

Annual Report 2010



Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association

Ramallah, 2010

Activity Report for 1 January – 31 December 2010

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Preface

The Israeli Occupying Forces' (IOF) repression of human rights defenders was the defining feature of 2010. Not only were human rights defenders working in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) targeted, but individuals and institutions working in the human rights field in the occupying state were also affected by this trend.

The IOF's weekly attacks on peaceful demonstrations against the Annexation Wall, home demolitions and land confiscations, particularly in occupied East Jerusalem, continued. Dozens of Palestinians, as well as international and Israeli activists, participating in these demonstrations were arrested. The General Director of ITTIJAH, Ameer Makhoul, was arrested and interrogated under harsh and inhumane conditions and sentenced to nine years in prison. Additionally, the Israeli Knesset drafted laws targeting human rights institutions and associations, especially those working to defend the rights of the Palestinians.

On 30 May 2010, the IOF attacked the Freedom Flotilla, which was sailing toward the Gaza Strip in an attempt to lift the siege imposed there since June 2007, killing nine activists onboard, injuring dozens and arresting many others. Activists were forcibly led to Israeli shore and held under harsh conditions before being expelled to their countries of origin.

The ongoing Palestinian political divide resulted in different patterns of repression and violations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including political detention, torture and dismissal from public sector employment on the basis of political affiliation. The most dangerous practice observed was the



execution of five detainees held in Gaza prisons without the president's approval and in contravention of the Palestinian Basic Law.

In light of these developments, Addameer continued to monitor the situation of Palestinian political prisoners and detainees¹ languishing both in Israeli occupation and Palestinian prisons and detention centers² throughout 2010.

This report highlights the activities of Addameer's programs in line with the strategic goals and objectives identified in Addameer's strategic plan and workplan. It also includes an analysis of the organization's internal work environment to facilitate an evaluation of its performance and formulation of recommendations in the future.

Addameer exerted maximum efforts throughout the year to bring the cause of the Palestinian detainees to the international community's attention. The statistics collected by Addameer and the information it provided on detention conditions, legal procedures, administrative detention, and detention of children, women and human rights defenders were a crucial resource for various formal and informal actors concerned with the situation of Palestinian detainees, including the United Nations Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories of 1967, European consulates, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Human Rights Watch, Amnesty

1. The terms prisoners and detainees will be used interchangeably in this report to signify both categories of Palestinians held in prisons and detention centers.

2. The terms prisons and detention centers will be used interchangeably in this report to signify both kinds of detention places.



International and others. These organizations and others published a number of statements and appeals based on the information received from Addameer.

Addameer extends its thanks to its staff for their wonderful efforts in accomplishing these achievements and to everyone who contributed to the organization's work throughout the year through volunteering and other activities.

Addameer would also like to acknowledge the support and advocacy of the following organizations, without which its achievements would not have been possible:

Christian Aid

Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation (ICCO)

Irish Aid

NGO Development Center (NDC)

Paz con Dignidad

Solidaridad Internacional (SI)

Solidarity For Development and Peace (Sodepaz)

The United Nations Development Fund For Women (UNIFEM)

Couite De. S. Con Causa/Asturias

Goethe-Institut Ramallah



Strategic Objective 1:

Bring an end to Israeli violations of detainees, prisoners and their families' rights during arrest and/or detention

The overall number of Palestinian detainees held in the Israeli occupation prisons decreased to 6,000 by the end of 2010. However, detention campaigns continued throughout the year in different areas of the oPt, particularly those areas where peaceful demonstrations against the Annexation Wall, settlements and land confiscations were taking place.

The methods of repression used against Palestinian detainees in Israeli prisons and detention centers, and the patterns of violations they were subjected to, did not change in 2010. Addameer monitored and documented dozens of cases of torture during the period of detention and interrogation, including a number of cases of child detainees.

The detention conditions in Israeli prisons also remained the same with the Israeli Prison Service (IPS) persisting in its practices of solitary confinement, individual and collective punishment, denial of family visits and attacks on detainees.

Despite these Israeli violations, formal and informal international actors continued to show interest in the cause of Palestinian prisoners and heavily criticized the Israeli authorities for these practices. The European Parliament raised the issue of the Palestinian prisoners in several meetings and prepared for a special session to address the issue in October 2010, which was eventually delayed until March 2011. In addition, the UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People held a special experts meeting on the issue of Palestinian political prisoners in the beginning of 2011. Addameer effectively contributed to meetings like this one by presenting working papers discussing Israeli violations of Palestinian prisoners' rights from an international law perspective. In this context, Addameer affirmed the necessity of ending the suffering of prisoners and ensuring their immediate release. It also argued that the policies exercised by the IOF are based on discrimination, racism, torture and other patterns of blatant violations that could amount to war crimes. The perpetration of these crimes must end and its perpetrators must be brought to justice. Justice for Palestinian prisoners and their families must be pursued, even in the face of the Israeli occupation's usurpation of the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

Outcome 1.1:

Decrease the number of cases of torture and cruel and inhuman punishment or treatment of detainees and their families

Through its free legal aid program, Addameer aims to provide support to Palestinian prisoners and their families in their attempt to oppose the daily violations of their rights and the oppressive measures to which they are subjected.

Addameer's lawyers work according to a clear legal strategy based on international standards of international humanitarian and human rights law pertaining to prisoners' treatment during interrogation, trial and detention. Addameer's philosophy is to exhaust all available domestic legal mechanisms to respond to the different patterns of violations that prisoners experience and confront the Israeli military judicial system, a strategy that it also promotes with other institutions working in the field of human rights, such as Defense for Children International–Palestine Section (DCI) and the Palestinian Prisoners' Club. At times, especially in cases of collective violations or public interest issues, Addameer joins forces with other Palestinian or Israeli human rights organizations in filing specific cases in front of the Israeli High Court of Justice.

Addameer strongly believes in the importance of informing families of prisoners as well as Palestinian society at large, about prisoners' rights and the ways to respond to violations occurring during the detention, interrogation and trial period. In this effort, Addameer works in coordination with civil society organizations and various local authorities to hold public educational meetings targeting groups going through the detention experience to teach them about their rights and detail what they might face during the course of detention, interrogation and trial.

The legal defense provided by prisoners' lawyers is a critical tool in confronting and challenging Israeli violations. Addameer therefore works to improve lawyers' knowledge of relevant domestic and international law through specialized and professional training courses conducted in cooperation with other organizations such as OHCHR and the Palestinian NGO Al-Haq.

Output 1.1.1:

Professional and specialized legal services are provided to Palestinian prisoners and detainees in a timely manner and in accordance with international humanitarian and human rights law.

Results:

1. Addameer's legal cases are successful;
2. Detainees and their families are satisfied with the legal services provided by the organization.

Activities and Achievements:

• Legal Aid Services

Addameer received 376 new applications for legal aid services in 2010. Although it has set itself a limit of 300 new cases every year, it actually took on 369 new cases in 2010, in addition to 88 cases that were pending from 2009. The total number of the cases followed by Addameer in 2010 is therefore 457.

Israel's ongoing policies of repression against Palestinian civilians in East Jerusalem, including home evictions and an increasing number of settler attacks, resulted in a drastic increase in the number of Jerusalemites arrested. Addameer therefore coordinated with DCI to appoint a joint lawyer to represent the cases of detainees from Jerusalem. It followed up 102 cases from Jerusalem, 138 from Ramallah, 12 from Hebron, 59 from Nablus and a number of other cases from different areas in the West Bank and Gaza. Adult detainees represented 298 of the cases while 78 cases were minors and 33 were women.

Addameer's lawyers represented clients in 1,028 courts hearings, including detention-extension hearings, trials, administrative detention reviews, appeal hearings and petitions to the Israeli High

Court. Thirty-five detainees were released as a result of Addameer lawyers' interventions in 2010, compared to 22 in 2009. The lawyers also intervened in 39 cases of extension of interrogation and detention, compared to 58 such cases in 2009. As a result of these interventions, the courts issued detention extension orders that were much shorter than what was requested by the military prosecution.

Addameer intervened in 20 administrative detention cases in 2010, including 9 cases pending from 2009. Nine detainees were freed as a result, 4 cases were delayed until 2011 and 7 were transferred to other lawyers.

One hundred and two military court trials were concluded during the year (compared to 75 in 2009). In 8 of those cases, the public prosecution withdrew stone-throwing charges against children from the refugee camp of Al-Arub in 2009. Of the remaining 94 cases, 33 were settled in favor of the detainees. In addition, Addameer filed 116 appeals to the Military Court of Appeals, the results of which are as follows:

Number of Cases	Case Type	Results
32	Administrative Detention	28 appeals rejected 3 detainees released 1 period of detention was shortened
48	Extension of detention	20 appeals rejected 28 appeals accepted—the period of detention was either shortened or the detainee was released
7	Detention pending legal procedures	2 appeals rejected 5 detainees released
27	Extension of detention for interrogation	21 appeals rejected 1 detainee released In 6 cases, the period of interrogation was reduced
1	Sentence	Rejected
1	Petition to the High Court on administrative detention	Rejected

• **Complaints**

Addameer set itself a target of 70 complaints to be filed during the year of 2010. In practice, Addameer filed 66 complaints. Most of the complaints filed concerned allegations of torture, cruel and degrading treatment of detainees during the period of detention and interrogation; bans on family visits; and obstructions of lawyers’ access to detainees and prisoners.

Number of Cases	Complaint Type	Results
38	Denial of right to family visits	7 family members received permits 30 complaints went unanswered 1 complaint was rejected
16	Torture, cruel and degrading treatment	6 complaints were transferred to the public prosecution for investigation 8 complaints went unanswered 1 complaint was investigated and closed 1 complaint was still under investigation
4	Complaints against the IPS	Addameer succeeded in altering the procedures in 2 cases, but received no answer concerning another 2 complaints
3	Ban on travel abroad for medical treatment	1 complaint was accepted 2 complaints went unanswered
4	Repayment of bail money	4 cases were able to get their bail money back following threat of prosecution after a delay
1	Confiscation of belongings upon detention	The complaint went unanswered

• **Visits and Other Issues**

Due to restrictions by the IPS and orders from the Israeli Intelligence Agency (ISA), it was difficult for Addameer to visit the prisoners. Despite these challenges, Addameer’s legal unit managed to visit 166 detainees. The lawyers followed up 28 cases of detainees with medical problems, and monitored their detention conditions. The lawyers also obtained the medical files of these detainees and referred them to Physicians for Human Rights for evaluation in order to intervene legally in cases of medical negligence.

In 89 cases, families requested to transfer their case to other lawyers or institutions because of their dissatisfaction with the legal services provided by Addameer, or because they had retained more than one lawyer at the beginning of the detention period. Forty-one of these cases were of detainees still in detention. In such cases, Addameer transfers the file as requested, but continues to monitor developments in the case to avoid receiving such requests for dismissal in the future.

Beneficiaries' Satisfaction:

Addameer measured the satisfaction of its beneficiaries by distributing questionnaires for them to fill out, but due to circumstances beyond its control the research was not completed.

- **Conclusion:**

Addameer noticed a remarkable improvement in its lawyers' handling of complaints and petitions in 2010. This development stems from its awareness of the importance of such procedures and of exhausting all available legal mechanisms, especially in cases where it deems it possible to reverse or significantly amend indictments and so confront the racist policies faced by Palestinian prisoners during their detention.

Some past failures were repeated in 2010 and some cases deteriorated to the extent that more serious steps were necessary such as referring the files to other relevant authorities.

As mentioned before, the legal unit must ensure that no other lawyer or institution has been hired in addition to Addameer before taking on a new case and must clarify this policy to the families of prisoners. The lawyers should also improve their communication with the detainees and their families to help them understand all the procedures they might have to engage in and increase their awareness of the importance of doing everything possible to challenge the different violations faced by the prisoners.

Addameer was not able to undertake visits in all the cases it represented because some of these were referred to other lawyers before a visit was possible while other detainees were released prior to the start of relevant procedures. Despite that, it is necessary to exert maximum efforts to undertake visits to all the cases the organization represents.

Output 1.1.2:

Provision of legal and rights counseling services

Results:

1. Increased awareness on the part of detainees and their families of their rights;
2. Increase in demand for educational material.

Activities and Achievements:

For 2010, Addameer projected the provision of 170 rights counseling sessions and 30 cases of legal counseling services. However, in practice, Addameer provided only 80 cases of rights counseling (as compared to 140 in 2009) and 15 cases of legal counseling. Rights counseling includes legal advice and information about prisoners' rights and detention, visitation, trial and custody procedures. Legal counseling on the other hand informs families of prisoners about the legal procedures of the courts, the nature of the charges against their relatives and the expected sentencing.

Addameer held 10 public forum meetings, as opposed to the 30 set as a target in its annual plan. It coordinated these meetings with committees for families of prisoners, local authority councils and other community-based organizations such as the YMCA,



the Health Work Committees and the Union of Palestinian Women Committees. These meetings, which were attended by 368 persons in total, were organized in different areas of the West Bank. Three meetings were set to take place in Beit Ummar, Jalboun and Silwan, but failed to happen because of coordination problems and because of a raid by the IOF in Silwan on the day of the meeting.

In these meetings and through local institutions, Addameer distributed 665 copies of the “Know Your Rights” booklet focusing on detention and interrogation, and 300 copies of the “Know Your Rights” booklet focusing specifically on administrative detention.

Addameer’s lawyers discussed the different stages of detention and legal procedures, focusing on the most fundamental rights of detainees guaranteed under international law, as well as under Israeli military orders and civilian law.

Addameer distributed questionnaires to participants in three villages. A total of 41 questionnaires were collected, revealing the following:

- 80.85% of the respondents said that the lectures were very useful and provided them with new and valuable information;
- 79% of the respondents said that the topics presented were valuable and covered several issues;
- 79% of the respondents said that the lecturer explained the topics in a simple and clear way.

Addameer recorded 8 radio talk shows directed at the prisoners, which discussed their rights and provided information on the legal mechanisms that can be used to confront the violations prisoners face in the prisons. The radio shows also highlighted the various patterns of repression and violations used by the Israeli authorities, including torture, solitary confinement, medical neglect, as well as denial of the right to education. Four of the radio shows targeting female

prisoners were broadcast on the Palestinian public radio (Voice of Palestine), while the broadcasting of the other four shows targeting male prisoners was postponed to 2011. Addameer received positive feedback about these shows from the female prisoners during prison visits, with the prisoners requesting such programs to continue in the future.

Addameer also recorded 5 educative radio spots for the prisoners and aired them on nine radio stations based in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in an effort to ensure that the prisoners in different prisons would be able to hear them. Addameer also published a special manual for female prisoners highlighting the rights guaranteed to them



under the law and explaining legal procedures protecting these rights. The manual also includes the relevant laws translated from Hebrew into Arabic. Addameer contacted the IPS in order to allow for this manual to be distributed in the prisons. Although the request was rejected, Addameer plans on following up this issue during 2011 as part of its project sending books to prisons. Addameer also initiated a similar manual for Palestinian male prisoners, which is scheduled to be finalized in 2011.

- **Conclusion:**

During 2010, Addameer was successful in developing educational programs for the prisoners, namely through radio programs and distribution of the “Know Your Rights” publication. Addameer was also successful in providing legal counseling to prisoners in the areas most important to them, i.e. informing them of their rights as well as the legal mechanisms available to address violations thereof.

The failure to carry out all planned forum meetings can be attributed to internal as well as external factors. In a number of instances, the parties that Addameer was coordinating with were not committed. In the future, Addameer can avoid such problems by ensuring clear terms of reference with the parties involved.

Next year, Addameer plans to work on distributing special manuals inside the prisons. The “Know Your Rights” publication will also be revised in light of amendments made to military orders during 2010.

Output 1.1.3:

Palestinian lawyers build their capacity to integrate international legal standards into their work and improve the overall quality of their legal services

Results:

1. Addameer’s lawyers receive additional training, acquiring the specific skills needed to represent prisoners more effectively;
2. Lawyers incorporate the skills acquired during this training in their legal practice.

• Activities and Achievements:

In 2010, Addameer developed training programs for the lawyers representing detainees before Israeli military courts, as well as for students planning to work in this field.

The trainings provided knowledge and expertise about Israeli military orders, Israeli criminal procedures law and fair trial standards under international law. Based on the results of evaluations in recent years, the training program was divided into three different sessions for different groups

of participants. The first kind of training covers the establishment of the military courts, military orders, and detention and interrogation procedures. The second kind focuses on the criminal procedures (submission of evidence and witness testimony) followed at the courts. The third type addresses the legal status of Palestinian prisoners according to international law and the mechanisms available for defending them in accordance with these standards.

Addameer coordinated with various Palestinian universities (Birzeit, Al-Quds, An-Najah and the Arab American University in Jenin) to create the first kind of training, which comprised 4 study hours. As part of the training, Addameer also organized a field visit to one of the military courts, which 80 law students from various universities attended. Addameer received positive feedback from student program evaluations and the participants kept in contact with Addameer to receive information for the various research projects they are conducting on prisoners and military courts.

Over the past few years, Addameer has developed a special relationship with the legal clinic at Al-Quds University. It trained 15 students on the fundamental rights that detainees are entitled to during detention, as well as the legal procedures of detention. After completing the program, these students will be able to train other university students on these issues. Addameer also held 4 lectures for the students of the legal clinic throughout the year and arranged a visit to Ofer military court for them. In addition, Addameer hosted a student from the Faculty of Law for training on human rights issues for a year.

The second type of training included 16 Palestinian lawyers working in the military courts. This training focused on the military courts' criminal procedures and Israeli criminal law. It provided participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to confront violations of detainees' rights during detentions and trials.



The third kind of training included 22 lawyers who participated in a two-and-a-half-day session, at which OHCHR and Al-Haq discussed the legal status of Palestinian prisoners under international

law and UN procedures that can be used to protect them. The participants evaluated the training by answering questionnaires on the training material, trainers and training conditions. The respondents reported that the training material was valuable, that trainers were good and that the venue was suitable and suggested that more time should be allocated for these subjects due to their importance.

- **Conclusion:**

Previous evaluation of the lawyers' training program indicated that it was necessary to make some amendments to the structure of the program in terms of training hours and expanding the target group to include university students. This year's results demonstrated that these changes were appropriate, so Addameer will continue to work on these elements in the future. In light of the recommendations submitted by the lawyers who completed the third kind of training, Addameer will amend the program and allocate more time in order to enrich the content of the training.

Outcome 1.2:

Oppose violations resulting from arrest, detention or trial policies and practices that contravene international humanitarian and human rights law

Throughout 2010, Addameer documented the conditions of Palestinian detainees languishing in various Israeli prisons and detention centers, as well as in the military courts. Addameer also produced and published a number of research papers and stories, which it then distributed to different institutions in order to raise awareness and call for action. Addameer believes that careful and methodological monitoring and documenting play a key role in confronting violations.

Addameer believes that positive developments were achieved in terms of raising the issue of the Palestinian prisoners at the international level. The issue was notably taken up by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the European Parliament, which stressed the importance of freeing all Palestinian prisoners to achieve a just peace. Addameer played a prominent role in providing information to these international bodies and in creating such opportunities.

Output 1.2.1:

Monitoring, documenting and research/publications on the human rights violations faced by Palestinian prisoners and detainees during and after arrest and/or detention

Results:

1. Increase in the number of visits to prisons and detention centers by lawyers, and improvement in documentation procedures during these visits;
2. Increase in requests for information by institutions and individuals, and increase in dissemination of this information;
3. Increased satisfaction with the quality and content of the information provided and increased confidence in its reliability.

• Activities and Achievements:

Addameer made 182 visits in 2010 to the prisons and detention centers, compared to 146 visits in 2009. During these visits, it was able to meet with 453 of the 562 detainees it sought to visit.

Table 1 in the appendix shows the number of visits by detention facility; table 2 shows the number of visits by purpose; table 3 shows the number of detainees visited compared to the number of detainees who asked for a visit; and table 4 shows the visits made in 2010 compared to those made in 2007, 2008 and 2009.

Addameer visits detention and interrogation centers to monitor detention conditions in these facilities, and to document cases of torture and other violations of human rights perpetrated during arrest and detention. Twenty-four different categories of torture and ill-treatment were documented in 2010.

In addition to violations of the prisoners' rights, Addameer also monitors and documents violations of prisoners' families' rights during detention, trials and prison visits. Addameer documented 20 cases of such violations, and obtained 55 sworn affidavits from detainees held in the detention centers and 9 affidavits from freed prisoners or their families.

Addameer relies on multiple sources of information in documenting and monitoring violations of detainees' rights, such as organizations working in the same field and the media. Once the information obtained has been verified, the Documentation and Monitoring Unit files the information and relevant analysis in a central database.

One of the main outputs of this monitoring and documentation process is the production of detailed data relating to the imprisonment of Palestinians, including numerical and other data relating to specific categories of prisoners, that reveal important facts and trends about the detention experience.

This data is then used to prepare an annual report that exposes the violations that Palestinian detainees have been subjected to, as well as the repressive policies used by the Israeli authorities. This annual report is published on Palestinian Prisoners Day, 17 April, of each year.

Over the past few years, Addameer has also worked to use the information obtained from the monitoring and documentation process to produce reports on specific issues relating to detention and detainees' rights. For example, Addameer published a study on the rights of Palestinian children held in Israeli prisons, such as the right to education. Addameer also produced a report on the rights of administrative detainees according to IPS regulations and international law. In addition, Addameer published an article in the Palestinian daily, Al-Ayyam, on the situation of Jerusalemite prisoners.

Addameer produced 31 case studies including 14 on administrative detainees, 5 on torture, 2 on solitary confinement and 2 on human rights defenders, 11 of which were published on its website, www.addameer.info. Addameer also submitted complaints on individual cases to the United Nations and published a number of urgent appeals on behalf of detainees.

Addameer followed up on cases of individuals kidnapped by Israel from the Freedom Flotilla and held in Eila prison in Beersheba. Addameer visited these detainees, monitored their detention conditions and took their sworn affidavits about the May 2010 attack on their ship. This information was then forwarded to a group of international lawyers who are working to hold Israel accountable for its actions through legal proceedings.

The information collected by the Documentation and Monitoring Unit in 2010 formed the basis for the annual testimony that Addameer presents every year to the UN Special Committee to

Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories of 1967. It was also used as the basis for a number of reports presented to various UN bodies.

The information collected by the Documentation and Monitoring Unit was also used to publish a magazine about prisoner issues, which was distributed to domestic and international media outlets as well as diplomatic offices interested in

human rights defenders, such as the British and German consulates. It was also used to produce a program (“One Day We Shall Break Free from Shackles”) aired on the Voice of Palestine Radio and Al-Jazeera English Satellite Channel.

During the year, the Documentation and Monitoring Unit also provided information to many domestic researchers interested prisoner issues.

- **Conclusion:**

Addameer’s monitoring and documentation mechanisms were not limited to prison visits, but were also further developed through professional training on information gathering and analysis. Requests by researchers and journalists for such information noticeably increased, reflecting their trust in the quality of the information provided by Addameer.

Despite this positive development, Addameer believes that it has to exert further efforts to develop and improve its monitoring mechanisms to meet the needs of other programs, notably with regard to filing complaints at the domestic and international levels, publishing studies and reports, and developing and incorporating modern techniques of monitoring and documentation in its work.



Output 1.2.2:

Build local, regional and international networks of organizations that work on and are supportive of prisoner and detainee issues

Results:

1. Activate existing networks and coalitions;
2. Expand solidarity networks;
3. Build new networks based on needs and potential.

• Activities and Achievements:

Addameer believes that joint and collective work is more effective in altering the dire situation of human rights in the oPt. Because the issue of Palestinian political prisoners affects a large segment of Palestinian society, Addameer works to include this issue in the discourse of other Palestinian civil society organizations and the general discourse on resistance to the occupation.

Addameer is a member of several coalitions and networks such as the Palestinian Non-Governmental Organization Network (PNGO), the Palestinian Higher Committee of Prisoners' Affairs, the Palestinian Human Rights Organizations Council (PCHRO), the Palestinian Coalition Against Torture, the Palestinian Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, the OHCHR-coordinated Protection Cluster Working Group and the Working Group under UN Security Council Resolution 1612 on the protection of children in armed conflicts.

As a member of PNGO's Steering Committee, Addameer not only shares and disseminates information on prisoners among PNGO members, but also meets with international delegations visiting PNGO to provide information and updates on the situation of Palestinian prisoners. It



also raises the issue of prisoner rights through a broad network of relationships and by partaking in regional and international conferences attended by PNGO.

Additionally, Addameer participates in the regular meetings of the Palestinian Higher Committee of Prisoners' Affairs, where a common annual action plan is agreed upon and where issues related to prisoner rights, such as the deteriorating prison conditions, are monitored.

Addameer and the Coalition Against Torture took part in drafting a memorandum of understanding with the Palestinian Ministry of the Interior to regulate the monitoring of, and visits to, Palestinian prisons and detention centers. However, the Ministry backed out of signing the memorandum. Addameer also developed a questionnaire for monitoring cases of torture for members of the Coalition based on the one used by its Monitoring and Documentation Unit. The Coalition Against Torture also took part in a number of activities on World Day against Torture. Additionally, a brochure about the Coalition was drafted and will be distributed next year.



Addameer actively participated in preparing for an international conference, held in Morocco, on Palestinian and Arab prisoners held in the Israeli occupation prisons. The Prisoners' Club, in coordination with Moroccan organizations, such as the Moroccan Association for Human Rights, took the initiative to organize this conference with a view to raising public awareness in Arab society about these prisoners and the importance of supporting them.

Addameer took part in several meetings to prepare the program and research papers that were to be presented at the conference. It took on the issue of administrative detention and

Israeli military courts, and the ways in which the Israeli authorities contravene international humanitarian law in this regard. It also stayed in regular contact with the World Organization against Torture (OMCT) and the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), particularly on issues relating to the detention of Ameer Makhoul (Director of the Palestinian NGO ITTIJAH) and other activists protesting against the Annexation Wall. Many of these released statements about the detention of Makhoul based on information provided by Addameer. It also provided information to the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN), Frontline and other international organizations.

In 2010, Addameer also prepared its application for accreditation with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), which will be submitted next year.

- **Conclusion:**

Addameer was successful in strengthening its relationships with other coalitions and networks who support, and advocate for, prisoner rights. Addameer aspires to develop these relationships and create new ones. However, in order to achieve this, Addameer must find ways to overcome various obstacles, such as coordination issues and a lack of firm commitment by relevant parties.

Output 1.2.3:

Develop local, regional and international advocacy campaigns

Results:

1. Increase in the number of campaign participants;
2. Increase in requests for information and campaign materials.

- **Activities and Achievements:**

Stop Administrative Detention Campaign

In March 2009, Addameer launched a national and international campaign against administrative detention. As part of the campaign, it published 8 appeals in 2010 on behalf of administrative detainees like Hana Shalabi and Emad al-Ashhab. It also updated 7 appeals that were drafted in 2009. These appeals were published on Addameer's website and sent to official institutions such as European diplomatic missions, European and other parliamentarians, international NGOs and various UN bodies.

A number of these actors responded to the campaign by publishing the appeals and launching their own urgent appeals. For example, OMCT published an urgent appeal in the case of Hana Shalabi following Addameer's own appeal.

Addameer also drafted and published five profiles of administrative detainees. These stories were published in a special advocacy folder for activists along with a legal analysis of administrative detention, a poster, postcard and other information about administrative detention. The publication was distributed nationally and internationally through Addameer's participation in conferences, workshops and speaking tours.

Campaign for Human Rights Defenders

In 2010, Addameer pressed ahead with its efforts to raise awareness about the targeting of Palestinian and international activists by the IOF for their participation in demonstrations against the Annexation Wall, home demolitions and Israel's settlement policy in occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the West Bank. Addameer built support for these human rights defenders by exposing the violations that they are subjected to and activating mechanisms for their protection. In this context, Addameer sent letters to political officials, especially in European diplomatic missions, to urge the implementation of European standards of protection for human rights defenders, inform these actors of the results of the legal procedures taken by Addameer, and request their immediate intervention for the release of the activists concerned.

Addameer also published 3 appeals in 2010 on four cases of human rights defenders (Abdullah Abu Rahmah, Sabti Khawaja, Mahmoud Nafa' and Ameer Makhoul). These appeals spurred further action by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Frontline, EMHRN, FIDH and OMCT. Furthermore, Addameer released a statement concerning the deportation by Israel of an intern working at Addameer, who was denied entry into the oPt following his exit to renew his visa.

Addameer held numerous meetings with diplomatic missions in the oPt, including one at the headquarters of the European Union in Jerusalem attended by representatives of almost all European countries. The representatives were briefed about the situation of human rights defenders and the legal aspects of their struggle. In attendance were representatives from the British Consulate, the Commonwealth Office, the British Foreign Affairs Committee, the Foreign Relations Committee at the German Parliament, and the European diplomatic missions. At the meeting, participants agreed to adopt a local strategy to implement European standards of protection for human rights defenders in the oPt.

Addameer has cooperated extensively with Stop the Wall in stepping up pressure and advocacy for the protection of activists. This cooperation included contact with European diplomatic missions to provide them with information and legal details on human rights defenders. Addameer and Stop the Wall also designed a website to specifically address such issues: <http://right2stopthewall.org/>. Addameer took a leading role in designing the website structure and providing the majority of the content related to the issue of prisoners in general, and human rights defenders in particular. Stop the Wall was responsible for the technical management and updating of the website. Although the website is currently operational, it has not been updated since the end of March 2010 because of a number internal issues.

Speaking Tours

Addameer undertook two international speaking tours in 2010, the first to Europe (which covered Holland, Belgium, Germany and Poland), and the second to Canada. During these tours, Addameer addressed the human rights violations of Palestinian prisoners and detainees. The

focus of the tours was on administrative detention, human rights defenders and the detention of children and women.

The tours also included meetings with officials, decision makers, local human rights organizations and groups supportive of the Palestinian cause and Palestinian prisoners.

The European tour included meetings with the Dutch, German and Polish Ministries of Foreign Affairs and representatives of the European Commission, the Council of the European Union and members of the European Parliament. The meetings focused on urging the EU to adopt a local strategy to implement the EU Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders in the oPt. This was part of Addameer's overall strategy, whereby European representatives regularly attend hearings at the Israeli military courts to monitor the trials of human rights defenders.

The Canadian tour also focused on administrative detention and human rights defenders through meetings held with law students from the University of Toronto and York University. Meetings were also held with activists groups, lawyers, and representatives from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (particularly its Human Rights Division, Humanitarian Division and Stabilization and Reconstruction Task Force), the Ministry of Justice and other Canadian ministries.

Letter Writing Campaign

Addameer continued to provide information to international activists writing letters to Palestinian women and children held in administrative detention as part of a campaign organized by Addameer in cooperation with French solidarity groups. The two hundred and forty activists who regularly write letters to female prisoners forward copies of these letters to Addameer, who in turn provides them with updates on the conditions of the prisoners.

Addameer urged other groups from Canada and Britain to write letters to administrative detainees. These letters provide support for the prisoners and give them an opportunity to communicate their stories of and those of their families to the world.

Addameer also provides information to Association France Palestine Solidarité, which writes directly to the Israeli authorities urging them to release women and child administrative detainees.

Finally, Addameer works with Action by Christians against Torture (ACAT), providing them with information on prisoners, which ACAT uses to publish urgent appeals to end the suffering of victims of torture and write letters of support to the prisoners.

- **Conclusion:**

Through the publication of prisoner profiles, Addameer was able to shed light on the use of administrative detention and the targeting of human rights defenders. This has effectively contributed to raising awareness about the prisoner issue internationally, both in governmental forums and among organizations and activists. This shows that the dissemination of individual stories contributes to effecting change, especially when these cases are accompanied by specific suggestions for action. As result, in its next campaigns, Addameer will focus on the personal and individual aspects of detention, as well as the need to enhance the range and kind of advocacy strategies used, which could contribute to reducing the workload entailed by these campaigns.

The speaker tours yielded positive results in terms of Addameer's advocacy work, thereby highlighting the need to continue such activities. This is particularly true for European countries that have close relationships with Israel, such as Poland. Addameer felt that the younger generations in the countries visited were more open to listening to the facts on the ground, the legal framework of occupation in general and about the prisoners' cause in particular. With respect to official authorities, although Addameer faced some obstacles with close allies of Israel, it believes that it is necessary to continue highlighting their responsibility in implementing international humanitarian and human rights law without prejudice.

Output 1.2.4:

Generate international public support to hold Israel accountable and to bring an end to its unlawful policies and practices

Results:

1. Increase in reports and individual complaints submitted to relevant international organizations such as the United Nations;
2. Increase in requests for information from international organizations;
3. Increase in the number of resolutions, decisions and statements by international organizations condemning Israeli violations and demanding changes in its policies and practices.

• **Activities and Achievements:**

Addameer developed its international lobbying and advocacy mechanisms in 2010, namely by producing specialized reports on Israeli violations, submitting individual complaints to various UN bodies, and providing information and specific recommendations to decision makers.

Addameer lodged 13 individual complaints with the special procedures of the UN Human Rights Council with a view to highlighting the systematic policy of violations practiced against Palestinian detainees. Four of these complaints were submitted to the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders and five to the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and four to the Special Rapporteur on Torture. Addameer also drafted a complaint on the targeting of activists protesting the Annexation Wall in coordination with Stop the Wall, which was submitted to the Special Rapporteur on Torture, the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders, the Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers, and the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in the Palestinian Territory Occupied in 1967.

Addameer endorsed and contributed to al-Haq and the Women Center for Legal Aid and Counseling's (WCLAC) alternative report to the Pre-Sessional Working Group of the UN Committee

on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, submitted ahead of Israel's appearance before the committee in late 2011. Addameer drafted the report's section on family visitation rights of Palestinian prisoners held in Israel, discussed under Article 5 of the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Addameer also drafted a chapter on Palestinian female political prisoners for WCLAC's alternative report to the Pre-Sessional Working Group of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, submitted in August 2010 ahead of Israel's appearance before the committee in early 2011. Addameer updated the chapter in November 2010 and added suggested recommendations to the committee.

In July 2010, Addameer also presented its annual testimony to the UN Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories in Amman.

Throughout the year, Addameer partnered with other PNGO members to hold meetings with various UN bodies working in the oPt (such as OCHA, OHCHR and UNSCO) to discuss their strategies and goals for their work in the oPt. Addameer urged these bodies to adopt a rights-based approach as a general framework for their work, rather than viewing the conflict as a humanitarian crisis alone, as such a view neutralizes any political or rights-based analysis of Israel's occupation.

Addameer continued to provide information to human rights organizations, the media and relevant political circles. It published three new reports and continued to disseminate earlier reports such as its study on women prisoners, isolation and solitary confinement and administrative detention.

It also published the following papers and reports:

- A report on the rights of child prisoners to education published in English and Arabic;
- A paper on the rights of the administrative detainees according to international law and IPS regulations;
- An update of its 2008 legal study on administrative detention;
- An article on Jerusalemites held in the Israeli occupation prisons, published in Al-Ayyam newspaper in cooperation with the Civic Coalition to Defend Palestinians' Rights in Jerusalem;
- A general English-language brochure highlighting the core issues and aspects of detention by Israel;

- An English-language brochure (produced in partnership with the Palestinian Counseling Center and UNIFEM as part of a two-year project on the “protection of Palestinian female prisoners and detainees in Israeli prison”) highlighting the issue of the Palestinian women prisoners held in the Israeli prisons.

These documents are all published on Addameer’s website and were disseminated on its mailing list.

Furthermore, Addameer published three quarterly newsletters in April, July and October 2010 shedding light on the detention conditions of detainees, summarizing important arrest and detention trends during the quarter and highlighting individual prisoner cases. These newsletters aim to increase awareness of the issue of Palestinian prisoners and expose the suffering and violations they experience during arrest, interrogation and trials.

Addameer started preparatory work for a study titled “The Economization of Prison Life” and collected information for a report on the attempt to repress the popular resistance in occupied East Jerusalem. However, the information for the latter project was lost when Israeli authorities at Ben Gurion Airport destroyed the computer of the intern who conducted the research.

Addameer issued two position papers, also published on its website, explaining the legal position and consequences of two Israeli High Court rulings on denial of family visits to Palestinian detainees from Gaza and a new law allowing for detention-extension hearings to be conducted without the defendant present, respectively.

During 2010, Addameer arranged briefings and presentations for > 45 European and American delegations focused on providing information about the organization’s work and the question of Palestinian political prisoners, with particular emphasis on torture,



administrative detention and the military judicial system's violations of international fair trial requirements. It also provided information to dozens of human rights researchers, students and academics during the same period. The increase in requests for such meetings and information can be seen as an indicator of Addameer's success in highlighting the cause of the prisoners at the international level.

Addameer also participated in national and international conferences and workshops during the reporting period to draw the world's attention to the cause of the prisoners. The following are the most important of these conferences and workshops:

- The conference held in Morocco on Palestinian and Arab prisoners held in Israeli prisons;
- The International Day in Support of Victims of Torture;
- The International Cultural Forum, which was held in Palestine for the first time. At this forum, Addameer distributed its paper on the right of child prisoners to education;
- Diakonia's fifth and sixth conference on "International Humanitarian Law: Present and Future" and "Accountability Concerning Crimes Committed by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory".

In 2010, Addameer produced 8 short films highlighting individual cases of administrative detention, torture and detention of children and women. These were used during Addameer's speaker tours, and distributed to activists and groups organizing popular activities supportive of the prisoner cause. Once Addameer has completed updating its website, these films will be uploaded for public access.

Addameer also issued 13 statements and press releases on different issues related to the cause of the Palestinian prisoners. These statements were issued on specific occasions, such as Palestinian Prisoners Day, International Women's Day, and International Day in Support of Victims of Torture and six of them were related to human rights defenders.

Addameer, together with other members of the PCHRO, issued 18 statements and press releases in 2010 addressed to UN member states, signatories of the Fourth Geneva Convention, diplomatic missions in the oPt and the UN Human Rights Council, among others. The statements were published as part of the council's efforts to urge decision makers at the international level

to hold Israel accountable for crimes committed against the Palestinian people, including crimes against detainees and human rights defenders.

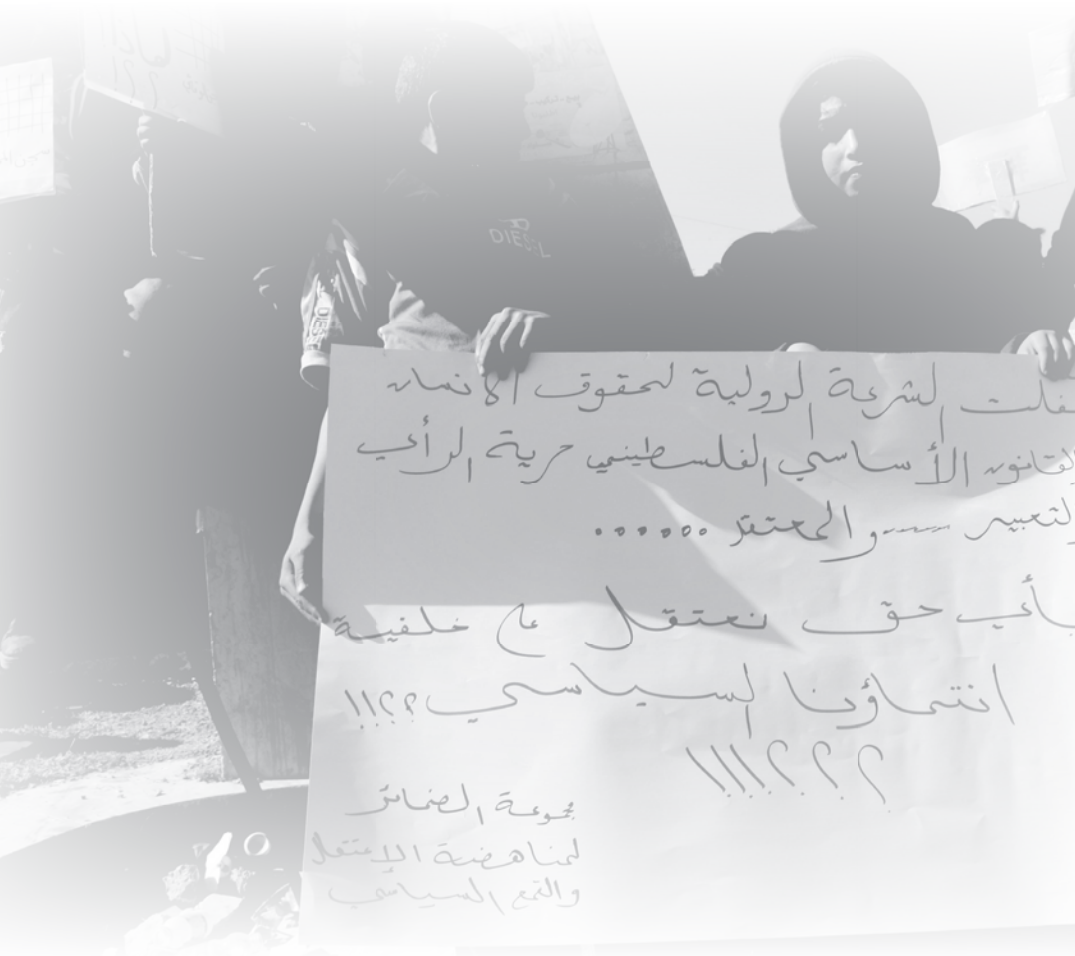
Addameer also gave 40 interviews explaining the activities of the organization and further information was given and used by local, regional and international media outlets such as Al-Jazeera English and Arabic, Radio France International, CNN, Haaretz and others. Additionally, Addameer coordinated interviews with ex-detainees for a number of documentary filmmakers.

Furthermore, it organized 8 visits for international activists and lawyers to the military courts and gathered 11 statements from the participants about their impression of the military courts and its legal procedures. These statements will be published in a special booklet examining the reality of the military courts from an international observers' perspective.

In 2010, Addameer developed an internship program, drawing more than 9 interns (both Palestinians and internationals), who notably assisted with fieldwork, documentation, legal research, drafting prisoner profiles and press releases.

- **Conclusion:**

Addameer was remarkably successful in its efforts to increase pressure at the international level to hold Israel accountable for its unlawful practices against Palestinian prisoners despite a number of obstacles. Addameer was particularly challenged in terms of human resources as it did not have a full-time employee in charge of media and public relations. Next year, Addameer plans to take steps to fill this void. Additionally, for four months, while the Advocacy and Outreach Officer was on leave, Addameer was only able to hire a part-time employee as a replacement, which significantly impacted the organization's work. The difficulties in filling positions can be attributed to the fact that the Israeli authorities are increasingly targeting internationals working in the oPt by preventing them from entering.



Strategic Objective 2:

Ensure that the legislation, policies and practices of the Palestinian Authority pertaining to arrest, detention, imprisonment and punishment are in line with international human rights law

The continuing political divide between Hamas and Fatah exacerbated the internal situation in the oPt in 2010 as violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms become an endemic and inherent part of the Palestinian authorities' practices. These violations included torture, arbitrary detention, trial of civilians before military courts, dismissal from public office on the basis of political affiliation, clampdown on freedom of peaceful assembly, opinion and expression, restrictions on civil society organizations, and a general disregard for the rule of law. In Gaza, five persons were also executed without approval by the President of the PA in contravention of the Palestinian Basic Law.

Outcome 2.1:

Develop a Palestinian judicial system that guarantees accountability for the violations of rights enshrined in international human rights law

The Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) has been unable to function since 2007 due to the imprisonment of many of its members by the IOF, and this situation remained unchanged in 2010. During this time, the President of the PA issued nine presidential decrees. Although these decrees were allegedly issued in accordance with Article 43 of the Basic Law, this article actually stipulates that such decrees should only be issued in cases of extreme urgency, which was not the case with these nine decrees. In the Gaza Strip, members of the PLC continued to convene as the PLC with no legal ground and approved five laws, some of which infringe on the work of civil society and human rights organizations, such as the law seeking to close the Independent Commission for Human Rights' (ICHR) Gaza office.

Addameer strongly opposes trying civilians before military courts. As such, it submitted several petitions to the Palestinian High Court of Justice against detention orders issued by the Military Attorney General and succeeded in convincing the court to release a number of these detainees because of the illegitimacy of the detention procedures followed. The security services, however, usually delayed the implementation of the court's orders in such cases. Addameer therefore wrote several letters to various branches of the executive authority, including the Prime Minister, the Minister of Justice, and the Minister of the Interior, demanding an end to the practice of trying civilians before military courts. It also raised this issue in different official meetings with the Prime Minister and other representatives of the PA. Finally, it filed complaints against arbitrary detention and other practices that breach the Palestinian procedural law regulating

the powers of the Military Attorney General. These problems were not resolved in 2010, so Addameer plans to press ahead with its efforts to end such practices through public pressure and legal procedures.

Output 2.1.1:

Provide legal aid for political detainees and regular monitoring of detention conditions

Results:

1. Increase in the number of cases brought before the judicial system and increase in their success rate;
2. Increase in the number of complaints against violations of rights;
3. Increase in the number of visits made to detention and interrogation centers and increase in documentation of violations taking place there.

• Activities and Achievements:

Addameer identified a number of cases of political detention to be monitored throughout the year. While the strategic plan set a target of 150 cases to be followed, Addameer actually monitored a much greater number of cases, namely 273. Addameer also submitted 244 petitions to the Palestinian High Court concerning the illegality of political detention and attended 545 hearings for such cases. The court sided with Addameer in 69 cases and ordered the immediate release of the



detainees in question. In most of the cases, however, the security services did not implement the court's orders under a variety of pretexts, including that they were safeguarding the detainees from harm by the IOF. In other cases, detainees were rearrested immediately after their release, in an example of the security services' "revolving door" detention policy.

Addameer continued to urge the PA to force the security services to comply with the rule of law and respect the authority of the judiciary and by the end of the year, some improvements were observed. Addameer filed 82 complaints concerning arbitrary detention with the Attorney General's Office, but in most cases the responses it received were all the same, with the Attorney General claiming that the detainees were held in accordance with the law.

Furthermore, Addameer submitted dozens of applications to visit detainees held in the security services' interrogation and detention centers. Unfortunately, these applications were systematically rejected and ignored, some for months. Overall, Addameer was only able to make 14 visits to 42 detainees throughout the year, although this represented an increase in comparison to the 8 visits to 17 detainees it made in 2009. Addameer informed the Minister of the Interior about this issue several times, but did not receive any serious response.

The denial of visits was also a way of hindering Addameer's lawyer's work and limiting their advocacy on behalf the detainees. Some security services responded to pressure by human rights organizations and allowed them to make collective visits to the detainees, especially to those detainees on hunger strike protesting their continued detention in contravention of High Court decisions.

During visits to detainees and meetings with ex-detainees, Addameer collected 39 sworn affidavits, including 27 on torture, compared to 18 affidavits on torture in 2009. It should be noted that dozens of detainees refused to give statements for fear of torture or renewal of detention.

- **Conclusion:**

Addameer's interventions resulted in the release of dozens of detainees held by the PA. The increased demand for legal aid placed additional burdens on the staff of the Legal Unit. Because of this, Addameer decided to appoint another full-time lawyer, as well as set a limit to the

number of cases it will take on in the coming year. The major obstacle Addameer faced in cases of PA detention was the security services' policy of preventing its lawyers from visiting detainees in the interrogation and detention centers. Addameer will continue to work with other human rights organizations to apply pressure on the PA to eliminate this obstacle.

Output 2.1.2:

Participation in development of relevant legislation, in coordination with others

Results:

1. Propose amendments to existing laws;
2. Actively participate in relevant workshops.

- **Achievements and Activities:**

The complete paralysis of the PLC over the past few years adversely affected the legislative process, with the PLC unable to issue any new legislation or amend any of the existing laws during this time. Instead, the President of the PA issued a number of presidential decrees regulating certain matters. Addameer rejects this approach to legislating as it breaches the principle of the separation of powers and contravenes the democratic nature of the Palestinian political system, a position that Addameer has expressed publicly with other domestic organizations through PNGO and the PCHRO.

- **Conclusion:**

The PLC's paralysis and the national political divide are major problematic factors in developing a proper Palestinian judicial system. As such, Addameer believes that there is no prospect for improvement in this regard without changes to the internal Palestinian political reality. In the meantime, human rights organizations must continue to monitor the activities of the executive authority and the performance and activities of other relevant authorities and attempt to redress the situation as much as possible through community-based pressure.

Outcome 2.2:

End punishment and procedures in laws and procedural codes that contravene international human rights law and legal standards, focusing in particular on torture and the death penalty

In 2010, Addameer focused its monitoring and documentation of PA detentions on the practice of torture by PA security services, as well as death penalty sentences issued by Palestinian courts. In light of the absence of the necessary legislative tools to effect change at the Palestinian legislative level, Addameer, in coordination with other civil society organizations, played a crucial role in exposing the blatant violations of human rights in PA prisons and detention centers. Addameer also continued to urge the competent authorities to end the practice of torture, arbitrary detention, military trials and the death penalty.

Although the incidences of torture inside prisons and detention centers decreased during 2010, such practices have not fully stopped. In addition, lack of accountability for such practices remains an issue. For example, no perpetrator of such practices has been tried or even appeared before the Palestinian civilian judiciary. On the contrary, five members of the Palestinian General Intelligence Service involved in torturing Haitham Amer in July 2009 were acquitted by a special military court for lack of sufficient evidence despite the fact that numerous reports and affidavits had been collected from reliable organizations proving Amer's torture.

Addameer along with the Palestinian Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty requested the President of the PA not to approve death penalty sentences. During 2010, no death penalties were issued in the West Bank. Because this was not the result of provisions in Palestinian law banning the death penalty but rather of a PA policy, there is still a need for increased and sustained efforts to convince the PA to properly adopt a penal code banning the death penalty. In the Gaza Strip, the death penalty was carried out on 5 occasions. Some of these executions dated back to sentences issued by courts in 1996 that had been stalled for years. Gaza officials carried out these sentences without approval from the President of the PA, in contravention of the Palestinian Basic Law.

Output 2.2.1:

Monitoring, documentation and publications on the use of torture and the death penalty by the Palestinian Authority

Results:

1. Increase in the number of regular visits to prisons and detention centers;
2. Increase in the number of sworn affidavits collected;
3. Publication of reports and studies on torture and the death penalty;
4. Increased public satisfaction with, and use of, published publications.

• Activities and Achievements:

Throughout the year, despite filing numerous requests to visit Palestinian prisons and detention centers, Addameer conducted only 14 such visits. However, this represents an increase compared to 2009, when it was only able to make 8 such visits. During visits, security guards escorting the detainees intervened and obstructed the lawyers' attempts at collecting information from their clients.

Furthermore, the PA security force's practices of torture and intimidation during arrest, interrogation and detention, as well as their ill-treatment of lawyers, has created an atmosphere of fear among detainees, resulting in a marked reluctance to give sworn statements. As a result, although Addameer met with dozens of detainees who were subjected to torture, many of them refused to give sworn statements for fear of being subjected to renewed torture, detention or interrogation. Despite this obstacle, Addameer was able to collect 39 sworn statements from current and ex-detainees, 27 of which recounted different patterns of torture practiced by the PA security services. Addameer has published a report on torture and other violations of detainees and their families' rights during the period of detention and interrogation, to be published in 2011.

Addameer has transmitted detailed information on torture, prosecution of civilians by military courts and the death penalty to human rights organizations working in Palestine, notably during

regular meetings with organizations such as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, the Rehabilitation and Research Center for Torture Victims and others. These issues were also raised in meetings with diplomatic missions to the PA or visiting diplomatic delegations, during which Addameer urged donor countries to pressure the PA to put an immediate end to the use of torture, notably by making international funding conditional on such a policy.

During the reporting period, Addameer, as part of the Palestinian Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, sent several appeals to the President of the PA urging him not to approve death penalty sentences, given that the president's approval is a precondition for the implementation of the death penalty under Palestinian law. Additionally, Addameer filed a complaint with the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture regarding the use of the death penalty by the PA.

- **Conclusion:**

The security services' policy of delaying and interfering in lawyer-client visits constituted a major obstacle to Addameer's work in monitoring the violations of prisoners' rights in PA prisons and detention centers. Addameer will continue to exert pressure on these services by filing complaints with the Ministry of the Interior and other parts of the executive authority regarding their practices.

Other obstacles to Addameer's work included the security services' disregard for the rule of law and the basic provisions of the Palestinian Basic Law, as well as their non-execution of the decisions of the Palestinian High Court. Addameer calls on all human rights organizations to work together in order to alter this situation.

Output 2.2.2:

Develop and build local, regional and international lobbying and advocacy campaigns

In 2010, although Addameer did not independently organize any campaign focusing exclusively on torture or the death penalty by the PA, it did continue to work on these issues in cooperation with other organizations and as part of existing local networks.

On the death penalty, Addameer and the ICHR continued to regularly exert joint pressure on decision makers to cease this practice and ban it in the Palestinian Basic Law. With respect to torture and violations of public freedoms, Addameer worked as part of PNGO's National Campaign for Defending Freedoms. This campaign carried out a series of public activities such as sit-ins to protest the suppression of public freedoms and violations of basic rights in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Several press statements were released as part of this campaign and a number of meetings were also held with the executive authority to call for an end to the political division, which has exacerbated these kinds of violations.

- **Conclusion:**

Addameer believes that in order for human rights and public freedoms to be protected, civil society organizations cannot act alone. Instead they must be supported by the Palestinian public itself, without which change will not be possible.

Output 2.2.3:

Actively participate in local, regional and international coalitions and networks

Results:

1. Addameer plays an active and effective role in the Coalition Against Torture;
2. Addameer plays an active and effective role in the Palestinian Council of Human Rights Organizations and the National Campaign for Defending Freedoms;
3. Addameer increases its participation in activities calling for an end to torture and the death penalty.

- **Activities and Achievements:**

Unfortunately, the ongoing political division had a negative effect on the situation of human rights in the oPt as detention, torture, assaults on the right to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly continued. Demonstrations were banned and/or restricted, human rights associations

were targeted, and dismissal from public office on the basis of political affiliation also persisted. This situation led human rights and civil society organizations, including the PCHRO and PNGO, but also representatives from Palestinian political parties (excluding Fatah and Hamas), to intensify their pressure on the executive authority in this regard, with many writing letters to the authorities and petitioning political officials to end the systematic suppression of public freedoms. They also held meetings with decision makers to discuss these violations and demand perpetrators' accountability.

The Palestinian Coalition Against Torture's activities included a meeting with the Minister of the Interior to agree on the principle of monitoring prison visits; a national conference to mark International Day in Support of Victims of Torture; internal meetings throughout the year to discuss ways of raising the coalition's profile and informing the public and victims of its mission; public meetings in villages throughout the oPt to talk about torture and raise public awareness about the means of confronting this practice.

The Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty was not particularly effective in 2010, leading Addameer to evaluate its role in the coalition, and to seek out other methods of working on this issue, such as submitting complaints to the UN and addressing the Palestinian executive authority directly.

- **Conclusion**

Despite Addameer's firm belief in the need for joint action by human rights organizations working in the oPt, 2010 proved that such multilateral work is difficult to coordinate, particularly when no common action plans are agreed upon. In 2011, Addameer plans to conduct an extensive review of all the coalitions it is a member of and look for new methods of joint advocacy.

Palestine



Strategic Objective 3:

Develop civil society actors and organizations that protect the civil and political rights of individuals and vulnerable persons

Although the idea of empowering civil society is part of Addameer's fundamental philosophy, the inclusion of this objective in the organization's strategic plan is a recent addition. It stems from Addameer's belief that the spirit of civic and political activism that characterized Palestinian society in the past should be revived. In late 2008, Addameer began to translate this idea into action on the ground by selecting a number of universities and youth groups to serve as a starting point for the project. Addameer's vision is to establish a network of activist groups in the entire oPt with extensive knowledge of human rights (especially political and civil rights) that will be able to mobilize their communities to act against human rights violations.

Outcome 3.1:

Raise awareness of groups whose civil and political rights have been violated

Although it was not possible to fully achieve this objective in 2010, Addameer's experiences from 2009 were still useful and provided a number of practical lessons for the future. In 2010, Addameer selected the overall group of activists, which chose four topics to monitor over the course of the year and formed subordinate working groups. These groups faced logistical difficulties in implementing the action plans due to coordination problems, mainly as a result of participants living far away from each other.

After evaluation, it was decided that this original group would continue to act as a supportive base for Addameer's campaigns and domestic activities, but that the project would be implemented with a new group, which could draw lessons from the difficulties experienced by the first group.

Output 3.1.1:

Creation of local youth groups to develop/increase their knowledge of specific civil and political rights in order to raise awareness of these rights within their community (Addama'er)

Results:

1. Establishment of youths groups capable of working on civil and political rights issues of concern in their local communities;
2. Public support and satisfaction with the work of these groups;
3. Satisfaction of participants regarding the quality and relevance of the training and demonstrated commitment of participants to the program.

• Activities and Achievements:

The experience of 2009 led Addameer to evaluate the means by which the participants were selected, as well as the methodology they employed in their work, and amend the program accordingly. The northern West Bank was chosen as the new starting point of the program because of the particular energy of youth activists in this region. Because of their distance from the center, these youths have been somewhat marginalized by the organizations working in this field despite being subjected to the same suppressive policies and practices as the rest of the oPt.

Addameer distributed questionnaires to several youth centers and clubs, local institutions, and student networks in Nablus, Jenin and Tulkarem in order to assess the respondents' awareness of, and commitment to, community-based activities. From the responses, Addameer concluded that students were interested in the program because it specifically targets the local communities and focuses on the role of the PA in safeguarding civil and political rights in the context of the schism in Palestinian politics and the violations that have ensued as a result thereof over the past three years.

A group of 37 participants was chosen as a first step, with the aim of whittling this down to a smaller group after getting more acquainted with the activists. After a first general meeting to discuss the objectives of the project, a more focused two-day meeting was held to analyze the practical



experience of the participants and their level of knowledge on human rights and community organizing. Twenty-seven participants were then selected from the original group to take part in the project in 2011, which will initially focus on providing a theoretical education about human rights and mechanisms of community organizing for the purposes of lobbying and advocacy.

Addameer continues to keep in touch with the 2009 group, but after careful evaluation, it has concluded that it will not be possible to involve these youths in the new group's activities.

- **Conclusion:**

The evaluation process took longer than expected, but because this project is a new element in Addameer's strategic plan, it is crucial that it be built on sound and solid grounds.

The PA's repressive policies adversely affected the project participant's readiness to confront violations. This trend, however, confirms the program's importance and the need to empower young Palestinians to secure their own rights, as these youths will be the ones laying the groundwork for a democratic Palestinian state that respects the rule of law and human rights.

A positive outcome of the project was the practical application of theoretical training to the cause of Palestinian political prisoners, which is an issue that affects and concerns the entire Palestinian society regardless of political affiliation.





Strategic Objective 4:

Develop the capacity of the organization to achieve its goals

Outcome 4.1:

Provide an work environment that allows staff to effectively and efficiently realize their work plans and activities

Addameer's administrative and financial affairs are run in compliance with professional standards and Palestinian law. In 2010, to promote the professionalism of its staff, Addameer conducted an internal training focused on strategic planning, time management and computers skills and supported by the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction (PECDAR). The staff of the organization also participated in training workshops conducted by other organizations working in the field of documentation and international humanitarian and human rights law.

Output 4.1.1:

Develop internal by-laws and procedures and implement regular financial and administrative procedures

Results:

1. Appropriate procedures and regulations are in place and are being utilized;
2. Procedures and regulations comply with domestic legislation.

• Activities and Achievement:

Addameer's General Assembly held its annual meeting in June 2010, during which it discussed the Board of Directors' two administrative reports.

Addameer's Board of Directors held five regular meetings during 2010 to review the organization's work. Board members also contributed to the broadening of the organization's network and relations by participating in national, regional and international conferences and meetings.

Some of the Board members also conducted a comprehensive review of the strategic plan and drafted a new plan for 2011-2013 in coordination with an external expert, Sam Bahour. The new strategy, which adopts the same strategic objectives as in previous years, reflects the urgent need for supporting the Palestinian political prisoners in both Israeli and PA prisons in light of the current external and internal political context to the conflict. A number of amendments were also made with the approval of the specific staff members concerned.

The organization's continued development requires a regular review of its administrative and financial procedures and regulations. In addition, a monthly evaluation of each program's implementation of the strategic plan is conducted and regular meetings are held to discuss the units' work. Finally, every year the organization conducts a semi-annual evaluation on the basis of which budget plans are revised. At the end of every year, staff members are also evaluated to determine annual bonuses and incentive rewards.

- **Conclusion:**

Pursuant to the recommendations of an external financial audit, the organization began to develop its own financial procedures manual. It also finalized internal by-laws in a savings fund, which is due to be approved by the Board of Directors at the beginning of 2011.

Output 4.1.2:

Develop the professional capacity of Addameer staff

Results:

1. Recruitment of professional staff;
2. Staff participation in training programs and workshops;
3. Staff satisfaction with work conditions.

- **Activities and Achievements:**

By the end of the year, two new staff members joined the Advocacy and Lobbying Unit. Two additional lawyers were also hired to follow cases of political detentions by the PA and detention cases in Jerusalem in cooperation with Save the Children International–Palestine Section, respectively.

Throughout the year, staff members participated in a number of specialized training courses and workshops carried out by other human rights organizations and partners, notably focused on documentation and international humanitarian and human rights law. The Documentation and Research Unit, for example, participated in a training program organized by Al-Haq on monitoring and documenting the use of torture, while the Advocacy and Lobbying Unit participated in a workshop on methods of investigating international crimes.

As reported above, Addameer also carried out an internal training in cooperation with PECDAR on strategic planning, time management, report writing, manual and electronic archiving and computer skills.

- **Conclusion:**

It is necessary to continue carrying out needs-based internal trainings to develop the competence of the staff and streamline the organization's methodology and terminology, especially in relation to human rights law. Such activities are very important for the organization, especially with two new staff members joining the Advocacy and Lobbying Unit.

Outcome 4.2:

Develop the financial sustainability of the organization

The first aspect of Addameer's success in achieving this objective was to develop and consolidate its work in the field of human rights, broaden its network nationally and internationally and strengthen donor and beneficiaries' trust in its work. As a result, Addameer is now considered to be one of the most reliable sources of information on Palestinian political detainees.

Secondly, Addameer was able to achieve financial sustainability by developing new funding sources during the year. Its General Assembly and Board of Directors are aware of the international fiscal crisis, leading them to emphasize the need to search for new sources of funding and recommend new and alternative strategies in that regard.

Output 4.2.1:

Develop Addameer's external relations, locally, regionally and internationally

Results:

1. Increase in requests for information from the organization;
2. Increase in invitations to participate in domestic and international conferences and activities;
3. Increase in the number of donors;
4. Increase in overall funds and individual contributions.

- **Activities and Achievements:**

When reviewing the organization's activities and participation in local, regional and international activities, conferences and workshops it becomes evident that overall public trust in the organization has increased. The number and variety of delegations received during the year also reflects Addameer's reputation, particularly since many delegations requested briefings as a result of recommendations from friends and funders of Addameer.

In addition, Addameer's speaking tours (as part of its campaigns against administrative detention and for the protection of human rights defenders) further contributed to building new relationships.

Output 4.2.2:

Fundraising campaigns targeting local, regional and international organizations and individuals

Results:

1. Increase in the number of organizations and individuals funding Addameer;
2. Donors and the public are satisfied with Addameer's work.

- **Activities and Achievements:**

Addameer did not go on any fundraising tours in 2010, but this did not prevent it from developing relationships with new funding partners and individuals, some of whom visited Addameer to learn about its work. The organization has been able to develop and grow over the past few years with the support of its major strategic partners who, because of their satisfaction with the organization's work, encourage it to launch new projects.

Addameer's General Assembly and Board of Directors discussed means of developing new sources of funding in light of the international fiscal crisis and agreed to draft a plan setting out the organization's fundraising strategy. This plan was still pending by the end of 2010.

The dangers posed by international economic conditions and their repercussions on Palestinian NGOs were also discussed throughout the year by PNGO's Steering Committee, which affirmed the need to act together to face this situation, although no concrete action was taken as a result.

- **Conclusion:**

Despite the financial stability achieved during the past year and the fundraising relationships it has developed, Addameer still faces challenges as a result of the global financial crisis. Several organizations supporting Addameer now face financial difficulties, thus affecting the organization's stability. In addition, UN funding contracts have started to impose new political conditions on the organizations signing them, an issue that will affect the overall funding prospects of Palestinian civil society organizations. Addameer has been discussing this issue and is working with other Palestinian organizations to confront this challenge.





Annexes

Table 1: Number of visits by type of detention facility

Month	Central Prisons																
	Ofer	Shatta	Gilboa	Meggido	Damon	Ashmorit - Kfar Yona	Rimonim	Hasharon - Telmond Children"	HaSharon - Telmond (Women)	(HaSharon (Men	Hadarim	Nitzan - Ramleh	Ayalon - Ramleh	Neve Tirza (Ramleh Women)	Ramleh Prison Hospital - Marash	Shikma - Ashkelon - Al-Majdal	Ohal Keidar - Beer-sheba
January			1	1						1		1		1	1		
February				1			1										
March	1			1										1	1	1	
April	1	1	1														
May	1	1	1	1	1		1		1					1	3	1	
June	1			3	2				1		1	1		1			1
July	2	1		3	2		2		3		1	1		1	2	1	
August				1	2				1								
September	1		2						2						2	1	1
October	2			1	1		1		1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1
November	1		1	3	1		1		1			1					1
December	1	1	1	1	1				3		1				3	1	1
Total	11	4	7	16	10		6		13		5		5	1	11	10	8
Total	140																

					Military Detention Centers					Interrogation Centers			Other detention centers (police stations, camps, prisons, interrogation centers, etc ...)	Total	
Eshel - Beersheba	Beersheba (activists kidnapped from Freedom Flotilla)	Nafha	Rimon	Ketziot (Naqab)	Salem	Kedummim	Huwvara	Binyamin - Ofer	Etzion	Erez	Kishon (Al-Jalameh)	Petah Tikva	Al Moskobiyyeh (Russian compound)	Asqalan	
												4			10
1			1								1	1			6
1		1	1								1		1		10
		1		1							1				6
1		1		1							2		1		18
1	1	2	2	1									2	1	21
			1	1							3	3	2		29
1		1	1	1					1			2			11
1			1				1								12
1		2									2	1			18
			1	1							4		4		20
1		1	1						1		2		1		21
8	1	9	9	6			1		2		16	11	2	9	182
					3					38			1	182	

Table 2: Number of visits by purpose

	Interrogation conditions	Prison conditions	Arrest conditions	Female detainees	Child detainees	Administrative detainees	Health conditions	Torture and ill-treatment	Legal follow-up	Complaints	Detention conditions	«Unlawful combatants»	Libraries	Isolation	Total
January	4	1					2	2		2				2	13
February	2	3			2	2	3	1		2				1	16
March	2	4			1	2	4	2						1	16
April	1	3			1	2	3	1	1	1				1	14
May	4	13		1	1	2	6	3	1	2				1	34
June	2	8	2	3	2	2	6	2			1		3	2	33
July	8	9		6	7	3	7		1				8	5	54
August	2	5	1	4		2	4	1			1			2	22
September	2	6	1	2		2	3	1			1			1	19
October	3	8		3	4	2	2	3		1	1			2	29
November	9	8		2	1	2	4	1	2		1			2	32
December	3	16	1	4	1		7	1		1	1			1	36
Total	42	84	5	25	20	21	51	18	5	9	6		11	21	318

Table 3: Number of detainees visited compared to the number of detainees who asked for a visit

Month	Central Prisons															
	Ofer	Shatta	Gilboa	Meggido	Damon	Ashmorit - Kfar Yona	Rimonim	Hasharon - Telmond (Children)	HaSharon - Telmond (Women)	HaSharon (Men)	Hadarim	Nitzan - Ramleh	Ayalon - Ramleh	Neve Tirza (Ramleh Women)	Ramleh Prison Hospital - Marash	Shikma - Ashkelon - Al-Majdal
January			5	3						1		1		1	5	
			5	3						1		1		1	4	
February				6			4									
				6			2									
March	5			4										4	4	1
	5			4										2	2	1
April	4	5	5													
	4	5	5													
May	5	6	5	4	5		2		4					3	6	4
	2	2	5	4	4		2		3					2	6	3
June	5			13	7				4	4		2		5		2
	4			10	7				4	2		1		1		1
July	6	5		8	7		6		3	3		2		4	10	5
	4	3		6	6		6		2	2		2		3	8	2
August				5	8				4							
				4	7				3							
September	4		6						3					7	4	1
	4		6						3					5	1	1
October	10			4	5		4		4	4		2		3	4	4
	9			4	4		3		3	3		2		1	2	4
November	4		5	15	4		2		3			3				2
	3		4	15	3		1		3			2				1
December	5	5	5	4	5				8	4				4	4	2
	4	2	4	4	5				6	3				4	3	2
Number of detainees who asked for visits																
562																
Number of detainees who were visited																
453																

					Military Detention Centers					Interrogation Centers				Other detention centers (police stations, camps, prisons, interrogation centers, etc ...)	Total
Eshel - Beersheba	PeIneson Hospital	Nafha	Rimon	Ketziot (Naqab)	Salem	Kedummim	Huwwara	Binyamin - Ofer	Etzion	Erez	Kishon (Al-Jalameh)	Petah Tikva	Al MoskobiyeH (Russian compound)	Asqalan	
											4				20
											4				19
3			4								3	1			21
3			4								3	1			19
3		2	3								1		1		28
1		2	3								1		1		22
		4		6											24
		4		4											22
4		4		5							2		5		64
4		4		2							2		5		50
3		4	8	5									4		66
3		3	4	4									4		48
			3	4							6	8	7		87
			3	2							6	4	6		65
1		4	1	4					3			5			35
1		3	1	3					3			5			30
3							4								32
3							2								25
3		5									2	2			56
2		3									2	2			44
			3	5							7		6		59
			3	2							7		6		50
5		3	4						6		4		2		70
2		3	5						6		4		2		59

Table 4: Number of visits in 2010 compared to 2007, 2008 and 2009

Interrogation Center	2007	2008	2009	2010
Petah Tikva	5	9	12	11
Al-Jalameh	2	17	19	16
Asqalan	4	1	1	9
Al-Moskobiyeh	32	11	4	2
Total	43	38	36	38

The detention facility

Military Detention Center	2007	2008	2009	2010
Etzion	2	1	0	2
Kedummim	0	0	0	Closed
Binyamin	0	0	0	Closed
Huwara	1	2	3	1
Salem	4	5	4	0
Salah al-Din Police Station	0	0	0	1
Total	7	8	7	4

The detention facility

Prison	2007	2008	2009	2010
Ofer	4	6	8	11
Shatta	3	6	2	4
Gilboa	4	6	6	7
Megiddo	3	9	22	16
Damon	2	8	1	10

Telmond (Children)	3	4	2	Closed
Telmond (Women)	3	3	3	13
HaSharon (Men)	4	4	2	Closed
Hadarim	7	4	4	5
Nitzan	2	0	0	Closed
Ayalon	0	1	2	5
Neve Tirza	0	0	0	1
Ramleh Prison Hospital	2	4	4	11
Shikma (Askelon)	2	3	6	10
Ohal Keidar	1	2	5	8
Eshel	4	2	5	8
Nafha	1	3	3	9
Ramon	2	3	9	9
Ketziot	4	5	11	6
Rimonim	0	2	5	6
Pelneson Hospital	0	0	3	0
Beersheba (detainees from Freedom Flotilla)	0	0	0	1
Total	51	75	103	140