases which you are talking about. When the High Court of Justice has addressed zoning offences, there is an interim order prohibiting continued construction, and there is a complaint on a violation of an interim order, then the police does investigate.

Bezalel Smutritz:

Is there an investigation in Susya?

Meirav Etinger:

I don't know.

Bezalel Smutritz:

We filed a complaint with the Police. I don't know of an investigation.

Meirav Etinger:

I am telling you that if there is no interim order from the High Court of Justice, the police does not investigate.

Bezalel Smutritz:

An interim order. I provided it here in the presentation.

Orit Struck:

You methodically insist not to move forward. We have no reason not to believe Deputy Commander, Shai District who is telling us that throughout Israel illegal construction is being investigated.

David Bitton

No. Not the police.

Orit Struck:

The police doesn't investigate, but there is an investigation. Right? The municipal bodies investigate.

Meirav Etinger:

The municipal bodies investigate.

Yoav Mordechai:

I said that an in-depth study is being performed in order to establish an entity that will handle the investigation of building offences and build cases. There was a discussion, several ministers participated in it in order to decide under who it should work, we were instructed to perform a study and it is being performed.

Bezalel Smutritz:

I must interrupt because a lot of emphasis is being placed on this entity. This entity, Mr. GOC, structurally, and we have analyzed it legally – MK Struck has received a paper from us and I don't know if she remembers – will be able to deal only with Israelis and the truth should be stated. The normative situation in Judea and Samaria is that Palestinians in C Areas are neither required nor able to file a permit application because the zoning plan stops at its outline level. There are no detailed plans and you know it Marco, very well. Is there is a detailed plan in C Areas for the villages?

Marco Ben Shabbat:

He can submit a plan.

Exclamation:

The Administration does not accept it.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Bezalel, save the question because it may be an opening for an additional discussion.

Bezalel Smutritz:

This a Jews-only body and let's not kid ourselves because if it investigates even a single Palestinian, I will grow hairs here.

Yoav Mordechai:

You are applying pressure to establish an entity of this kind.

Bezalel Smutritz:

That's not true. We are not applying pressure. We are applying pressure to expose places. At least let's put the things on the table.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

It's an open question.

Bezalel Smutritz:

It has been requested to establish an entity that will deal with the need to investigate but not this entity.

Orit Struck:

What we are applying pressure to do, is to punish and deport the international bodies which are building openly and very proudly and placing large signs on these illegal buildings. We did not ask you to establish an entity that would enforce a law only on Israelis and don't say that's what we asked for.

Yoav Mordechai:

Do you want to establish an entity that will only enforce on international organizations?

Orit Struck:

Yes.

Bezalel Smutritz:

First, yes.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

No, there is no need for a law but there is a need to focus here. We see the problem and not everything needs a law. People here are smart enough and know well enough that if you focus on a problem of international organizations that are violating the law and order here, then activity can be focused on them. We are not here to create an imbalance in the activity vis-à-vis Israelis and the activity vis-à-vis Palestinians but in the activity of international organizations which are creating the chaos here and are also inciting the Arabs on the ground. This does not require a law but requires attention. This has been understood. Let's move forward and hear the additional answers.

Is there someone else from the Police or should we move to the Central Command? After that we will move on to the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Construction and Housing. The Command Operations Divisions Officer, both a comprehensive view of the reality and manpower.

Einav Shalev:

I would like to say three sentences. The military fire zones recently, it's a little difficult to paint it here for people because people are not familiar.

Bezalel Smutritz:

No, we are familiar and we are pleased.

Colonel Einav Shalev:

I think that one of the good processes that could slip through one's fingers is the return of military fire zones to where they are supposed to be and still aren't. One of the main reasons is that we, as a military system, are shifting many of the exercises down to the Jordan Valley. In other words, if you look at the last Division exercise with fighter aircrafts, helicopters and tanks shooting etc., I try to go decades back and I won't remember it. Now we are introducing an additional Division exercise in this region. This story of the battle over the military fire zones is more than the committee here and the excellent inspection work Marco does together with us. I think that the traffic of AFVs and cars etc. in this region and thousands of soldiers walking, it pushes aside. When the forces march, people move aside, and I am not distinguishing here between Jews and Palestinians but speaking in general.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

For those who don't understand, this is vis-à-vis task-oriented activity of international organizations and the Palestinian Authority, to bring in Arab, Bedouin and other residents into the military fire zones and frustrate the IDF's ability to operate in a place that has been declared a military fire zone for decades.

Einav Shalev:

We do quite a bit of enforcement in this region. This week too, on one of the nights we are going to a very sensitive and wide place in order to continue to enforce there. I say this here because I think that the issue of the exercises is a component which does not come up in the discussion here, but which has significant weight. Where, and there are such places, we significantly reduced the quantum of exercises, weeds have grown. That needs to be put into the equation.

A second point that has not come up here, in this discussion. We are dealing with the Command, over and above the preparations for the escalation process which may arrive, very much vis-à-vis the opposition committees, the fence committees. This entity has a shape and it has color. It has names and we do what needs to be done vis-à-vis certain people but it has to be said that there is a very significant directing hand in some of the places, with trucks and with tents. I don't remember the numbers and therefore I'm not saying them here, but the confiscations that we performed in the last year, I don't want to say that this was not done in previous years, but very correct, focused and intercepting intelligence work was truly done here. I am not going to go into the story of the intelligence here but I think that there are many success stories here that have to be mentioned as well.

This provides a blow in the right place. This is a blow in the nose in the right places. When you confiscate ten large, white and expensive tents it isn't easy. It is not simple to recover. Again it does not provide an answer to all of those illegal buildings.

The policy of the GOC Central Command has not changed. An illegal construction case that has completed its process, its legal process, its appeals – and there are cases where we reach the Minister of Defense and these are cases that are unusual in their scope or location, if it's an area of a mosque or something – it should be stated that the policy has not changed. What has, and I say this very openly. We do this often in view of a situation evaluation. If we see that there is something now in Menashe Territorial Brigade [HATMAR Menashe] or some kind of intelligence process that is giving rise to all sorts of things, we move forces over there. There are currently no files sitting on the desk of the Command Operations Divisions Officer, of which I am partially in charge, there is no pile of files which is waiting for a pile of battalions. There is no such thing. That is not the situation. I have no problem of forces vis-à-vis the General Staff in this regard. If you look since 2008 you will really see that the amount of forces is decreasing in Judea and Samaria and there is no discussion here. According to the dry figures, also in the 2013 working year we closed down one Border Police company. One Border Police company we transferred elsewhere and we removed a battalion and three companies. There are increasingly reduced forces but that's part of the limitations with which you are all better familiar than I. We are not in a position of files waiting for forces. These files are placed on the table during situation evaluations of one type or another and are being handled. In some of the places – and I think we have here a blurring of boundaries, which are not within the boundaries of the Central Command, either we go and help with Border Police companies because it is more difficult in other places or Coordination of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT) does it with the Civil Administration. I am not going to dismantle or operate in places where it is outside the borders of the Central Command. It's not within my jurisdiction and we mustn't touch it.

I will say one sentence in conclusion. First, the policy has not changed. Second, every time we train more in many more territories, all of these discussions will pass, once we vacate and reduce the exercises in those military fire zones.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Excuse the question, as far as I know, I may stand corrected, all of the Jerusalem Envelope territories, although they belong to Shuki, ultimately they are Central Command.

Einav Shalev:

Yes.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Whichever way you define it, it belongs to the Coordinator of Activities in the Occupied Territories, Liberated Territories, or however we define them, according to any political tendency. Ultimately, the Sovereign there is the Coordinator of Activities in the Territories on one hand and the Central Command on the other and the coordination between these two capacities is in the authority of the Minister of Defense who is also the one who introduced the Public Security factors, in other words, in this case he has even more harmony in the ability to unify the action in this area.

Einav Shalev:

I will answer. Look, over a year ago the GOC issued *quasi* powers of attorney for orders that enable the Shai District Commander to declare a closing order etc. What Shuki said that night, when we were with Coral, Sapir, the large police units, about EI. In EI region where the Civil Administration, COGAT, and Shai District are working, there are very-very clear boundaries. When I am sitting with the Shai District Operations Divisions Officer, with Shai himself or with any of the people, **the boundaries [פעולות הגירה תורגם גבולות גזרה]** are very clear. More than once – and that's right, it's correct, you are right – when a district commander picks up the phone to the GOC and tells him that he needs such and such

collection forces, he needs sky riders, he needs Border Police companies – and these are mainly Border Police companies and not IDF soldiers – in view of the forces in the district versus the Central Command forces, help exists. We do not renounce responsibility. You were in the military for many years and you know it, and know that there are boundaries and in boundaries, what can you do, responsibilities are delineated and the responsibility of where it is parked. I start from very clear boundaries. As far as I can operate inside those boundaries. Outside the boundaries – no. The GOC will not take it upon himself.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

I say this again. Clearly this is not the number one task of the GOC but his number one task is to thwart terrorism and we thank him for it. His second task is to build the power for threats but ultimately he is also the Sovereign of the area. Therefore I insisted that the commanders who control the forces come here. Ultimately I am telling you, I tell the Israel Police and the Border Police, there is a problem here and we are currently focusing it also in EI. The other places are simpler, smaller, an operation and finished. Here, right now, there is a strategic problem. I will say this also in the conclusion of the discussion. Hence, also the attitude or the list of priorities, for lack of any other option, and I did not come to challenge your priorities, day and night, of immediate rescuing of lives and so on and so forth.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Office of the [State/District] Attorney, the Population Authority and the Ministry of Construction and Housing. With your permission, briefly, like I said, this will probably not be the final meeting on the subject but we will request some things and see when we can make progress with them.

Tuvia Israeli:

Since the last meetings that were here, I do not know of any in-depth study or anything of the kind that was done at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, also because of partial and full strikes of Ministry employees, and Holidays. In principle, the Coordinator's statement that illegal construction is illegal construction irrespective of who supports, initiates and finances it. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall not prevent enforcement, neither in the past and certainly not in the future, whether it is a non-governmental international figure, the UN or even governmental.

We normally communicate only with large UN organizations, the International Red Cross Organization and of course, governments, if they are active and would like to be involved in projects with the Palestinians. In this communication we channel the desire of these international organizations to help the Palestinians in agreed projects and this obviates the matter of legality or handling of permits because if it is an agreed and coordinated project, there shouldn't be a problem.

We receive testimonies from all of these representatives and this is not the first time that they lead to international activity of various kinds. Now it has come to our attention that there is some sort of gap in the enforcement with regard to illegal construction initiatives. Let's assume that the location and the identification of the construction are covered, and also the enforcement from the aspect of demolishing or removing the hazard, they also exist, but really we are missing the additional step which MK Struck has pointed out, we stopped the illegal construction here, the business was pulled apart and removed, but how do we arrange that the same initiator, the same organization, doesn't show up somewhere else tomorrow.

Orit Struck:

It can show up in the same place. Right now, nothing is preventing it from proceeding.

Tuvia Israeli:

As the Ministry of Foreign Affairs sees it, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will support any instruction from an official Israeli government or security or legal body. The international representatives here do not have immunity and they have to keep the law, which they know. If it is found that someone is a criminal, there are the authorities that arrange to have him put on a plane or added to a black list so that he doesn't return.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

In order to make it a little bit shorter. There is a GOC here, who really has a widespread system. His heads of the International Organizations Division at the Civil Administration and COGAT employees.

Tuvia Israeli:

We sit with them at least twice a week.

Orit Struck:

And you never received a request to remove these organizations?

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

If he mentions to you a specific Italian organization or another organization, French or Australian, including people, and states their names, and you understand that there is a breach of law here versus an initial thought that it is humanitarian.

Tuvia Israeli:

We understood that we have a headache. We still did not understand that there is a breach of law because a breach of law has to be determined by a different body.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

But still, it allows steps.

Tuvia Israeli:

It's a headache that we have.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Still, it allows to provide assistance, and call an ambassador or a figure of some kind and tell him.

Tuvia Israeli:

We will make the statements but there is a difference between a statement and ensuring that it will also be effective.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

That's clear. You are not the finishing leg, not the Office of the [State/District] Attorney and not the Police. That's clear. That's the finishing leg. Why don't we move to the Population Authority and the Office of the [State/District] Attorney.

Yossi Edelstein:

In the context of the assistance we provide to all of the activity that takes place in the Judea and Samaria region, we receive quite a few indications from bodies of the General Security Services (GSS) with regard to the potential of foreign population that arrives here to intentionally interfere with the public order, and those who are labeled by the GSS, we prevent their entry into the State of Israel and they do not enter here. The thing is that they come here as innocent tourists and it is difficult to prevent the entry of the French, Belgians, Americans and Canadians that arrive here. The second stage is only if he disrupts the public order, then we can remove him. I want to tell you that they are quite sophisticated and all of the disorderly conduct that occurs on Fridays, usually they stand in the back and do not throw stones, they hardly breach the peace themselves, they only incite. To indict them today for incitement, it is very problematic to collect evidence. I can't take a seemingly innocent tourist and arbitrarily throw him out of the State of Israel. I must have evidence in order to be able to cancel his visa because he entered here with a valid tourist visa. To cancel his visa, I need evidence indicating that he allegedly committed some kind of offence.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

On a side note for a moment, when we focus a meeting on international bodies who act here in a hostile manner, not just seizing and taking control but hostile against the IDF, inciting to throw stones at IDF soldiers, we will probably also bring evidence and perhaps do it with a smaller panel so that it will be more significant.

Yossi Edelstein:

For quite a long period we tried to fight this phenomenon and the claim that they violated a closed military zone. We arrived in court and the judge is asking me how he knows from this road forth whether it is a closed area or not. We lost several times in this type of cases when we tried to throw them out because of the violation. We are dealing with it and trying to find all sorts of solutions to their wise guy conduct but this part is not simple.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Roy Shweika, please proceed.

Roy Shweika:

In the previous discussion we referred to our cooperation in working vis-à-vis the Civil Administration, COGAT, the Office of the Legal Advisor at the Civil Administration, and we emphasized that these are actually cases that are heard by the Supreme Court Sitting as a High Court of Justice. We also spoke about the complexity and I think that it arose today also from the statements of the Coordinator, the complexity of the issue of regulating the Bedouin settlement, and from the statements of the Command's representative with regard to the complexity in military fire zones. These are issues with which we deal on a daily basis in the cases that are being conducted and it's also what I explained in the previous discussion. Essentially, we are speaking of the proceedings that are conducted at the High Court of Justice while there too we act, like I said, in full cooperation.

I think that here we are referring less to legal proceedings at the moment but naturally more to matters of policy and first and foremost at the political level. The Office of the [State/District] Attorney also acts in this matter but I think that really the aspects – other than perhaps the specific aspects of individual cases of people against whom legal proceedings of deportation or custody are being conducted – insofar as it was heard here in the discussion, that it's really more a matter of outlining policy than a matter of proceedings pending at the Supreme Court.

Bezalel Smutritz:

Excuse me, did you give instructions to the Civil Administration that wherever a petition was filed against illegal construction no acts of enforcement are to be performed also if a demolition order or an interim order is not issued by the court?

Roy Shweika:

Can you come up with an example?

Bezalel Smutritz:

Is there a sweeping instruction?

Roy Shweika:

I can say two separate things. There is a very well known issue. There is a very well known story about Chief Justice Barak and Justice Cheshin when they were both still at the Ministry of Justice, regarding what it is that you do when a petition is filed, a response is requested and in practice, an interim order is not yet issued. Should you act. There is a very well known story about this in the history of the Ministry of Justice. This question is not only relevant to zoning proceedings but is a question of a very general nature when a petition is already filed. The story which is perhaps better known is the deportation of Hamas at the time. When a petition is filed and a response has not yet been filed. Do you act according to the decision or not. There is no "across the board" answer to this. I can say that as a rule, so long as the response has not been filed, to refrain from something that would in practice thwart the legal proceeding, but that's not exclusive to planning and building. You can think

of an example in any proceeding when someone already files a petition and the ball is actually in your hands, the hands of the State, as the responding party.

Bezalel Smutritz:

Does this not void of any content the decision of the High Court of Justice not to issue a demolition order? Why, a demolition order was sought and the High Court of Justice says it is not giving one. You don't file a response for one year, two years and sometimes three and in all that time the criminal has immunity. I always blame Marco, because in letters he answers me that because a petition has been filed, they are barred from performing acts of enforcement. As an attorney I open the decision and see that the judge writes that he does not deem fit to issue a demolition order. If there is an instruction which you gave, then either file responses, so that it doesn't last three years, or cancel the instruction.

Roy Shweika:

The additional sentence was that when an extension for the purpose of formulating the position is requested, when you ask for an extension in practice you cannot act. Usually often [בדרך כלל הרבה פעמים], and it's true, when an extension is filed – its written in the extension itself and insofar as you are a party to the proceeding, you see it too – *de facto* there is consent.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Who needs to give you the policy that when we are standing here facing a strategic problem, you think about it more and you act? Focus. Everything here depends on focus because the tasks are innumerable.

Roy Shweika:

In a specific case, like the one asked here, when a decision is made, one way or another, first of all this is also in full coordination with the respondents, if it is the Civil Administration. As I also explained in the previous discussion when the question came up, this is not the policy of the Office of the [State/District] Attorney as the Office of the [State/District] Attorney but it is in coordination with the specific respondent when in these cases it is the Civil Administration.

Orit Struck:

In other words, for 11 months you refrain from answering.

Roy Shweika:

No.

Orit Struck:

Who is this in coordination with? The Minister of Defense?

Roy Shweika:

No.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

With the Office of the Legal Advisor for Judea and Samaria.

Roy Shweika:

Vis-à-vis legal advisors. We do not bother the Minister of Defense. We work vis-à-vis the legal advisors.

Bezalel Smutritz:

GOC, do you agree that so long as no answer has been filed, for one-two and three years, and there is no interim order, no demolition is carried out? They are saying that this is in coordination with you.

Yoav Mordechai:

I don't have an answer for you.

Bezalel Smutritz:

It would be a good idea to check.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

I think the matter has been understood.

Orit Struck:

What was understood?

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

It was understood that the Office of the [State/District] Attorney acts in accordance with the guidance from the Legal Advisor for Judea and Samaria who for this purpose is its client in this regard, and it can then bring it into focus and say please, in such and such cases, they are currently a strategic breach in the reading of the law, take Area E1, and it also causes tremendous strategic damage, and let's act faster there. Second, HCJs where the directive was that there is no room to address them and there is no room for issuing an interim order or a demolition order, let's give a quick State answer and clear the table and allow the treatment.

Bezalel Smutritz:

We saw a reality that was the opposite after interim orders were issued.

Orit Struck:

Is the foot-dragging at the Office of the [State/District] Attorney, at least in the two examples that were brought here in the beginning of the discussion, is this foot-dragging an order from high up? If so, how high up?

Roy Shweika:

Absolutely not. I don't know of any issue in which there is a foot-dragging policy.

Orit Struck:

We saw two examples here.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

MK Orit Struck, the Coordinator has to go to the Prime Minister's Office and we do want to let him summarize because it is clear to us that there is a point here. The only thing that I asked to focus on is that this is also dependent on the Legal Advisor for the Judea and Samaria Region or on COGAT policy, the security forces and it should be brought into focus more, and these points should not be missed because they deal with the problem here. Right now we are looking at how many places there are to take the bull by its horns.

Orit Struck:

You don't want an answer to my question.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

I want an answer.

Orit Struck:

I asked them about foot-dragging.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

He answered. He didn't tell you that this is foot-dragging and he will not give you an answer like that because it wouldn't be politically correct.

Roy Shweika:

There is absolutely no foot-dragging policy. There is a specific response to a specific case that sometimes, the respondents' position, we formulate it in coordination, and in some cases it happens faster but there are cases where it happens slower.

Orit Struck:

It's not coincidental. It's not that you don't have time. It's someone from high up who told you to ask for a postponement four times.

Roy Shweika:

I said in the previous discussion that we are very busy. No one from high up says to drag feet in any case. There is no such thing, and it does not exist in any of the cases of the Office of the [State/District] Attorney. There is no foot-dragging in any subject or policy. The allocation of resources was discussed here and sometimes there are lists of priorities where in our activity vis-à-vis the respondents, the respondents relay a position or there is something which is more "across the board" that requires to be addressed. There is no foot-dragging instruction for any reason whatsoever in any subject or matter.

Orit Struck:

Do you at the Office of the [State/District] Attorney know that there is a policy of the State of Israel, of the respondents on whose behalf you are acting, to wipe out this phenomenon of illegal construction in EI?

Roy Shweika:

We are certainly familiar with a policy of the Civil Administration regarding complete law enforcement in Judea and Samaria. Certainly.

Orit Struck:

No. I'm asking something else.

Roy Shweika:

That was the question.

Orit Struck:

No. Are you familiar with the fact that eliminating the phenomenon is a high priority?

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Orit, I am leaving your question. The spirit of the question is clear to me. I will not repeat it. If later the Coordinator, or any of his people, ok. It points a certain arrow to the question. We'll hear the Ministry of Construction and Housing and if later the Coordinator would like another one of his people to address, by all means, it will be in the context of the conclusion. The Ministry of Construction and Housing, mainly with regard to the programs for regulation of the Bedouin, and their statutory situation.

Benjamin Weil:

I will focus mainly on the subject of Ma'ale Adummim, Adummim region. We are a planning and developing figure in coordination of course with the Civil Administration, with the Mayor, with the City and also with the Binyamin Headquarters. We plan.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Are you also coordinated in the Jordan Valley, regarding the North Jericho plans?

Benjamin Weil:

We are coordinated, but at a lower level of activity. I am returning to the Ma'ale Adummim region. EI's zoning plan was approved for validation more than 15 years ago. Part of the G site was approved for validation close to 20 years ago. These are the main reserves of the city of Ma'ale Adummim and that's the Government's policy to develop in the East of Jerusalem as part.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Are you talking about the plans for the Jews or for the Bedouin regulation?

Benjamin Weil:

I am speaking here of zoning activities.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

In what sector?

Benjamin Weil:

I repeat, EI.

Benny Kashriel:

Within an approved zoning plan of Ma'ale Adummim. He is coming to the permanent settlement, the permanent settlement policy.

Benjamin Weil:

We have the successful precedent of Stage A. Abu Dis where, for the purpose of the establishment of the Ma'ale Adummim 06 Neighborhood, the act of regulation of permanent settlement was coordinated with all of the factors, including the Bedouin themselves and their attorneys. At the time, the Ministry of Housing together with Finance included the cost of construction of the infrastructure for the purpose of the permanent settlement as part of the activities for the construction of the neighborhoods in Ma'ale Adummim. Since then, the neighborhoods we are planning, both in EI and in G, are advanced to the level that we can advance them. In EI we have promoted two plans out of three in residential neighborhoods, 3,500 residential units in total. I said two out of three because there is another plan regarding the Northern neighborhood which is included in the zoning plan but not advanced from the aspect of detailed planning.

In G, which is partly in the zoning plan of Ma'ale Adummim, in the South of the city, we have a skeleton plan in coordination with the City in the scope of 1,500-1,600 residential units. We are held back there for two reasons: First, because of the Bedouin presence in the area, regarding which Poli rightly spoke and said that we are promoting, together with the Civil Administration, the two plans of the West with the aim of settling, permanently, those Bedouin who are there. The second thing which is holding us back, the City and the Civil Administration, is the issue of regulation of the State land in the area.

Benny Kashriel:

Blue line team.

Benjamin Weil:

For years we have been asking that the issue of a final border of the State land in the place will be determined by the blue line team of the Civil Administration. Because of these two reasons we are still at the skeleton level and cannot promote a plan although the timing is agreed by all. We are on hold.

Orit Struck:

How many years has this thing of the blue line team been going on?

Benny Kashriel:

Blue line team, that's already eight-nine years although two Ministers of Defense, in agreements with us, have asked the Civil Administration to treat this matter as top priority, the blue line team activity. Now also the Minister of Defense, Bogie Ya'alon, has asked for priority. Unfortunately, nothing at all has been done.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Perhaps we'll be able to be useful with something here. I know a small story like that which ended in the last six months.

Yoav Mordechai:

If I'm not mistaken, you are wrong and this is not blue line. Blue line has ended. These are survey lands.

Benny Kashriel:

Survey lands. Sorry. Survey lands.

Marco Ben Shabbat:

All state land at Ma'ale Adummim has ended several years ago. We must be accurate.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

It seems to me that there is no one here who is familiar with the issue historically – perhaps Danny Tirza a little bit – more than the Coordinator of Activities in the Territories and if he is taking notes here on the side, we should keep matters brief. Later you will hear answers from me and perhaps there will be an outcome that can advance the issue.

Benjamin Weil:

I would like to state the bottom line with regard to Ma'ale Adummim. Twenty years ago the Rabin Government, after Oslo, we received an instruction to market 500 residential units per year from the urban reserves. We could do, because we had reserves. Now, we hardly make it to tens of residential units each year. The most important Eastern city---

Benny Kashriel:

Has become a community town several weeks ago.

Benjamin Weil:

We are not succeeding to market land reserves. We are on hold.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

We will want to summarize the discussion. I ask the GOC to summarize and then I will also summarize. Like I said, this is not the final meeting but it seems to me, so I hope, that we will also hear things which perhaps will move us forward.

Yoav Mordechai:

First, thank you again. I understand that we don't have answers to everything but I think – I have read the minutes of all of the previous meetings – that here we did delve more deeply into the matter and go into further details and presented figures insofar as we have any. The issue of enforcement in Judea and Samaria is very wide and it also demands substantial resources and therefore we act according to priorities while there is a very clear policy.

All of the relevant bodies are present here. An instruction with regard to enforcement in the EI area and on Route 1 leading to Jerusalem on the way to the Dead Sea, as an instruction and a directive of the Ministry of Defense, and the Minister of Defense personally to me, is a very-very high priority. I think that the figures which we presented of the last two-three months, including the fact that we illustrated it with photographs, attest to it being a very-very high priority. True, we also have legal complexity, there are attempts to find bypasses, some of them legal, some of them of timetables, dates and timing of when to build, but we are using efforts to find solutions for both weekends and holidays and will continue to do so.

With regard to the other side of the EI region, with regard to the development. That's the result of a political directive, zoning plans and their promotion, and population in the EI region, yes or no. In anything that relates to the land, although it has been going on for many years, we will very much try, as a directive, to prioritize and also check this area of the survey lands out of an understanding of the strategic importance.

With regard to the other figures you requested which we did not have here, we will organize them in an orderly fashion and forward them to you through the Ministry of Defense.

Orit Struck:

I will speak very briefly and perhaps it will be a little blunt. I think that what we heard is really unsatisfactory. I think that what we mainly heard was that we will really use efforts on one hand, but there is no orderly and structured plan how the solutions are to be solved in a short period of time.

Therefore I think that we should ask Poli to bring here, to the next meeting, take all that has been said here, integrate it into a plan that takes us out of the hare against the tortoise competition and brings us to a situation where, within a matter of months, this story is greatly expedited in all of the parameters that were spoken of here. Until then, all that we have heard here, all kinds of – I apologize – efforts that contain nothing structured that really solves the problem. Until we do not address the fact that facing us there really is that hare, in other words, those bodies with abundant resources and motivation who are acting without anyone stopping them, we will not solve this problem.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

First, we are facing a phenomenon here which is a tough phenomenon, an enforcement problem with limitations and systems and an integration of ministries and policy. This phenomenon exists throughout Judea and Samaria and has increased in recent years and focuses, as we said here, in the areas of the Adummim block as a strategic problem. I see perhaps also in this place where breaking the rules on the part of the Palestinians, by going to the UN, going to Hamas, is or isn't relevant and perhaps there is room to find additional routes. I haven't thought about it and therefore I leave it as a general sentence.

I do want to express my appreciation for the attitude of the Coordinator of Activities in the Territories and the entry of the entire system headed by the Minister of Defense after years, and you do understand that it has been years. We have been dealing with the issue for a little over a year and we felt that we are unable to receive a more significant response because according to the answer that was given here by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, that isn't an answer of just a two or three month strike, because it existed previously also, so that we are unable to take the bull by its horn and cause integration and cause deeper delving into a complex problem which requires someone to hold it, and join the forces together, in order to address it and really provide law and order in Judea and Samaria.

I certainly also wish to express my appreciation of you coming to the committee meeting, and your entry into the issue. I know that there are many issues and sometimes they are not priority number one.

There is one technical matter, I would like to have material here so that we can continue the follow up. We will forward both the Regavim presentation and the COGAT presentation of the committee management in order that we use them as materials.

I would ask on those three issues. First, a work plan in relation to the regulation of the Bedouin or the homeless, we'll call them that, if we make a distinction between the Arabs who are directed by the Palestinian Authority and international organizations to come from Yatta or Tubas and seize areas intentionally, in the case of the Fiad or other plans, in order to close the Jewish, Israeli territories, the State land, including into town areas and approved zoning plans of towns. To focus thought at the level of the security forces and the regulation of the Bedouin. This may really require manpower as was done in the South where Major General (Reserve) Doron Almog was appointed, or another person with capabilities of a project manager to integrate all of the progress of the Administration, of Intelligence, of the work plans of Building and Construction and their approval at the Administration with Daniel Halimi at the planning office and others. How to expedite the matter such that the idiom given here by MK Orit Struck, tortoise steps compared to a hare or a deer, will not be fulfilled, and our response as a State is cumbersome, bureaucratic and years-long and does not provide an answer.

This regulation, I say it as a first route, because when you have a destination, there you should also think about building the public buildings so that the attraction exists, and not in quantities of 35 lots but here, right now, quantities of hundreds are required and if we wait

another year or two, we will be talking about thousands and we are intensifying the problem. When it's open, both morality and the executive ability are much more significant and effective.

All of the relevant entities here, please put this into focus. I am telling you, [מרטשתי] Shai to take this as a subject to focus on, both the activity of the international organizations and the issue of Area EI that you are in, and in which you are sitting. Drive right and left, and see what goes on.

David Bitton:

We are the only ones.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

Yes. That belongs to another direction, the need to build the continuum of Ma'ale Adummim to Jerusalem in EI. It's not for this meeting but it certainly is a topic that should be raised.

The issue of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. I would expect, Mr. Coordinator of Activities in the Territories, to see more joining together of the heads of the branches of the international organizations and more activity in these organizations. If need be – file a complaint and if need be reprimand those embassies and then exhaust a concrete complaint on such ten or twenty heads and hit. Sometimes it's three – four and no more. It's very concrete, very focused, while receiving assistance from the GSS like Yossi from the Population Authority said here. It's possible that with the help of five and six and two bank accounts, you discovered something and I assume that this information exists.

In addition, to think strategically, mainly with regard to the EI Area, at the Ministerial level, the highest level. If necessary, to climb even past it, to the Prime Minister's Office, in order to also integrate the legal system, the system of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the additional systems including the Ministry of Justice or Budgeting – I am touching on the final issue of manpower – whether in the Shai District or the Civil Administration, or among additional entities, in order to handle these issues.

Orit Struck:

Perhaps the Office of the [State/District] Attorney will recognize it, there is prioritization.

Chairman Mordechai Yogev:

I am pleased with what has been said here, that regulating Ma'ale Adummim including the survey lands, may also be prioritized in order to provide this capability as a basis for the capability to regulate this entire area cell. I am pleased and thank all of the attendees.

I assume, not as a *fait accompli*, that if we make an effort to hold the next meeting in approx. three months, with a smaller panel, it may be deeper. The meeting will also be participated by GSS figures, perhaps also the Minister of Foreign Affairs or his Deputy, a smaller more closed meeting and then perhaps we will enable and request to bring one or two professional persons such as Adv. Smutritz or another figure in order that this communication in the professional manner will help us, as assistance is received from professional civilians, and in order that the matter be handled with the depth it deserves assuming that everyone wants law and order in Judea and Samaria.

Thank you.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 o'clock.