

Mrs Sigrid Kaag MA MPhil Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation State of the Netherlands P.O. Box 20061 2500 EB The Hague The Netherlands

Email: r@minbuza.nl

18 June 2020

Dear Mrs Kaag,

## Re: Donations by the State of the Netherlands to the Union of Agricultural Work Committees

We write further to our letter to you dated 7 May 2020 and our letter to Peter Molleman, Head of Mission of the Netherlands Representative Office in Ramallah, the Palestinian Territories, dated 14 May 2019. We have received no response to these letters.

We intend to write an article on our website about the fact that the Netherlands continues to provide millions of dollars of grants to the Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC), despite evidence that this NGO has multiple links with a terrorist group, and two of its former employees are now on trial for a terrorist atrocity. We have some questions for you. (below).

When we wrote to Peter Mollema in May 2019 we pointed out that Abdul Razaq Farraj, an employee of UAWC "had been arrested many times since 1986 by Israeli security forces and was sentenced to 6 and 4.5 year imprisonment terms (in 1986 and 1993 respectively). He was re-arrested by administrative order in 2002, 2009 and 2011. The Israeli military court in the West Bank upheld the administrative arrest based on classified intelligence information. The military court noted that Farraj is an operative of PFLP and that his release may constitute a danger to the security of the area.".

As mentioned, we received no response to this letter. But on 23 August 2019 the PFLP carried out a bombing of the Shnerb family, which killed 17 year old Rina Shnerb and injured her father and brother. The same **Abdul Razaq Farraj**, the **former** <u>finance director of UAWC</u> who had been an employee of UAWC for 30 years, <u>was arrested by the IDF in late 2019</u> as part of a 50 person PFLP terror network. According to his indictment, he authorized the 23 August 2019 bombing of the Shnerb family.

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Patrons: Lord Carlile CBE QC, Lady Cosgrove CBE QC, Baroness Deech DBE QC, Lord Dyson PC, Sir Bernard Eder, Lord Howard CH PC QC, Sir Ivan Lawrence QC, Sir Gavin Lightman, Lord Millett PC QC, Lord Pannick QC, Professor Richard Susskind OBE, Lord Trimble PC, Rosalind Wright CB QC, Lord Young CH PC DL **Samer Mina Salim Arbid**, who was <u>Financial Director of the UAWC</u> from around 2015 to 2016, <u>commanded the PLFP terror cell</u> that carried out the bomb attack on the Shnerb family.

## Our questions are:

- 1. Now that you have been made aware of the multiple links between the UAWC and the PFLP, will you stop funding the UAWC?
- 2. Now that you have been made aware that UAWC is in breach of your contribution agreement, will you stop funding the UAWC and request a return of the funds?
- 3. What are your comments on the fact that the Netherlands has been funding a terrorist linked NGO for many years?
- 4. Did you rely on the audits of PWC (and / or other auditors) to assure you that UAWC was a legitimate organisation?
- 5. What due diligence did you carry out into UAWC before you started funding them?
- 6. What do you have to say to the Shnerb family?
- 7. What do you have to say to the Dutch tax payers, who it appears, have been funding a terrorist linked NGO?

We would be grateful if you would please respond by Monday 22 June at 12pm.

Yours faithfully

**Caroline Turner** 

Director, UK Lawyers for Israel

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