

PALESTINE : COMPLAINT TO THE ICC FOR GENOCIDE AND OTHER CRIMES (ART. 15.1)

PALESTINE : PLAINTE DEVANT LA CPI POUR GENOCIDE ET AUTRES CRIMES

INFORMATION LETTER N° 4

November 24 2023

THE INVESTIGATION IS ONGOING.

WE MUST BE EFFECTIVE IN COOPERATING WITH THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

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1/ Meeting with the office of the ICC Prosecutor

On November 23, the ICC Prosecutor's Office welcomed us for a two-hour working meeting.

We are not the spokespersons for the Prosecutor. So here is some general information.

First of all, an investigation has been opened into the situation in Gaza, and a team of three people is taking particular care of the file, which is considered a priority. This is a big step forward. We note that, while the Security Council remains inactive, that the ICC has taken up the matter.

Then, we looked pragmatically at what can be done to help the work of the prosecutor's office, taking into account our knowledge of the field and our contacts. The investigation team stressed that the inability to go to the site was not an obstacle to the progress of the investigation, but simply a material complication.

The investigation will continue over time, with all the rules of an international procedure, but in the immediate future, it is a matter of providing simple and convincing elements to see what can be done in this first phase of the investigation.

The investigation team asked us to select the most serious and significant files. Sending files in large numbers would be counterproductive because it would require a lot of control work by the prosecutor's office.

We must act on four points, namely:

- attacks on the healthcare system;
- the scale of the bombings, with widespread destruction, which are the most striking demonstration of the desire to break Palestinian society;
- PM Netanyahu's statements;
- deaths of entire families, due to attacks on civilian homes.

For attacks on the healthcare system, we have enough information.

For the bombings, thank you to specialists for sending us information on the weapons used, and their number, specifying the sources of information. Specialy Beit Anoun.

For PM Netanyahu, we need his statements on the Palestinian question before and after October 7, specifying the sources of information.

For deaths in entire families, we rely on your knowledge on site to make the connection. We already have files. This is an individual process, and each person can contact us at iccdocumentation@devers-avocats.fr. We will then see, on a case by case basis, the elements to be gathered, but in the context of war, the loss of all identity documents is not an obstacle to a complaint.

Please send us these documents as soon as possible.

2/ Information meeting of November 25

An international information meeting will be held:

Saturday November 25, 2023, from 2 to 5 p.m.

Espace Paul Éluard, 2 Place Marcel Pointet, 93240 Stains

Many thanks to the municipality of Stains who welcomed us.

Here is the link: <https://meet.google.com/btp-vgzk-ggg>

This meeting is open to all. This is an information meeting, not a political meeting.

Agenda :

- Explanations on the work carried out before the ICC, assessment and perspectives
- Interventions from the Presidents supporting this procedure
- Organization for the future
- Exchanges with the audience.

Lawyers should come in their robe. We will take a beautiful photo, which will immediately go to Palestine.

3/ The Algiers meeting

Algeria took the initiative of an important meeting bringing together lawyers on November 29 and 30. We will cover the following themes: how to get information, how to act, how to bring together...

4/ Structures for working in the long-term:

After this first emergency phase, a long-term investigation phase will begin. Furthermore, we are already working on a new procedure for the question of Jerusalem. Then, it will be necessary to find the right organization so that each Palestinian or each Palestinian lawyer who wishes can find competent and available relays.

This first phase, by necessity, was very centralized, but for the future, we will entirely move to the “National committees” model, with a central consultation structure. Also, we invite, in each country, the creation of a “Lawyers for Palestine” committee. This committee will work in conjunction with all solidarity movements, but it will be necessary to create a strictly professional structure, that is to say lawyers registered with the Bar, and bound by their ethics. We respect political parties, religious

groups, the solidarity movement and NGOs. We are creating, within the great solidarity around the Palestinian people, a service that was lacking, and which will allow lawyers to carry out their work.

Please contact us, and we will send you the standard statutes, to then allow the grouping into an international federation.

When a sufficient number of National Committees have been created, we will organize, during a meeting in Brussels, the creation of the International Federation, which will bring together these committees. The federation will essentially be a resource body, with a very efficient website. It will disseminate general information open to all. It will define the strategic lines, and provide information so that the movement is coherent, but everything will be implemented by the committees, that is to say by the lawyers on the ground with their skills, their talent and their availability.

The federation will include a “Committee of Elders”, bringing together personalities able to enlighten us with their knowledge.

5/ Messages

We receive a very large number of messages, and it is impossible to respond to them individually. Thank you all for your ideas, for the information provided, and for the messages of sympathy.

Lyon, November 24, 2023

Gilles DEVERS

Khaled AL-SHOULI

Abdelmajid MRARI