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To:

Mr. Yitzhak Aharonovitch
The Minister of Public Security
Clermont Ganneau St.,
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**By Registered Mail with
Delivery Confirmation
Urgent!**

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ألقدس ٩٧٢٠٠
هاتف. ٦٢٨٣٥٥٥. ٠٢.
فاكس. ٦٢٧٦٣١٧. ٠٢.

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Dear Sir,

Re: Decision on possible exacerbation of prison conditions of Hamas - associated prisoners

1. I hereby apply to you on the subject in reference as follows.
2. In last few days, it was revealed through the media that the government had decided to authorise you to make decisions over the exacerbation of prison conditions of the Palestinian prisoners incarcerated in Israel who are associated by the Israeli Prison Service with the Hamas Organization. Specifically mentioned was the subject of preventing family visits to these prisoners in the prisons.

3. Therefore, and before concrete decisions are made, HaMoked sees fit to provide for your consideration, and that of the additional recipients cited below, a legal expert opinion on this matter.
4. HaMoked: Center for the Defence of the Individual has long been involved in protecting the basic rights of both the Palestinian prisoners incarcerated inside Israel and their relatives. We consider that using measures of collective punishment against none but prisoners who are politically associated with Hamas, which would infringe on the basic rights of these prisoners, cannot stand the test of law. This position is detailed in the expert opinion attached to this letter.
5. As the one who is entrusted, inter alia, with the wellbeing and health of thousands of prisoners who are associated with said category, prior to deciding, the legal stance detailed in the expert opinion should be into account, beyond the general moral and humane considerations, that should also be taken into account. We hope that all considerations will be taken into account before any injurious steps are taken.
6. Please update us on any operative decisions, if such are made.

Sincerely,

Mr. Daniel Shenhar, Adv.

Enclosed: Legal expert opinion

Cc:

Adv. Yehuda Weinstein, Attorney General, Ministry of Justice, 29 Salah a-Din St., Jerusalem 91010 - **By registered mail**

Chief Commissioner Aharon Franko, The IPS Commissioner, POB 81, Ramla 7210002 - **By registered mail**