

The follow-up committee of civil society organizations in Lebanon

Calls for bringing the criminals to trial and participates in a fund raising campaign to help Gaza

The follow-up committee of civil society organizations in Lebanon held a meeting attended by: Mme Hayda Jammal representing Norwegian People's Aid and The Coordination Forum of the NGOs Working Among the Palestinian Community, Haj Hasan Ammar representing Islamic Health Committee, Miss Lamis Abed Wahad representing Lebanese Families to support Palestinian families Committee, Dr. Azzat Hammoud representing [Tender Without Borders](#) association, Mr. Ali Hwaidy representing Palestinian Organization for the right to return (Thabit), Mr Asaad Haidar representing Al najdeh Association, Mr. Ali Hamadeh representing Offre Joie Association, Attorney Joseph Farah representing Caritas, Mme. Elissar Ashmar and Dr. Kamel Mohanna representing Lebanese NGO's Network (collectif des ONG au Liban), and in the presence of the media bodies: Miss Dalad Kandil on behalf of Tele Liban, Mr. Ahmad Talal Salman on behalf of Assafir newspaper, and Miss Scralet Haddad on behalf of l'orient le jour newspaper.

At the end of the meeting, the coordinator of the follow-up committee Dr Kamel Mohanna announced the following statement:

Gaza is facing tragic living conditions as a result of the 22-day Israeli offensive, the Strip witnessed a brutal genocide, that took the lives of 1300 martyrs and 5300 wounded mostly of women and children. These Military actions also targeted civilian infrastructures such as homes, mosques, educational institutions, as well as medical and relief teams and centers. The casualties are increasing as more corpses are being pulled out from the rubble.

The Follow Up Committee of Civil Society Organizations in Lebanon considers that this genocide showed the whole world the brutality of the Israeli that exceeded all the expectations despite their prevention of a full news coverage, the manipulation in laws and standards of the international law and human rights; what happened in Gaza is such a shame for humanity. Gaza is clear evidence for violating human rights and values, and for adopting double standards when dealing with the peoples, the bombardment of Gaza is what exposed the truth about Israel and its brutality.

The follow-up committee of civil society organizations in Lebanon, which includes many Lebanese and Palestinian committees, praises the sacrifices of the Palestinian population and denounces the non-punishment of Israel, all efforts should be brought together to pursue and prosecute the perpetrators. As it also demands the international community to play a fair and just role in executing a durable cease-fire, opening the crossing points, lifting the siege and providing the fundamental and legitimate rights to the Palestinians.

The committee laid down several suggestions to help the Palestinian population, which within are the following: treating the wounded at the hospitals in Lebanon, providing plasma units, medications and material in kind, transferring doctors to Gaza to offer assistance, and donating money through bank accounts. As the members of the committee held talks about sending a solidarity campaign to Gaza, in the purpose of

estimating the volume of damages, providing the essential needs and executing projects especially for Gaza.

Media wise, the members commended the efforts of the media for participating in f und-raising *telethon* on Saturday January 24, as part of its ongoing effort in support of *Gaza* that is via tele liban and in collaboration with all the audio-visual and printed Lebanese media.

The follow-up committee praises these efforts and declares its readiness to participate in this "solidarity day" to shed the light on the suffering of the Gazans, and to expose the war crimes of Israel, and to show the unity of the Lebanese and their solidarity in helping Gaza rise again.