



Photo by Tamimi Press.

Demonstrations in Nabi Salih village dispersed by Israeli forces. May 2011.

May Overview

May witnessed the highest number of Palestinians injured (319) during demonstrations and clashes in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) since March 2010. The large majority of these injuries took place within the context of demonstrations commemorating the 63rd anniversary of what Palestinians refer to as *An Nakba* (the catastrophe) of 1948, during which the majority of the Palestinian population became refugees. A concern raised in the context of other demonstrations, particularly those held in the village of An Nabi Salih (Ramallah), in protest of settlement expansion, is that the purpose behind the use of force (and its nature and proportion) is to discourage people from exercising their right to free expression and peaceful assembly.

Some 30 percent of this month's injuries were children. This has occurred in the context of a worrying increase in the number of child casualties, displacement and

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incidents leading to disruptions in education since the beginning of this year. Thus far in 2011, twice as many children have been injured per month, on average, compared to 2010. In addition, over four times as many children have been displaced, due to the demolition of their homes, than were displaced during the first five months of 2010.

This month, two developments in the access of goods and people to and from the Gaza Strip took place. First, the Israeli authorities began operating a new facility at the Kerem Shalom Crossing designated for the transfer of bulk aggregates. This allowed resumption in the entry of aggregates for approved projects, which had come to a halt in the previous three weeks. While this opening is welcome, the restrictive operational procedures applied at the crossing, in general, and the new facility, in particular, have continued to impede the flow of permitted goods into Gaza. This has taken place in the context of an overall reduction in the crossings' capacity (less than two-thirds the pre-blockade capacity for imports), alongside a significant increase in costs, since the imposition of the blockade, which followed the gradual closure of three other commercial crossings.

The second development that occurred towards the end of the month is the official reopening of the Rafah border crossing by the Egyptian authorities, nearly four years after it was closed following the take-over of Gaza by Hamas in June 2007. However, lack of clarity on technical issues, as well as disputes between the Egyptian and the Gazan authorities concerning the implementation of the new procedures have disrupted the functioning of the crossing and the actual benefit of the change in policy for Gazan civilians is uncertain.

An additional major concern highlighted this month is the lack of a secure legal status affecting many Palestinians. Documents disclosed in early May by the Israeli government reveal that, as much as, 140,000 West Bank residents were stripped of their residency status between 1967 and 1994. While some of those whose status was revoked were later

allowed to return, the vast majority were not. Many others are currently at risk of being deported, prevented from returning to their homes, or living separated from their families due to their lack of a secure status. The groups that face the greatest risk are East Jerusalem ID holders who reside outside the city, Gaza residents who live in the West Bank, and the spouses of Palestinians and foreign nationals who live in the West Bank.

Given the poor humanitarian situation affecting large segments of the oPt population, there is considerable concern over the significant shortfall in humanitarian funding for the oPt. As of the end of May, the 2011 Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP), with a total request of USD 585.6 million, was only 24 percent funded. In the absence of additional pledges, organizations will be forced to scale back activities in the second half of 2011. While the impact of shortfalls in the CAP is felt across all humanitarian sectors, the food security sector, which has the highest financial requirements at over \$204 million, is among the most affected. If funds are not secured in the coming months, both UNRWA and the World Food Programme (WFP), the two largest providers of food assistance, will have to implement major cuts to their food assistance projects, affecting hundreds of thousands of beneficiaries. The agency has also been forced to suspend school feeding programmes in Gaza, which serve 92,000 school children.

It is in the context of the abovementioned concerns and gaps that UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos carried out her first official mission to the oPt between 14 and 17 May. Over the course of her visit, which included a range of meetings with Israeli and Palestinian officials and field visits in the oPt and Israel, Ms. Amos called for a lifting of the blockade on the Gaza Strip, an end to forced displacement of Palestinian civilians, a suspension of the demolition of Palestinian homes, schools and other structures; and, underscored the importance of civilians being protected from violence. She also reaffirmed the United Nations'

commitment to the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, statehood, sovereignty and freedom from occupation.

Concerns of excessive force used against Palestinian protesters

Palestinian right to peaceful assembly and freedom of expression undermined in the oPt

The month of May witnessed the highest number of casualties from demonstrations and clashes in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) since March 2010: a total of 319 Palestinians, including 96 children, were injured in this context, constituting 83 percent of the overall number of Palestinian injuries related to the Israeli Palestinian conflict during the month.

The large majority of injuries (309) took place between 13 and 16 May, and occurred within the context of demonstrations commemorating what Palestinians refer to as An Nakba. The protests took place in various parts of the oPt.

In Gaza, the largest demonstration began in the vicinity of Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya, from which thousands of unarmed demonstrators marched towards the Erez Crossing. Israeli forces opened fire with live ammunition to disperse the protesters, injuring 103 people, including 33 boys. Dozens of other demonstrators, including children and paramedics, suffered from tear gas inhalation. Although Israeli forces fired a number of tank shells at areas about 300 meters from the periphery of the demonstrators in order to stop the march, none were fired directly at the crowd, and no one was injured from these shells.

An Nakba protests and subsequent confrontations also occurred in various parts of the West Bank, with most of the injuries taking place in and around East Jerusalem's Old City, and in the vicinities of the Qalandiya and Shu'fat checkpoints. These involved stone-throwing by the demonstrators and the firing of live ammunition, rubber-coated metal bullets and tear gas canisters by Israeli forces.

Overall, over one third of all injuries during the An Nakba protests throughout the oPt resulted from live ammunition fired by Israeli forces. Because the demonstrators were unarmed, and in the Gaza Strip the demonstrations were largely non-violent, the extensive use of live ammunition in controlling these demonstrations has triggered allegations of excessive force used by Israeli forces against the protesters.¹

In the West Bank, an additional 28 injuries were recorded during weekly demonstrations that took place outside of the 13-16 May period, against the Barrier, settlement expansion and settler violence.

Of particular concern are indications of excessive use of force by Israeli forces during demonstrations in the village of An Nabi Salih (population approximately 575) in the Ramallah governorate. These demonstrations have been held regularly since December 2009, following persistent attempts by Israeli settlers from Hallamish settlement to take over some 3,000 dunums of land belonging to Palestinians by planting them with various crops and preventing farmers from accessing them as well as their taking control of a nearby spring.

According to the Israeli District Coordination Liaison (DCL) for the Ramallah district, the Israeli army's main objective for the use of force during these demonstrations is to prevent protesters from blocking Road 465. However, the methods used in An Nabi Salih regularly occur while protesters are still inside the village, far from the road. Measures employed include intensive shooting of tear gas canisters (in several cases directly at the demonstrators), as well as the physical assault of demonstrators.² Video records of the demonstrations, supported by abundant testimonies of eyewitnesses suggest that, at least in some cases, these measures were used in the absence of any prior stone-throwing or violent behaviour by the demonstrators. Moreover, the DCL has indicated to OCHA staff that the Israeli authorities consider these demonstrations to be illegitimate in and of

themselves, as they consider there to be “no solid reason for the protests”. Together, these various factors have raised concerns that the purpose

behind the use of force is to discourage people from exercising their right to free expression and peaceful assembly, rather than ensuring law and order.

BEATEN AND BLINDFOLDED: TESTIMONY OF AN ARRESTED WOMAN IN AN NABI SALEH VILLAGE

Eqbal, 45 years old, is a mother of four (three sons and one daughter) who was arrested and assaulted during one of this month's demonstrations. All of her children have been affected by ongoing protests: her oldest son, aged 24, was sentenced to 14 months in prison for allegedly participating in the weekly demonstrations and stone throwing toward Israeli soldiers. Her second son, 14 years old, has been under house arrest since the beginning of April 2011; and, since his confinement he has been unable to go to school. Her third son, 11 years old, was injured with rubber-coated metal bullet that hit his neck in November 2010 and was also detained by Israeli soldiers for one night due to stone throwing. Eqbal's 21-year-old daughter was injured twice: in December 2010 a tear gas canister struck her directly in her leg, resulting in two fractures. Last month, (April 2011) she was again struck by a tear gas canister, this time in her head.

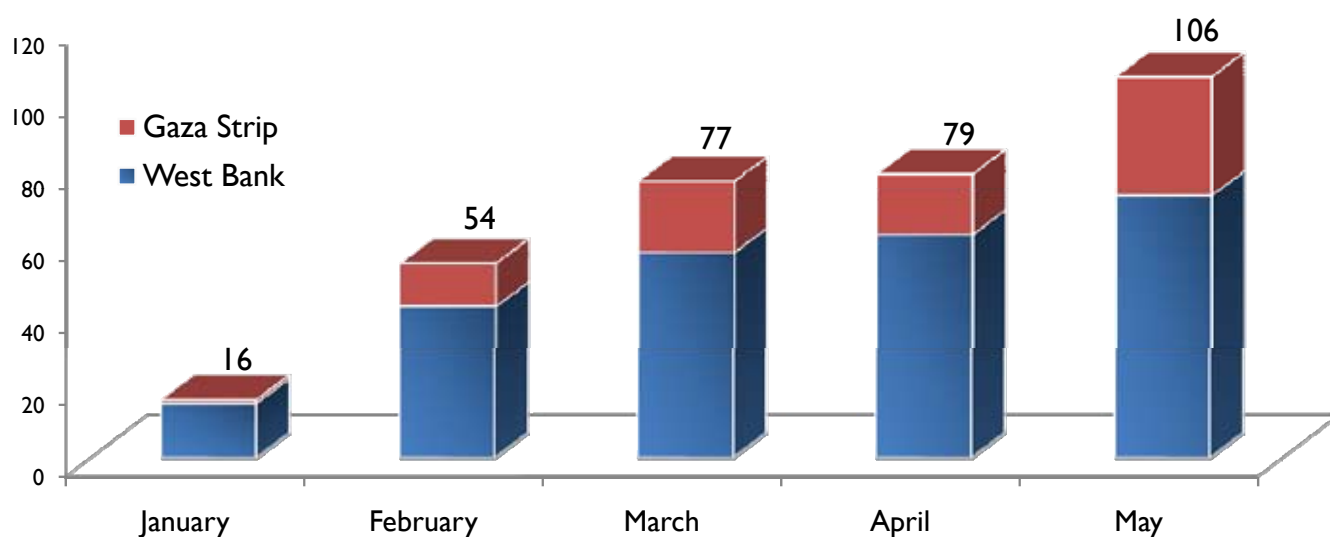
'On 13 May, just before the Friday prayer, I needed something from the local shop, but my husband was not home. So, I asked one my relatives, a young boy, to fetch what I needed. At the time, because of the Nakba day demonstrations, Israeli troops were inside the village. An Israeli female soldier came to us and provoked the child. When she attempted to assault him, I held out my hand and made a sign for her to stop. When I did that, a number of Israeli soldiers surrounded me; one of them hit me in the face, and took off my Hijab (head scarf). When, a young woman came to the scene and tried to prevent them from assaulting me, the Israeli soldiers arrested both of us.

As they forced us into a military jeep, one Israeli soldier pushed me and I fell to the ground. Someone hit my foot with something; since then I've been suffering from foot pain.

They blindfolded and handcuffed us, and we were taken to Hallamish settlement. They took me to Binyamin Interrogation Center and they photographed me, and I had to sign a paper written in Hebrew. They asked me not to participate in demonstrations in the future, but actually I did not participate on that particular day. After midnight, my husband and the father of the girl came to the center and took us from there.

But I want to say that it is our right to demonstrate against Israeli settlers taking control of our land and spring. Our demonstrations are peaceful and non violent events. The settlers' actions on our land are a provocation, and even the acts of the Israeli army and military forces harm our dignity. My husband and son witnessed the humiliating spectacle of my arrest, and were deeply affected.'

Conflict-related Injuries among Palestinian Children in 2011



Significant increases in Palestinian child casualties and displacement in 2011

Palestinian children across the West Bank and Gaza Strip continue to face significant gaps in protection, with many children regularly exposed to violence, including that from Israeli military operations as well as Israeli settler violence.³ During the first five months of 2011, there have been worrying increases in the number of child casualties, displacement and incidents leading to disruptions in education.

The number of Palestinian children injured as a result of conflict-related violence has progressively increased during the first five months of this year, peaking in May with the injury of 106 children – the highest level of child casualties since Israel’s “Cast Lead” military offensive from December 2008 – January 2009. The majority of May injuries occurred in the context of demonstrations marking An Nakba day (see casualties piece herein). Thus far in 2011, an average of 57 children per month have been injured, compared with an average of 30 injured each month in 2010. Seventy percent of the Palestinian child injuries in 2011 occurred in the West Bank.

In the same vein, there has been a significant increase in the number of children in the West Bank

displaced, with over four times as many children displaced due to the demolition of their homes in the first five months of 2011 than were displaced during the parallel period in 2010: 228 children compared to 56.

These developments took place alongside continued incidents affecting education, including damage to schools and disruption of classes, which increased significantly in spring 2011. In the first four months of 2011,⁴ a total number of 19 incidents were documented where actions by Israeli security forces resulted in damage to schools, or in interrupted education. In addition, there were three documented disruptions of schools and one fatality of a student, caused by rocket fire by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza towards southern Israel. In the same period, there were 16 incidents where students were unable to reach their school, where learning was disrupted, or where the safety of students was compromised, including injury to students en route to or at school.⁵

The protection issues affecting Palestinian children extend beyond those identified above; the ongoing blockade of the Gaza Strip continues to restrict children’s access to basic services, as do continued movement and access restrictions applied by the

Israeli authorities in the West Bank. In addition, tens of children continue to be arrested and detained by the Israeli authorities each month. For many children, virtually every aspect of their daily life is negatively impacted in some way by Israel's continued occupation, and there is an urgent need for improved protection of the rights of girls and boys as enshrined in the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols.

Children should be afforded special protection and their lives, liberty and security should be respected at all times. Allegations of violations against children should be investigated and prosecuted in an independent, impartial, effective, thorough, and prompt manner. All children should have protected access to quality education in a safe environment, free of violence, harassment and abuse.

Update on the opening of Rafah Crossing

On 28 May, the Rafah border crossing officially reopened, nearly four years after it was closed following the take-over of Gaza by Hamas in June 2007. Following the change of regime in Egypt, the

new Egyptian authorities announced that certain restrictions would be rescinded, and the border crossing would be re-opened and be subject to the same conditions that existed prior to June 2007. On 25 May the Egyptian authorities announced an increase in opening hours from 9 am to 5 pm daily, excluding Fridays and official holidays. All Palestinian women and children, and men above the age of 40, would be exempt from visa requirements to enter Egypt. However, by the end of the month concerns arose about the implementation of the new procedures and mechanisms. On 4 June the Egyptian authorities again closed Rafah for those exiting Gaza. According to the Egyptian authorities, the crossing was closed for maintenance.

Discussions between the Gaza and Egyptian authorities regarding the status of Rafah crossing are currently underway. After reaching an agreement with the Egyptian authorities, on 7 June, the Ministry of Interior in Gaza announced that Rafah crossing will re-open in both directions. On 8 June, Rafah crossing operated in both directions, and approximately 450 people exited Gaza to Egypt and 409 others entered Gaza. However, 84 people were denied entry to Egypt for unspecified reasons.

BACKGROUND ON THE EUROPEAN UNION BORDER MISSION IN RAFAH (EUBAM)

Following the Israeli "disengagement" from Gaza in Sept 2005, the Access and Movement Agreement (AMA) ⁶ gave provisions for the Rafah Crossing to be open as a pedestrian and export crossing once international standards could be met, and under the supervision of international observers, the European Union Border Assistance Mission (EUBAM). Rafah subsequently opened in 25 November 2005 and remained open most days until 25 June 2006, following an attack on an Israeli military post at Kerem Shalom and the kidnapping of an Israel soldier, Gilad Shalit, who continues to be held by Palestinian armed factions. Between June 2006 and the Hamas takeover of Gaza in June 2007, Rafah only sporadically opened due to 'security reasons'. EUBAM remained deployed at the terminal from 25 November 2005 until 9 June 2007 in order to 'monitor, verify and evaluate the crossing point'. The crossing remained fully within the authority of the PA but the monitors had the right to examine and reassess passengers, luggage, vehicles and goods. ⁷ Although EUBAM has not been present at Rafah crossing since June 2007, its mandate has been renewed yearly by the Council of the European Union, in agreement with the Palestinian Authority and Government of Israel. The mandate that expired on 24 May 2011, was recently renewed until the end of the year. However, since the new opening announcement of 28 May, EUBAM has not been requested to return to the crossing. The Gazan authorities have stated that they have deployed relevant officials to the crossing, and the presence of EUBAM is not required as the crossing should continue to be run as a Palestinian /Egyptian crossing point.

The Rafah border crossing is the only passenger terminal between Gaza and Egypt. Since the Hamas take-over, the crossing has opened exceptionally for medical and humanitarian cases, foreign passport holders, and those with visas for third countries. Following the “Flotilla incident” of 31 May 2010, Egypt announced a more liberal opening of the crossing of six days per week (revised down to five days in December). However, the category and daily number of restrictions were left in place, and the Gaza authorities continued to register those wanting to exit and to allocate crossing dates. As of 27 May, the Ministry of Interior in Gaza stated that it has up to 10,000 people registered to leave Gaza, and these people will be given priority to exit.

Gaza: import of aggregates resumes amidst restrictive procedures

On 11 May, the Israeli authorities began operating the new facility at the Kerem Shalom Crossing designated for the transfer of bulk aggregates, which replaces a conveyer belt located at the Karni Crossing that was shut down in March 2011. This allowed a resumption in the entry of aggregates for specific projects carried out by international agencies and approved by the Israeli authorities, which had come to a halt for the previous three weeks.⁸ Despite this positive development, the restrictive operational procedures at the crossing have continued to impede the flow of permitted goods into Gaza.

While the Israeli authorities initially announced that this facility will be able to handle 100 truckloads of aggregates a day, this figure has been now reduced to 80. In practice, due to a range of restrictions and inefficiencies, the highest daily figure reached during May was 48 truckloads. During the first five months of 2007, for example, prior to the imposition of the blockade, an average of 12,350 truckloads of aggregates entered Gaza every month. The Crossing Points Administration (CPA), which manages the Kerem Shalom Crossing, has determined that the new facility will be allocated to

only one international organisation per day, which can bring in only one type of aggregate from only one supplier. As a result, requests for the entry of relatively small number of trucks have been denied on the grounds that it is not “economically viable”. Due to this reason, on 26 May, UNDP was prevented from entering 28 truckloads, and one INGO requiring four truckloads decided to transfer the aggregate in one tonne bags at extra cost, via the pallet transfer area.

Moreover, the coordination problems that have long plagued the efficient transfer of materials at Kerem Shalom appear to be worsening regarding the new facility. A recurrent source of these problems seems to be the discrepancies between the Israeli Coordination and Liaison Administration (CLA), which processes import requests, and the CPA. This prevents the agencies from being able to plan more than one day ahead. In cases where trucks are loaded, and the delivery is cancelled at the last moment, transport companies tend to charge cancellation fees. Discussion about measures aimed at alleviating some of these inefficiencies are currently ongoing between the Israeli authorities and UN representatives.

Additionally, following the opening of the aggregate facility the CLA began reducing the number of approvals it gives for the entry of other goods, on the grounds that the current infrastructure only allow for the processing of a maximum of 300 truckloads a day, including aggregates. This limitation has resulted in delays in the delivery of foodstuffs and household commodities for the private sector, as well as construction materials for international organisations. In early June, however, the CLA agreed to raise this ceiling by 50 additional truckloads.

Overall, the current capacity of the Kerem Shalom is less than two-thirds the pre-blockade capacity for imports, and 12.5 percent of the exports requirement set up in the 2005 AMA agreement (50 out of 400 a day). Therefore, this crossing alone is inadequate to

handle the volume of goods required to implement the work plan identified (but not yet approved) by international aid agencies, or to allow the normal functioning of the economy (given a lifting of current restrictions). The relocation of all cargo operations to Kerem Shalom has also resulted in heavy additional expenses due to the requirement to repackage shipments into pallets; the need to perform a double back-to-back procedure; and the longer travel distances, among others. WFP and UNRWA have estimated these additional costs at USD two million a year for each agency. Finally, this situation has left Gaza's population increasingly vulnerable if an outbreak of hostilities prompts the closure of the sole remaining crossing.

The uncertainty of residency rights in the oPt

Documents disclosed in early May by the Israeli government, upon the request of the Israeli human rights organization Hamoked - the Centre for the Defence of the Individual, reveal that 140,000 West Bank residents were stripped of their residency status between 1967 and 1994. This was implemented by means of a covert procedure applied to West Bank residents travelling abroad, or residing in another country, for a period of over six years. Those affected included students who graduated from foreign universities, businessmen and labourers who left for work in the Gulf.

Over the years, less than 8 percent of those whose status was revoked were allowed to return, especially those with close links to the Palestinian Authority (PA). Since the establishment of the PA in 1994, West Bank residents travelling abroad can retain their residency status even if they had not returned for years. However, the vast majority of those Palestinians whose status was revoked – 130,000 – are still listed as 'no longer residents', with no right to return to their homes in the West Bank.

In addition, other categories of Palestinians are still

subject to revocation of their residency rights and therefore face the risk of being deported, prevented from returning to their homes, or living separated from their families. The groups that face the greatest risk are East Jerusalem ID holders who reside outside the city, Gaza residents who live in the West Bank, and the spouses of Palestinians and foreign nationals who live in the West Bank.⁹

East Jerusalem residents

Unlike Palestinians from the rest of the West Bank, East Jerusalem residents are considered 'permanent residents' of Israel and their blue ID cards entitle them to freedom of movement in Jerusalem and in Israel, and to Israeli social security benefits. However, unlike citizens of Israel, in order to retain their residency rights, East Jerusalem residents are required to prove their 'centre of life' lies within the Israeli-defined municipal boundary. The status of permanent resident expires if that person lives for a period of seven years or more outside of East Jerusalem or Israel, including in any other part of the West Bank or Gaza Strip, and/or if he/she obtains citizenship or residency in another country.

Approximately 14,000 East Jerusalem Palestinians had their residency revoked between 1967 and mid-2010, with over 4,500 revoked in 2008. In addition, a permanent resident who marries a non-resident must submit, on behalf of the spouse, a request for 'family unification', a process which is currently frozen, although temporary 'military' permits may be obtained instead. It is only under certain conditions that the children of such unions can obtain a registration number from the Israeli Ministry of Interior which enables them to receive a Jerusalem ID card as required at age of 16. Because of the arduous and lengthy process, many West Bank spouses and children of such unions have no alternative other than to live in East Jerusalem 'illegally' for protracted periods of time.¹⁰

Gaza residents in the West Bank

Gaza residents living in the West Bank also constitute a very vulnerable group when it comes to their residency status. Given that the West Bank and Gaza are considered as a 'single territorial unit', the Oslo Accords has established that every change of address between the two parts should be updated by the PA in its version of the population registry, provided that it informs the Israeli authorities. However, Israel has frozen the updating of its version of the registry since 2000, with the result that those Gazans who had moved to the West Bank through temporary permits and decided to stay there permanently, could not have their change of address updated in the Israeli registry. Although the Israeli Authorities' role should have been limited to updating information provided by the Palestinian side, they have taken upon themselves to examine requests and have taken active steps to deport these people, on the grounds that they are 'illegal aliens'. According to HaMoked, between early 2008 to mid 2010, 85 Palestinians registered as Gaza residents were removed by the Israeli authorities from the West Bank to the Gaza Strip, including people who married in the West Bank and some who had been living in the West Bank prior to the outbreak of the second intifada.¹¹ Two new military orders that came into force in early 2010 expand the ability of the IDF to forcibly transfer or deport Palestinians from their homes in the West Bank.¹²

Foreign spouses of West Bank residents

Following the beginning of the second Intifada, Israel froze the family unification process for West Bank residents and their foreign spouses. Thereafter, there were numerous cases of foreign spouses who entered on tourist visas and continued residing in the West Bank 'illegally'. In 2007, in a "goodwill gesture," the Israeli authorities announced that up to 50,000 family unification cases would be examined and approved. According to HaMoked, this quota has not yet been filled. The quota only applies to those foreign spouses who already reside in the West Bank and who had overstayed their visa, and not to those with valid visas or those living abroad who wish to reunite with their families in the West Bank. Therefore, while this quota gives

an opportunity to some foreign spouses to legalize their stay, it constitutes an isolated concession: the normal procedure for family unification has not yet been restored.

Food assistance programmes to be suspended due to funding shortfalls

As of the end of May, the 2011 Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP), with a total request of USD 585.6 million, was only 24 percent funded. In the absence of additional pledges, organizations will be forced to scale back activities in the second half of 2011. Among the possible factors leading to the currently low levels of funding are financial constraints of key donors, resulting in a slower pace of commitments, as well as the shifting of funds towards other parts of the Middle East region affected by violence and growing needs.

While the impact of shortfalls in the CAP is felt across all humanitarian sectors, both in Gaza and the West Bank, the food security sector, which has the highest financial requirements in the CAP, over \$204 million, has been among the hardest hit; funding stands at only 20 per cent. Food assistance projects included in the CAP are aimed at improving the living conditions of those affected by food insecurity, which include over half of the households in Gaza and over a fifth of those in the West Bank.

The World Food Programme (WFP), the second largest implementing agency for food assistance, reports that it faces a funding shortfall of USD 27.5 million. The agency has already begun reducing food rations, decreasing the number of families assisted, and borrowing emergency funds from internal sources to maintain current programmes. If funds are not secured in the coming months, one of its key programmes - 'assistance to the destitute' - which benefits around 218,000 people throughout the oPt, will be suspended. This programme has already been reduced in the West Bank, with beneficiaries receiving smaller quantities of food every three

months instead of bi-monthly. The agency has also been forced to suspend school feeding programmes in Gaza, which serve 92,000 school children.

In the absence of new financial commitments, UNRWA, the largest provider of food assistance, will have to implement major cuts. In particular, food assistance to approximately 650,000 of the poorest refugees in the Gaza Strip, including 300,000 refugees living in abject poverty (\$1.5 per day per person), will cease as of September

2011. In addition, UNRWA will be forced to cease provision of food assistance to 8,625 refugees who face difficulties accessing food, particularly in Area C and areas between the Barrier and the Green Line, as of 1 October 2011.

A cut in food aid will most probably result in tens of thousands beneficiaries resorting to negative coping mechanisms, such as increasing debt, selling assets and reducing the number of meals taken each week.

END NOTES

1. The Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, Press Statement 16 May 2011, Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights, Press Statement 16 May, 2011
2. Each Friday, the Israeli army also declares the area of the demonstration inside the village a closed military area between 0600 and 2200, thus making access to the village for demonstrators from outside the area illegal.
3. In order to improve reporting of violations and better inform emergency response, UNICEF in oPt has convened an Israel/oPt Working Group on Grave Violations against Children, which reports on violations against Israeli and Palestinian children related to the conflict, including killing and injury, arrest, ill-treatment and torture, recruitment and use of children in conflict, displacement, attacks on schools and hospitals, denial of humanitarian access and settler violence. Violations are entered into a database for analysis of trends and documentation of the impact of the conflict on children. Figures featured in this piece are from this database, except May data which is from the OCHA POC database.
4. Data for May 2011 not available at the time of publication.
5. Access incidents affecting school attendance generally include: closures of roads and checkpoints, preventing students (and teachers) from reaching their schools, searches at checkpoints resulting in missed school hours, children exposed to violence, the flooding of school yards and playgrounds with raw sewage from nearby settlements, and more severe cases of settler violence that result in injury to students. In southern Israeli, rockets fired by Palestinian groups from Gaza have resulted in school closures.
6. The AMA was negotiated by US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, between the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority to promote peaceful economic development and improve the humanitarian situation on the ground. It represents the commitments of both the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority to facilitate access and movement into/out and throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip.
7. www.eubam-rafah.eu/node/2301
8. Since the closure of Karni, the Sufa Crossing, which was closed in 2008, was operated on an ad-hoc basis on a number of days to allow the entry of aggregates. Import of aggregates and other basic construction materials through the crossing with Israel for the commercial market has remained banned.
9. This categorization is not meant to be exhaustive and leaves out some other vulnerable categories. For example, West Bank residents moving to the Gaza Strip to reunite with their family are often asked to sign a document by which they forfeit their right to return to the West Bank.
10. See OCHA, East Jerusalem: Key Humanitarian Concerns, March 2011, p.p. 11-26.
11. This number does not include those Palestinians that were expelled to Gaza immediately after their release from prison, nor those who travelled to Gaza on their own initiative and have since then been prevented by the Israeli Authorities from returning to their homes.
12. Order regarding Prevention of Infiltration (1650) expands the definition of an “infiltrator”, which originally applied to nationals of “enemy states” who entered the West Bank illegally, to any person present in the West Bank without “a permit”. Such a person can be subject to detention, imprisonment, fines, and deportation within 72 hours of detention. Order regarding Security Provisions (1649) establishes a new military committee tasked with reviewing appeals pending a deportation. The order stipulates that anyone held in custody shall be brought before the committee no later than eight days (four days if the person is a minor) from the date of issuance of a deportation order. The committee is also authorized to extend custody for up to 60 days (30 days in the case of minors). The order does not expressly allow for the right to appeal to a court or to access legal counsel, nor does it guarantee that a person will not be deported within 72 hours in line with the provisions of Order 1650.

CONTRIBUTING AGENCIES

United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Office for the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations

Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), Al Haq, Badil, Save the Children (UK), Defence for Children International – Palestine Section (DCI-PS), Oxfam GB, Palestine Hydrology Group (PHG), Campaign for the Right to Enter, Action Against Hunger (ACF),

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Annex: Monthly Indicator Tables

Conflict-related casualties and violence¹

Direct Israeli-Palestinian conflict related casualties	2010									2011				
	Total 2010	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Palestinian deaths														
Gaza	72	3	14	5	2	11	3	3	13	3	5	15	23	3
West Bank	15	1	1	1	0	3	3	0	0	7	0	0	0	1
Total	87	4	15	6	2	14	6	3	13	10	5	15	23	4
Of whom are civilians ²	35	4	5	3	0	9	1	0	2	8	1	6	9	3
Of whom are female	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0
Palestinian injuries														
Gaza	286	41	16	44	8	15	24	26	38	12	45	55	64	106
West Bank	1260	77	88	41	38	133	123	61	67	131	89	149	129	291
Total	1549	118	104	85	46	148	147	87	105	143	134	204	194	397
Of whom are civilians	1510	115	102	80	44	147	147	87	93	143	121	196	187	397
Of whom are female	126	20	6	4	4	2	23	13	12	16	3	11	9	41
Israeli deaths														
Israel, Gaza and West Bank	9	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Of whom are civilians	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Of whom are female	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Israeli injuries														
Israel, Gaza and West Bank	195	17	21	0	11	12	5	7	5	5	3	13	10	36
Of whom are civilians	62	5	4	0	1	7	2	4	1	1	0	5	7	7
Of whom are female	15	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0

Tunnel-related casualties ³	2010									2011				
	Total 2010	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Deaths	46	9	5	1	3	4	3	2	1	3	0	8	0	3
Injuries	89	14	5	9	0	20	3	2	2	8	6	10	1	1

Israeli-settler related incidents resulting in casualties or property damage	2010									2011				
	Total 2010	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Incidents leading to Palestinian casualties ⁴	79	11	6	5	6	4	13	2	3	8	4	22	13	9
Incidents leading to Palestinian property/land damages	219	18	14	17	15	19	47	11	16	21	17	55	17	20
Incidents leading to Israeli Casualties	32	2	3	1	1	4	1	2	0	1	0	1	3	3
Incidents leading to Israeli Property/land damages ⁵	83	7	6	1	1	8	7	15	4	0	1	3	2	3

Palestinians killed or injured by unexploded ordnance		2010	2011				
		Total 2010	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Palestinians killed	Adults	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Children	2	1	0	0	0	0
Palestinians injured	Adults	6	2	2	0	0	0
	Children	8	4	1	0	0	3

Source: OCHA

Search and Arrest

	2010									2011				
	2010 Monthly Average	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Search Campaigns (West Bank)	397	511	343	366	376	330	453	281	385	393	387	381	454	355
Palestinians detained (West Bank)	275	332	224	150	215	308	245	183	175	274	305	320	258	366

Source: OCHA


Palestinians under Israeli custody (occupation related)⁶

	2010									2011				
	2010 Monthly Average	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Total as of the end of the month	6219	6338	6252	6157	6011	5936	5847	5741	5672	5642	5550	NA	5352	NA
of whom are women	31	30	29	32	32	30	30	33	33	30	31	NA	31	NA
of whom are administrative detainees ⁷	218	213	203	199	189	212	213	205	204	219	214	NA	219	NA
of whom are detained until the conclusion of legal proceedings	940	1046	938	850	806	781	737	719	683	621	632	NA	657	NA

Source: Israeli Prison Service (through B'Tselem)


Demolition of Structures

Structures demolished⁸



	2010									2011				
	Total 2010	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Total West Bank	439	0	18	143	49	8	25	34	84	29	69	78	15	32
of which in Area C	357	0	6	130	48	1	23	17	62	20	68	77	15	27
of which in East Jerusalem	82	0	12	13	1	7	2	17	22	9	1	1	0	2

People Displaced due to demolitions or evictions⁹



	2010									2011				
	Total 2010	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Total West Bank	606	0	0	166	55	0	39	53	139	70	105	158	0	111
of whom were displaced in Area C	478	0	0	141	40	0	39	38	85	55	98	154	0	104
of whom were displaced in East Jerusalem	128	0	0	25	15	0	0	15	54	15	7	4	0	7

Source: Displacement Working Group

Child Protection

Number of Palestinian children killed - direct conflict

	2010									2011				
	Total 2010	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
West Bank	4	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Gaza Strip	5	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	1

Number of Palestinian children injured - direct conflict

West Bank	282	18	32	11	15	26	24	31	5	15	30	37	45	73
Gaza Strip	50	7	3	10	0	0	5	5	7	1	12	20	17	33

Number of Israeli children killed - direct conflict

oPt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Israel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

Number of Israeli children injured - direct conflict

oPt	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Israel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Number of Palestinian children held in detention by Israeli authorities

In Israel and oPt	289 (mon ave)	305	291	284	286	269	256	228	213	221	216	NA	217	NA
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Number of Palestinian children displaced by demolitions

West Bank	297	0	0	89	28	0	24	33	59	40	43	66	7	72
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Number of incidents resulting in the disruption of schools¹⁹

oPt	24	3	3	1	0	3	2	1	3	7	5	7	9	NA
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Source: OCHA, DWG, Defence for Children International, Israel Palestine Working Group on grave violations affecting children in armed conflict

Access

Internal West Bank movement obstacles

	2010									2011				
	2010 Monthly Average	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Permanently staffed checkpoints ¹¹	71	69	65	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	62	62	62	62
Partially staffed checkpoints ¹²	21	20	26	25	25	25	25	23	25	24	26	26	26	26
Unstaffed obstacles ¹³	519	461	418	416	411	419	420	424	425	428	428	428	428	428
Total	611	550	509	505	500	508	509	511	514	516	516	516	516	516
Flying Checkpoints ¹⁴	414	294	439	402	190	758	421	414	513	366	503	454	665	665

Source: OCHA

Access to healthcare - Gaza

	2010									2011				
	2010 Monthly Average	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Applications for permits to leave Gaza through Erez Crossing ¹⁵	970	1225	1090	947	919	626	976	821	895	935	899	975	825	na
of which approved	757	894	864	789	770	532	744	650	690	744	784	744	746	na
of which denied	54	155	134	95	87	14	21	17	15	22	21	21	19	na
of which delayed ¹⁶	158	176	92	63	62	80	211	154	190	169	94	211	79	na

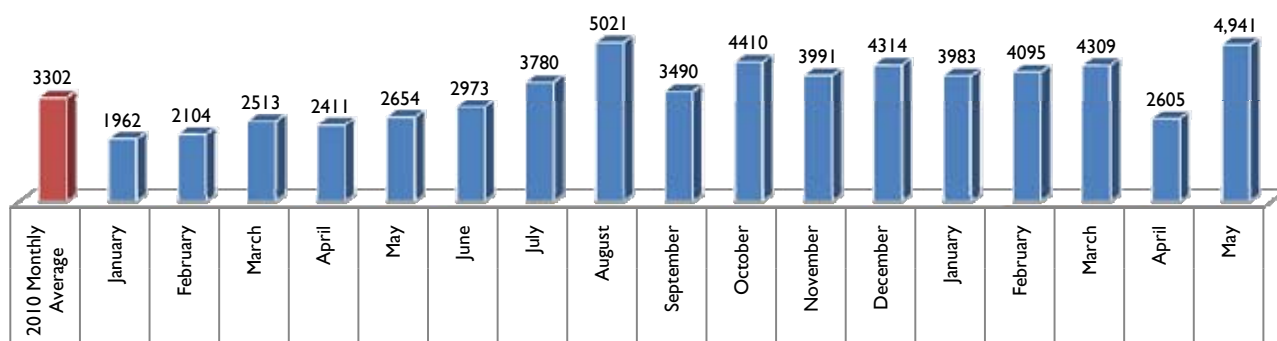
Source: WHO

Movement of humanitarian staff, West Bank

	2010									2011				
	2010 Monthly Average	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Incidents of delayed or denied access at WB checkpoint ¹⁷	44	45	38	44	38	41	38	25	60	44	31	31	40	52
Of which occurred at Jerusalem checkpoint	32	37	29	35	26	25	23	14	40	40	22	20	20	36
Number of staff days lost due to checkpoint incidents	29	57	24	18	14	18	31	26	54	60	29	18	14	29

Source: OCHA

Truckloads of goods entering Gaza from Israel



Source: Palestinian Ministry of National Economy, Gaza

Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP): CAP 2010 and 2011 funding status as of 20 May 2011

Cluster	CAP 2010		CAP 2011	
	Total request in million \$	% of funds received	Total request in million \$	% of funds received
Agriculture	46.6	24%	39.5	22%
Cash for Work and Cash Assistance	193	34%	183.8	12%
Coordination and Support Services	23.3	94%	21.1	30%
Education	24	17%	16.9	16%
Food Security	183.2	64%	204.1	20%
Health and Nutrition	22.2	87%	22.2	29%
Protection	55.4	54%	42.2	50%
Shelter and Non-food items	17	65%	21.9	26%
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	38.6	39%	33.8	25%
Total	603.3	52%	585.6	25%

Source: Financial Tracking System (FTS)

Monthly Indicator Notes and Clarifications

Casualties

1. **Conflict-related casualties:** includes all casualties that occurred in violent incidents immediately related to the Israeli occupation and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, such as military operations, search and arrest campaigns, clashes during demonstrations, attacks involving Israeli settlers, etc. These figures exclude other related casualties such as those in the context of access delays, the explosion of unexploded ordnance, reckless handling of weapons, collapse of tunnels, and internal Palestinian violence.
2. **Civilians:** includes people who, according to the information available at the time of publication, did not fulfill a “continuous combatant function” as part of an organized armed group, regardless of the circumstances of their injury or killing. Figures in this category should not be considered comprehensive, as unconfirmed or disputed cases are excluded.
3. **Tunnel related casualties:** figures in this category may overlap with those under conflict-related casualties, as it includes casualties in the context of Israeli attacks targeting tunnels, as well as those resulting from tunnel collapses and other accidents.

Israeli settler-related violence

4. **Incidents resulting in casualties:** includes all violent incidents involving Israeli settlers and Palestinians, including those in which the injury was caused by a member of the Israeli security forces during an intervention in such an incident.
5. **Incidents resulting in property damage/losses:** *ibid.*

Search and Arrest

6. **Palestinians in Israeli custody:** includes all Palestinians from the oPt held by the Israeli authorities at the end of each month, whether in Israel or in the West Bank, in connection to an offense related to the Israeli occupation and classified by the Israeli authorities as a “security detainee/prisoner”. Therefore it excludes Palestinians held in connection to a “regular” criminal offense.
7. **Administrative detainees:** Palestinians held by the Israeli authorities without charge or trial, allegedly for preventive purposes.

Demolitions

8. **Structures demolished:** includes all Palestinian-owned structures in the oPt demolished by the Israeli authorities, regardless of their specific use (residential or non-residential) or the grounds on which the demolition was carried out (lack of building permit, military operation or punishment).
9. **People displaced due to demolitions:** includes all persons that were living in structures demolished by the Israeli authorities, regardless of the place in which they relocated following the demolition.
10. **People affected by demolitions:** includes all people that benefited from a demolished structure (as a source of income, to receive a service, etc), excluding those displaced.

Access West Bank

11. **Permanently staffed checkpoints:** staffed by Israeli security personnel, excluding checkpoints located on the Green Line and ‘agricultural gates’ along the Barrier.
12. **Partially staffed checkpoints:** checkpoint infrastructure staffed on an ad-hoc basis.
13. **Unstaffed obstacles:** includes roadblocks, earthmounds, earth walls, road gates, road barriers, and trenches. For historical reasons, this figure excludes obstacles located within the Israeli-controlled area of Hebron City (H2).
14. **‘Flying’ or random checkpoints:** checkpoints deployed on an ad hoc basis in places without pre-existing infrastructure.

Access to health

15. **Applications for permits to leave Gaza through Erez:** includes only the applications submitted for travel scheduled within the reporting period.
16. **Delayed applications:** includes applications regarding which no answer was received by the date of the medical appointment, thus forcing the patient to restart the application process.

Movement of humanitarian staff

17. **Incidents of delayed or denied access at a WB checkpoint:** includes incidents affecting local or international staff of humanitarian organizations, both UN and international NGOs.

Imports to Gaza

18. **Truckloads by type:** for historical reasons this figure excludes truckloads carrying all types of fuel.

Child Protection

19. Attacks include the targeting of schools that cause the total or partial destruction of such facilities. Other interferences to the normal operation of the facility may also be reported, such as the occupation, shelling, targeting for propaganda of, or otherwise causing harm to school facilities or its personnel.