



**Defence for Children International
Palestine Section**

Annual Report

2008



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Institutional objectives

- To protect the human rights of Palestinian children in conflict with the law and children (arbitrarily) arrested and tried by the Israeli occupation army.
- To hold duty bearers accountable for the promotion, respect, protection and fulfilment of the rights and interests of Palestinian children.
- To protect children from all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation and/or discrimination, thus enabling them to enjoy their rights, realize their full potential and contribute to the development of their community.
- To promote the prioritisation and mainstreaming of children's rights by Palestinian civil society.
- To promote the respect of children's right to participation in accordance with the CRC in Palestinian society.



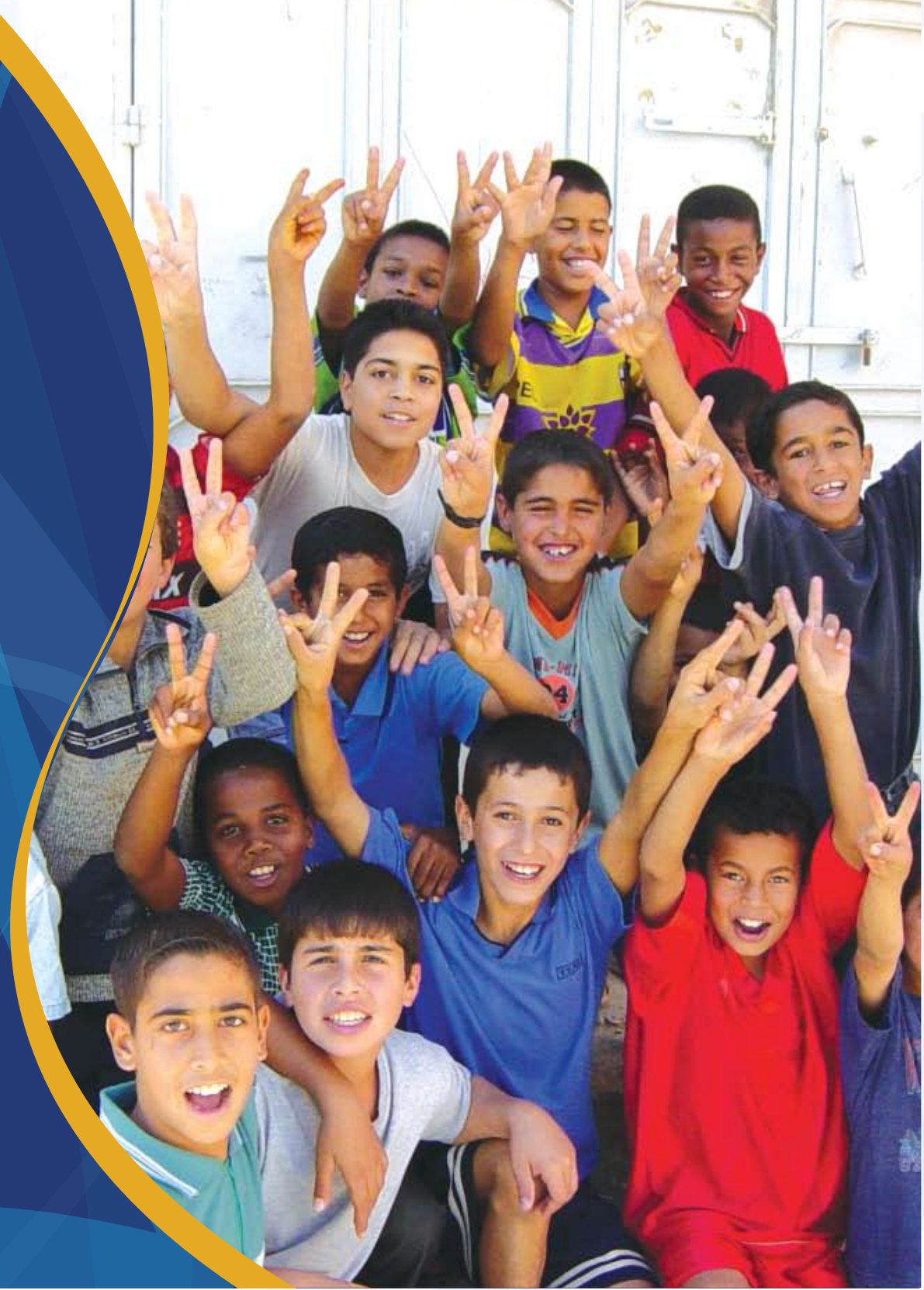
Acknowledgements

DCI-Palestine would like to express its heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to all those who have believed in our work and have contributed to it throughout the year. Without your support, we would not have been able to work effectively towards our vision of a Palestinian community fit for all children.

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- The Netherlands Representative Office to the Palestinian Authority (NRO)
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- Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst (EED) – Germany
- Save the Children – Sweden
- KerkinActie and ICCO
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) – OPT
- Stichting Kinderpostzegels Nederlands (SKN) – Netherlands
- UCODEP – Italy
- ARCI Cultura e Sviluppo – Italy
- War Child-Holland
- Mundubat
- Charities Aid Foundation (CAF)

We extend special thanks to the committed staff, interns and volunteers, all dedicated people who have served as members of the Board of Directors and General Assembly, as well as to all our partner organizations. Also, DCI-Palestine wants to express its deep appreciation and gratitude to Mr. George Abu Al-Zulof, who served as DCI-Palestine's director for ten years, devoting his efforts to the growth and development of the organization. We wish him all the best in his new undertakings with UNICEF.

Introduction



Introduction

Palestinian children live and grow up in a precarious and unsafe environment. Their basic rights are violated on a daily basis by the policies and practices of the Israeli military and civil occupation of Palestinian occupied territory, and with time their situation has been growing worse and worse.

On the other hand, the lack of rule of law and security chaos on the Palestinian level also creates obstacles for children to fully enjoy their rights. Furthermore, harmful and restrictive attitudes and behaviours towards children within some spheres of Palestinian society represent yet another challenge to child rights.

DCI-Palestine's mission is to contribute towards changing this reality. Our vision is a Palestinian community fit for all children. In line with this vision, DCI-Palestine strives to promote and protect the rights of Palestinian children in accordance with local, regional and international standards, and in particular the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Now in its sixteenth year, DCI-Palestine has long become a leading child rights actor in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (oPt) and endeavours to maintain that position through continuous improvement of its goals, strategies and focus as well as ongoing development of its institutional capacity to carry out its programmes towards achievement of its mission and vision.

In order to achieve a Palestinian community fit for all children, like other child rights actors, DCI-Palestine believes that first and foremost a protective environment for children in schools, homes and the wider community must be created. DCI-Palestine recognises that creating such an environment involves working on many levels in different thematic areas, and with many different stakeholders – both local and international. These include policy-makers, civil society, media, legislators, parents, teachers, law enforcement agencies, and last but not least, children. In addition, third States and international institutions, such as the UN, are also important child rights stakeholders. Accordingly, they are also targeted by DCI-Palestine for their role in holding Israel to account for its child rights violations, policies and practices as key duty-bearer of Palestinian children's rights. On the other hand, we work on monitoring and documenting child rights violations towards strengthening the role of law and Palestinian Authority's role in protecting the rights of the Palestinian children through the work on law reform.

DCI-Palestine also recognises that the occupied Palestinian territories is an ever-changing, unstable and complex context and thus, in order to know how to strengthen protection for children here, frequent analyses of the situation as well as needs assessments prior to intervention are required.

In order to contribute to a more protective environment for children in the oPt, DCI-Palestine has developed a holistic approach that seeks to bring structural change on the level of legislation, policy and practice. It implements five programmes - Child Justice, Accountability, Child Protection, Child Participation, and Civil Society for Child Rights. These programs are complementary and include many cross-cutting issues, allowing

for synergy for a stronger overall impact. Their specific objectives constitute DCI-Palestine's strategic and institutional objectives for the coming years.

Despite all the challenges, DCI-Palestine continues to believe and trust in the impact it can have to improve the lives of Palestinian children. DCI-Palestine is a learning organization committed to ongoing institutional and programme development, in order to increase and reinforce the impact of its work towards effectively protecting and promoting the rights of Palestinian children.



CHILD JUSTICE



Protecting the rights of children in conflict with the law under PA jurisdiction

In order to ensure protection of the rights of children in conflict with the law in areas under Palestinian Authority (PA) jurisdiction, an adequate juvenile justice system should be in place. This system should consist of legislations, by-laws, policies and practices that are all in line with international standards. Unfortunately in Palestine, the juvenile justice system has yet a long way to go. Legislation applying to juveniles in conflict with the law is not only outdated, it is not even adhered to in many situations. Efforts to introduce a new juvenile justice bill started in 1999 and continue to this day. Law enforcement figures, such as lawyers, judges, police and probation officers need to be targeted towards increasing their awareness of domestic and international legislation on juvenile justice, in addition to having more policies in place to ensure adherence to certain principles and practices. In 2008, DCI-Palestine worked towards bringing the law reform process on juvenile justice forward, as well as training law enforcement figures on international juvenile justice standards, and monitoring and reporting on the conditions of children in conflict with the law hosted at PA juvenile rehabilitation centres and detained in PA prisons.



Law reform

At the beginning of 2008 there were three drafts of the juvenile justice bill. However, during the year agreement was reached on one combined draft, produced through the collaborative efforts of various actors, including DCI. This came as a result of several meetings and workshops that took place with various stakeholders and in coordination with the DCI Child Protection Programme. A meeting with the legal unit in the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) was conducted to update them on the bill and urge them to prioritize the laws relating to children on the PLC agenda. In addition, a document including the draft of the juvenile justice bill (and the suggested amendments to the Palestinian Child Law)

was prepared by DCI and endorsed by many children and practitioners and subsequently submitted to PLC members, the Ministry of Planning and the Prime Minister's office. Furthermore, the draft bill (and amendments to the Palestinian Child Law) were discussed with five representatives of the Palestinian parliamentary blocs during DCI's children's conference in November 2008. It was agreed that a follow up workshop with several PLC members who represent the various political factions would be conducted in early 2009.

Capacity building for law enforcement figures

In 2008, we conducted four workshops on juvenile justice standards and the importance of dealing with children in conflict with the law as children in need of protection, and not criminals¹. These workshops targeted the legal committee of the Palestinian Child Protection Network, prosecutors, lawyers from the Independent Commission for Human Rights and the legal consultant of the Center for the Protection and Empowerment for Women and Families (Mehwar) of the Ministry of Social Affairs. Furthermore, six lawyers, two prosecutors, six police officers, ten probation & protection officers and five social workers from the juvenile rehabilitation centres received training from DCI on the same topic.

In addition, we conducted two workshops targeting police officers, probation officers, child protection officers, and the legal committee of the Palestinian Child Protection Network, and seven meetings with the Ministry of Social Affairs (Rehabilitation Department and Juvenile Centers) and one meeting with the police public relations department to promote awareness of their respective roles and encourage implementation of the law vis-à-vis children in conflict with the law.



As a capacity-building tool, DCI-Palestine developed and printed an awareness-raising brochure about the rights of children in conflict with the law. It will be disseminated to various stakeholders in 2009, including the police, judges, probation officers, staff at the juvenile rehabilitation centres, teachers and parents.

DCI-Palestine's training of law enforcement personnel has led to improved coordination mechanisms between different law enforcement actors (e.g. police, the Ministry of Social Affairs, probation officers, prosecutors and staff at juvenile rehabilitation centres)

and police in Bethlehem and Ramallah involved in past DCI training continue to consolidate the child protection unit set up within the main police stations in these two areas. Furthermore DCI was invited to conduct juvenile justice trainings for Ministry employees who will work for governorate-wide Child Protection Networks.

As a result of our efforts over the previous years training key police officers on juvenile justice and child rights principles, the work of this unit continues to improve, as does the coordination with DCI. The Ramallah district police are now implementing the same project and later will apply it to other Palestinian districts.

¹ According to our monitoring experience and the experience of other child rights actors, the majority of children in conflict with the law are also victims of community and/or domestic violence and therefore in need of protection.

Following up complaints of violations of children's rights by law enforcement officials

DCI-Palestine also receives and follows up complaints of violations by law enforcement officers of the rights of children in conflict with the law. In this regard, in 2008, the cases of **12 children** arbitrarily arrested by Palestinian security forces were followed up. Four of these children had been arrested by security forces that do not have the legal jurisdiction to arrest civilians. Two of the latter four children were released directly following our intervention, and the other two children were transferred from the security force in question to the civil police, to be later released pending trial. Moreover, a letter to the Minister of Social Affairs was sent demanding that the right to education for children in conflict with the law held in juvenile rehabilitation centres be provided. This action is part of a complaint procedure that might reach the courts to urge the Ministry to take action. The Ministry asked DCI's juvenile justice coordinator to formulate a mechanism for providing education for the Ministry to adopt. Five individual cases of children needing education in detention were followed. Moreover, DCI brought the cases of three children with health problems who were being detained at the juvenile rehabilitation centre before the Office of the Attorney General of the Ministry of Interior to request urgent attention to their situation.

Monitoring and reporting on the status of Palestinian children in detention

DCI continued monitoring and reporting on the situation of children in detention under PA jurisdiction and developed new monitoring and reporting forms. Children in the two Palestinian juvenile rehabilitation centres in the West Bank (Dar Al Amal and Dar Riayet Al Fatayat centre) were visited on a monthly basis and advice was provided to both the children and the centres' staff.

In addition, a child protection situation analysis was carried out², which includes an updated analysis of the situation for children in conflict with the law under PA jurisdiction. It provides a baseline of the current situation and highlights the gaps in information and mechanisms needed in order to properly monitor the status of Palestinian children in detention under PA jurisdiction.

During 2008, we remained in constant coordination with Palestinian prisons' administrations with regard to issues related to children in conflict with the law. Prison administration staff sends us regular updates on the number of children detained and allow us access to visit them on a regular basis. A meeting with the director of the prisons was held to discuss the situation of Palestinian juveniles detained in PA prisons.

A report on the juvenile rehabilitation centres and the extent to which they are complying with international standards was written and a country report on juvenile justice was prepared

² <http://www.dci-pal.org/english/display.cfm?DocId=1058&CategoryId=8>.

Defending the rights of Palestinian children detained by Israeli occupation army

Through our Protection of Child Political Detainees programme, we are committed to defending the rights of Palestinian children in Israeli detention and challenging and exposing Israeli military laws and discriminatory policies whenever possible. The programme's team of lawyers provide legal services, including representation, consultation and prison visits to children who have been detained on the pretext of 'security concerns' by Israeli security forces. In addition, the programme team monitors, documents and reports on violations children face during detention, and carry out or undergo training to strengthen its own and others' capacities to defend the rights of child political detainees.

Monitoring, documenting and reporting on the status of Palestinian children in Israeli detention

We improved our internal capacity to collect evidence of torture and abuse of children in detention by training lawyers on taking quality statements. Subsequently the number and quality of statements taken by our lawyers from child detainees and ex-detainees improved, which has enabled DCI-Palestine to provide better advocacy material through which Israeli discriminatory laws, policies and practices vis-à-vis child detainees are exposed. DCI-Palestine managed to take a total of 55 affidavits from child detainees who were abused and/or tortured during interrogation, and produced 26 reports on the conditions for child detainees in Israeli prisons to be developed into advocacy material. From this data, 11 case studies were produced, including six case studies on administrative detention and three case studies regarding the denial of child detainees' right to education in prison. Consequently, DCI-Palestine provided the bulk of the source information and case studies included in the UAT Coalition's alternative report to Israel's country report submitted to the UN Committee against Torture, as well as drafting sections of the report.

During 2008, many actions were taken to challenge and expose Israeli military laws and discriminatory policies vis-à-vis child political detainees, including participation in a groundbreaking boycott of the plea-bargaining' approach used in the Israeli military courts. Unfortunately the boycott was aborted after three months by the majority of the boycott coalition. Other actions included increasing the amount of evidence collected on torture and abuse of children in detention and re-launching the online Freedom Now! campaign on child political prisoners, with updated fact sheets, new case studies and a "take action" section -

see www.dci-pal.org/english/camp/freedomnow/display.cfm?docID=802&categoryid=16. DCI also participated in a mock war crimes tribunal held in Copenhagen, which aimed to investigate the extent to which Israel, a State Party to the CRC, CAT and the Fourth Geneva Convention, upholds principles of international human rights and humanitarian law in the oPt.

Documentation of Child political detainee cases:

Table 1 - Monthly figures³

Number of Palestinian children detained by Israel at the end of each month - 2008

| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 2008 | 327 | 307 | 325 | 327 | 337 | 323 | 324 | 293 | 304 | 297 | 327 | 342 |

Table 2 – Girls

Number of Palestinian girls in Israeli detention at the end of each month - 2008

| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 2008 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 7 |

Table 3 – Administrative detention

Number of Palestinian children in Israeli administrative detention at the end of each month - 2008

| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 2008 | 18 | 3 | 13 | 12 | 10 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 11 | 8 | 5 | 6 |

Table 4 - Age groups

Breakdown of DCI-Palestine cases by age group - 2008

| Age Group | Number | Percentage |
|---------------|------------|-------------|
| 12 - 13 years | 3 | 1.4% |
| 14 - 15 years | 45 | 21.9% |
| 16 - 17 years | 158 | 76.7% |
| TOTAL | 206 | 100% |

³ The figures in these tables are obtained through the Israeli Prison Service and visits by DCI-Palestine lawyers to interrogation centres and prisons. The figures represent a snapshot picture of the number of children (under 18) in detention on the last day of each month. The figures are not cumulative and do not include persons who turned 18 while in detention.

Table 5 - Sentences

Breakdown of DCI-Palestine cases by sentence - 2008

| Sentence | Number | Percentage |
|----------------|------------|-------------|
| Under 6 months | 71 | 41.4% |
| 6-12 months | 52 | 30.3% |
| 1-3 years | 24 | 13.7% |
| Over 3 years | 25 | 14.6% |
| TOTAL | 172 | 100% |

Table 6 - Charges

Breakdown of DCI-Palestine cases by charge -2008

| Charge | Number | Percentage |
|--|------------|-------------|
| Stone throwing | 46 | 26.7% |
| Possession of and/or throwing a Molotov cocktail | 25 | 14.5% |
| Membership in a “banned organization” | 14 | 8.2% |
| Conspiracy and attempting to kill | 42 | 24.4% |
| Possession of explosives | 17 | 9.9% |
| Possession of weapons | 11 | 6.4% |
| Assisting a wanted person | 12 | 7.0% |
| Other | 5 | 2.9% |
| TOTAL | 172 | 100% |

Table 7 - Region

Breakdown of DCI-Palestine cases by geographic region -2008

| Region | Number | Percentage |
|-------------------|------------|-------------|
| North West Bank | 134 | 65% |
| Central West Bank | 27 | 13.2% |
| South West Bank | 45 | 21.8% |
| TOTAL | 206 | 100% |

Table 8 – Trends 2004 - 2008

| Gender | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Boys | - | - | - | 98.9% | 96% |
| Girls | - | - | - | 1.1% | 4% |
| Age group ¹ | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
| 12-13 years | - | - | - | - | 1.4% |
| 14-15 years | - | - | - | - | 21.9% |
| 16-17 years | - | - | - | - | 76.7% |
| Sentence | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
| Under 6 months | 42% | 34.8% | 28.2% | 37% | 41.4% |
| 6-12 months | 9.8% | 13.9% | 16.4% | 12.3% | 30.3% |
| 1-3 years | 28.5% | 36.4% | 47.9% | 35.8% | 13.7% |
| Over 3 years | 19.7% | 14.9% | 7.5% | 14.9% | 14.6% |



| "Charge" | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
|--|-------|-------|-------------------|-------|-------|
| Stone throwing | 31% | 22.2% | 63.8% | 25.7% | 26.7% |
| Possession of and/or throwing a Molotov cocktail | 14.2% | 14.3% | 6.6% | 10.1% | 14.5% |
| Membership in a banned organisation | 15.3% | 9.7% | 18.8% | 6.2% | 8.2% |
| Conspiracy and attempting to kill | 18.3% | 21.3% | 3.8% ² | 30.1% | 24.4% |
| Possession of explosives | 7.3% | 12.2% | 3.2% | 10.6% | 9.9% |
| Possession of weapons | 13.9% | 14.5% | 3.8% | 11.2% | 6.4% |
| Other | - | 5.8% | - | 3.6% | 2.9% |
| Region | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
| North West Bank (Jenin/Nablu) | - | - | - | 59% | 65% |
| Central West Bank (Ramallah) | - | - | - | 14.9% | 13.2% |
| South West Bank (Hebron/Bethlehem) | - | - | - | 26.1% | 21.8% |

Legal Services:

DCI-Palestine also provided free legal services to child political detainees and monitored the conditions and treatment of children in prisons. In 2008, the following outputs in relation to these services were achieved:

- ... we provided free legal representation to **265** Palestinian children arrested by Israel and charged in Israeli military courts. **148** of these were new cases; **10** were administrative detention cases; **24** of them were released on bail and the others were carried forward from the previous year. Out of 265 cases, **206** were closed when the child in question was handed down a sentence, while others have been postponed.
- ... approximately **450** children and their parents received legal consultation – provided through monthly visits to Israeli prisons, parents' visits and telephone calls to DCI-Palestine offices.
- ... **169** child detainees were visited in Israeli detention facilities through monthly visits to the three main

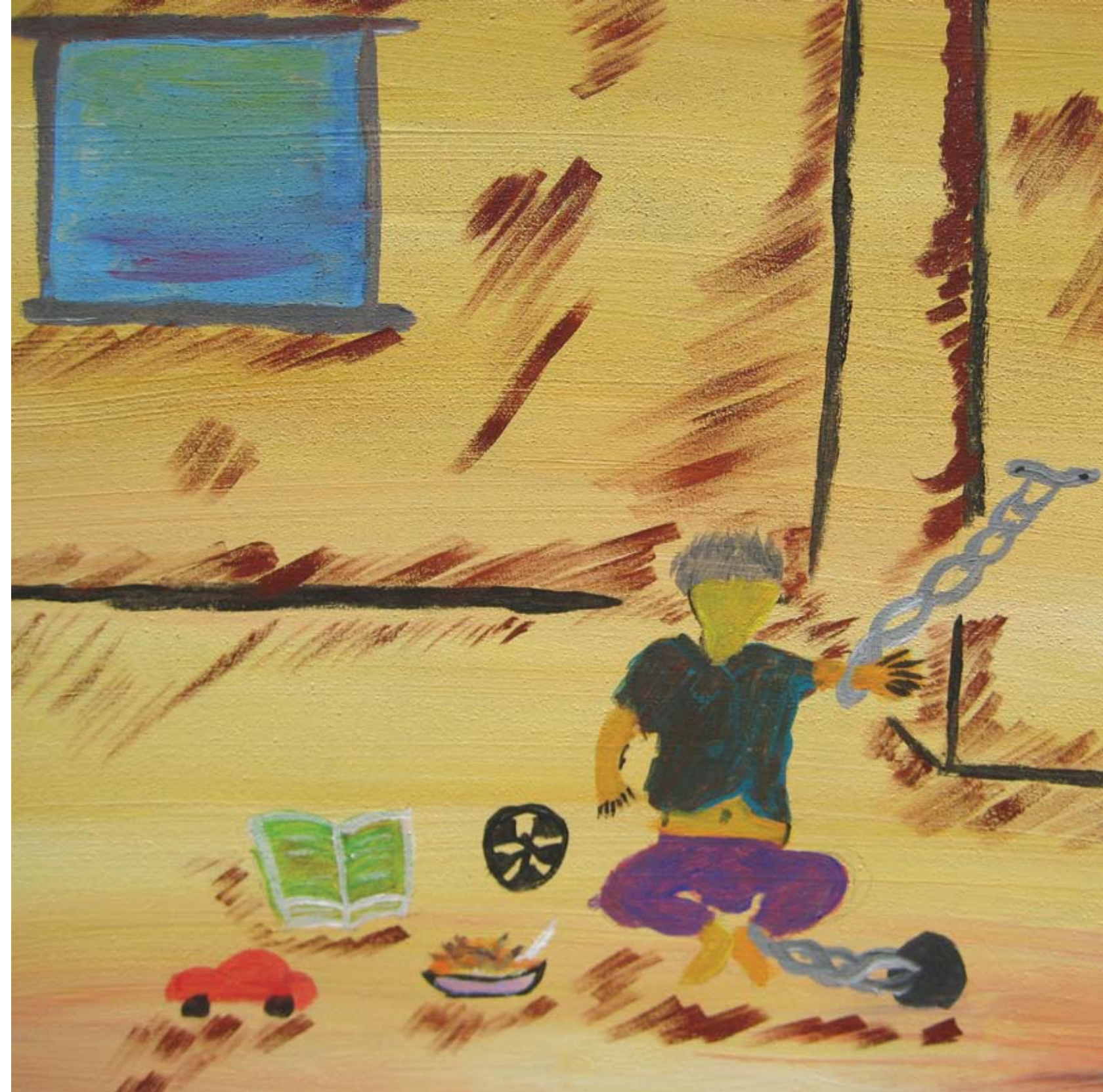


Israeli prisons where Palestinian children are detained (Ofer, Telmond and Damoun) and through 40 visits to Israeli investigation and detention centres.

... in coordination with the Ministry of Detainees and Ex-detainees Affairs, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and the Red Cross, DCI-Palestine sent the new Palestinian curriculum for the Tawjihi (high school) exam to Palestinian students in the three aforementioned Israeli prisons.

Capacity building

In coordination with Machsom Watch and the Prisoners Club, DCI-Palestine contributed towards strengthening the capacity of other actors to challenge and expose Israeli discriminatory policies and practices vis-à-vis child political detainees by participating in training workshops for lawyers working in the Israeli military courts. In total, 70 lawyers were trained – 53 male and 17 female - on international human rights law and international juvenile justice standards.



ACCOUNTABILITY



ACCOUNTABILITY

DCI-Palestine’s Accountability Programme focuses on raising awareness of Palestinian child rights violations occurring as a result of the military occupation and annexation of Palestinian territory and the related conflict, and promoting better accountability of perpetrators of these violations . The methodology of the programme consists in documenting child rights violations first-hand - with a focus on fatalities, injuries and torture and/or abuse in detention - disseminating this information among the international community, and conducting evidence-based advocacy targeting selected third parties, such as States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, High Contracting Parties to the Geneva Conventions, relevant United Nations agencies and European Union institutions - i.e. secondary duty-bearers of Palestinian children’s rights - to urge them to improve child rights accountability mechanisms and work towards holding the perpetrators to account. The ultimate objective is to ensure that parties to the conflict, and particularly Israel, as the Occupying Power, adhere to their obligations under international law to provide special protection procedures for Palestinian children.

Monitoring and Documentation of Child Rights Violations

In 2008,DCI-Palestine maintained its local,national and international reputation for being the leading Palestinian organisation documenting Palestinian child rights violations, through first hand data collection, with a special focus on fatalities and injuries. Over 439 cases of child rights violations were investigated (fatalities, injuries, house demolitions, education and health access, torture and/or abuse).

As of 26 December 2008, DCI-Palestine had documented **90** Palestinian child fatalities resulting directly from Israeli military and settler presence and activity in the occupied territory¹. The breakdown of these fatalities according to month, region, age group, gender, and perpetrator is provided in the following tables:

Child fatalities according to month:

| Month | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | 1-26 Dec | Total |
|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|-------|
| No. | 10 | 10 | 29 | 21 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 90 |

¹ Please note that the child fatalities occurring 27-31 December during Operation Cast Lead are not included. At the time of writing, DCI can confirm that 349 children were killed as a direct result of the Israeli military offensive (27 December 2008-18 January 2009) but field investigations are still ongoing. For further data on these and other violations, please contact the monitoring and documentation team at documentation@dcj-pal.org

Child fatalities according to geographic region:

| Region | Hebron | Jerusalem | Bethlehem | Ramallah | Gaza | Tulkarm | Jenin | Nablus | Qalqiliya | Salfit | Jericho | Total |
|--------|--------|-----------|-----------|----------|------|---------|-------|--------|-----------|--------|---------|-------|
| No. | 4 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 75 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 90 |

Child fatalities according to age group:

| Age Group | 0-8 | 9-12 | 13-15 | 16-17 | Total |
|-----------|-----|------|-------|-------|-------|
| No. | 12 | 8 | 29 | 41 | 90 |

Child fatalities according to gender:

| Gender | Male | Female | Total |
|--------|------|--------|-------|
| No. | 82 | 8 | 90 |

Child fatalities according to perpetrator:

| Perpetrator | Israeli military forces | Israeli settler | Total |
|-------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| No. | 89 | 1 | 90 |

In 2008, we expanded and professionalised our data collection by beginning to document cases of torture and abuse of children in detention and introducing new data verification procedures for all the violations we document. As a result of 2008 improvements on the documentation mechanisms, the quality and frequency of reporting has improved. In addition, DCI-Palestine focused on strengthening its internal capacity with a view to contributing to future litigation initiatives in cooperation with other partners. To this end, 2008 marked an increase in time and effort to build up strategic partnerships with the main actors in litigation and to improve the quality and timeliness of our data on child rights violations.

Advocating for accountability of perpetrators of Palestinian child rights violations

Throughout 2008, DCI-Palestine continued to produce a high volume of information and advocacy material on Palestinian child rights violations. In fact, the quantity and variety of reports produced for advocacy purposes increased significantly in comparison to previous years. Three major reports were published and distributed:

a report on *Child Cancer Patients in Gaza* (online), the *2007 Child Prisoners* report, and a report on *Settler Violence against Children*; in addition to a further 10 child rights violation reports, which were published and disseminated online. Furthermore, 15 case studies on Palestinian child rights violations were produced and distributed. Each one included a set of recommendations for action to be taken by child rights stakeholders and duty-bearers. In addition:

- 17 position statements on topical child rights issues were issued.
- 13 press releases were circulated on special days.

10 issues of the e-Bulletin were produced, posted on the website and distributed.

- 1 issue of the Child Rights Monitor was produced jointly with Save the Children **and** disseminated.
- 10 journalists and 8 foreign delegations were briefed on Palestinian child rights violations.

WWW.DCI-PAL.ORG

The DCI-Palestine website was enhanced with new features and sections, including:

- a link to external news items where DCI-Palestine is cited: *DCI in the media*
- a monthly e-Bulletin with an overview of the previous month's violations and DCI's advocacy actions in response thereto.
- a re-launched Freedom Now! Palestinian child detainees campaign webpage, with updated fact sheets, new case studies and a "take action" section.
- an updated Gaza Under Attack webpage with figures and stories of children killed during Israeli offensives in Gaza, video news links, and a "take action" section.
- a webpage allowing users to learn about the DCI advocacy internship programme and submit applications online.



CHILD PROTECTION



CHILD PROTECTION

Palestinian children in the occupied Palestinian territory suffer from daily violations and infringements of their basic rights. Besides the violations deriving from the Israeli occupation and its consequences on the Palestinian Authority's power and control, they suffer the negative effects of the lack of Palestinian policies and legislations, as well as, being vulnerable in the community, homes and schools.

Studies have shown that within the Palestinian society violence is generally perceived as an acceptable measure to discipline and control children. In addition, certain traditional and cultural practices, such as those deriving from the patriarchal structure, increase the domestic vulnerability and the social exclusion of certain categories of children. In some areas, early marriage is a common practice, and there is little awareness of its negative impact on children, especially on girls. Another aspect of this would be the heightened vulnerability of female children to sexual abuse within the home, and to the practice of honour killing.¹ Mentally and physically disabled children are also amongst the most neglected within Palestinian society. Although there is data available on cases of abuse and neglect, many cases of domestic physical and psychological violence, including sexual abuse and other forms of gender-based violence, either go unreported due to the social dishonour that might arise for the family, or are solved through informal conflict resolution means, without reaching official channels of redress.

While the Palestinian Child Law offers a relatively strong legal framework addressing violence against children, it requires considerable effort and resources in order to be properly implemented. Unfortunately, in Palestine these are minimal. Thus, as a child rights actor, DCI-Palestine strives to fill the void by playing a complementary role to the Ministry of Social Affairs' role in protecting children victims of violence. It does so by acting as a focal point for referral of cases to other service providers as well as to the Child Protection Network, and by promoting a multi-disciplinary approach among community based organizations and professionals working in the field of child protection.

Socio-Legal Defence Centres

DCI-Palestine provides free legal and social advice and consultation for children victims of violence and abuse through the DCI-Palestine Socio-Legal Defence Centres (SLDC) in Bethlehem, Hebron and Nablus. Furthermore DCI-Palestine follows up on complaints in relation to these cases to the relevant governmental institutions, and refers cases when needed to other service providers for in-depth follow up.

¹ Honour killing refers to cases in which girls are killed by relatives "(...) when suspected of engaging in behaviours (that their) family or community considers taboo, such as talking with a man who is not her husband or a blood relative". Human Rights Watch, "A Question of Security: Violence against Women and Girls", Occupied Palestinian Territories, November 2006, at pp. 48 ff.



One of the major mechanisms of DCI towards child protection is being an active part of the Child Protection Network and the Palestinian Network for Children's Rights. Through them, we target and coordinate with other child rights actors and stakeholders and we strive to contribute towards providing the needed protection for children victims of violence and abuse. The specific objective of this programme is to strengthen the protective environment for children in Palestine among civil society, Palestinian government and the wider community.

In 2008, through the Socio-Legal Defence Centres we provided:

- Individual face-to-face legal and social consultancies to 180 children victims of violence and abuse.
- Psycho-social and legal advice through the DCI-Palestine free help-line to 150 children victims of divorce, family disputes, sexual and economic abuse, and victims of school violence.
- Referral service to 88 children to the relevant organisations and specialised institutions such as the Health Work Committees, the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Youth Men's Christian Association (YMCA), the Independent Commission for Human Rights (formerly the PICCR), the Attorney General's office, the police, the Palestinian Red Crescent Society and the General Union for People with Special Needs

Capacity Building

In 2008, DCI-Palestine carried out 64 hours of capacity-building training courses for 44 government officials and law enforcement personnel on child protection policies and practices. The trained professionals and stakeholders committed to passing on the knowledge, skills, insights and attitudes acquired during the training to their colleagues. Certainly, if their colleagues have the same understanding regarding child protection priorities, it will be easier to form alliances inside government institutions in order to influence decision-making. To this end, the trainees conducted internal workshops with their colleagues following the training.

Throughout the year, 70 awareness-raising and consultancy workshops were carried out with lawyers, mothers and children on child protection policies and practices. The purpose was to have children's views, as well as other child rights stakeholders', on child protection legislations and policies, recommendations for the Palestinian child law, penal code, juvenile justice law, disability law, and personal status law, as well as their input on recommended policies.



The Child Protection Programme organized a study day about protection policies, laws and local institutions' roles in the field of child protection, in cooperation with the Union of Social Workers and Psychologists. 170 professionals including school counsellors, child probation officers and police officers met to discuss the topic of child protection mechanisms. As a result, coordination plans were developed to follow up on the implementation of child protection policies through the different institutions and organisations of the Child Protection Network.

Through 33 awareness-raising meetings, 375 mothers and 475 children were educated on children's rights to protection and on existing protection mechanisms and services.

Improved government commitment and accountability vis-a-vis child protection

The commitment and accountability of the Palestinian Authority vis-a-vis child protection improved noticeably throughout 2008, due in great part to its participation in the pilot Child Protection Networks in Bethlehem and Hebron, in which DCI-Palestine plays a pivotal role. This is reflected in the practices of related governmental institutions such as the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Education, who have been striving to follow up on referred cases of children victims of violence and provide further services and protection.

The coordination and cooperation mechanisms among the different governmental institutions have also been enhanced. Institutions are more aware of each other's role and responsibilities, and thus, the quality of services provided to children has improved.



Throughout 2008, regular follow-up and consultation workshops took place with government representatives, PLC members and other stakeholders on child protection policies and practices, in addition to capacity building training sessions targeting the governmental sector.

Discussion meetings, workshops and working groups were carried out among the member organizations of the Child Protection Network.

More Palestinian draft legislations and by-laws are in accordance with international child rights (CR) standards

DCI-Palestine played a major role in leading and facilitating the process of preparing modifications on child protection laws, by involving a group of key figures from governmental bodies and non-governmental organisations in a series of discussions and workshops.

DCI-Palestine team prepared modifications on the Palestinian Child Law to be in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child standards, finalised the draft modifications on the Penal Code, Disability Law, and the Labour Law and submitted the drafts to the Palestinian Legislative Council. On the other hand, the team formed a lobby of civil society institutions to advocate and lobby for the endorsement of these modifications in the Palestinian Legislative Council, and this action was complemented by a child-led lobby created by the DCI Child Participation programme team to support the lobbying at the Council.

In part as a result of DCI-Palestine initiatives, the Legal Committee of the Palestinian Legislative Council agreed on the drafts of the Juvenile Justice bill and the Penal Code and the suggested amendments to the Palestinian Child Law, the Disability law and the Labour bill. Palestinian Authority institutions have been playing a strong role towards developing the different draft policies (by-laws and procedures) for child protection. The fact that the Palestinian Legislative Council is still not sitting, however, remains a major obstacle to advancing the legislative process.

In order to review all child protection legislation, the legal committee of the Child Protection Network, the Office of the General Attorney, the Independent Commission for Human Rights, the Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling, the Sharia' Court, YMCA, the Ministry of Planning and the General Union for People with Special Needs were divided into working groups to review the laws, identify gaps and put forward recommendations for amendments. The result of the working groups was a comparison study of the modifications related to the Palestinian Child Law in line with international laws and standards. The study identified the recommendations and suggested amendments on the Palestinian Child Law, the draft Juvenile Justice Law, and the draft Penal Code. An agreement was reached between UNICEF, DCI and various governmental and non-governmental organizations to combine all the amendments in the Child Law, and to include them in one document, in order to be submitted as one package from all the actors. Further follow up on the implementation of this agreement will take place in 2009.

In 2008, DCI-Palestine embarked on a major new project in East Jerusalem in partnership with four other Palestinian NGOs and two Spanish NGOs, with support from the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The three-year project is entitled «Kana'an: Protection and integral development of the Palestinian population of East Jerusalem» and focuses on defending the civil and social rights of Jerusalemites, including children, supporting and strengthening the provision of basic social services, strengthening the capacities of civil society organizations and promoting economic development and employment creation.



A new common rights-based vision and code of conduct for child protection

Through a series of workshops, a policy document on child protection was developed, approved and signed by the General Assembly of the Palestinian Network for Children's Rights (PNCR). The document represents the commitment of community-based organizations to adhere to child protection principles in their implementation procedures and integrates children's recommendations.

The document was reviewed and commented by the Palestinian Forum for Combating Child Abuse and Neglect (PFCCAN), and the Child Protection Network. The additional purpose of the review was to ensure that the governmental bodies within the Child Protection Network agreed on how the roles and responsibilities of each member were articulated, and thus ensure the compatibility of the document with the national common vision document to be developed in 2009 and adopted by the three key networks.

Furthermore, three codes of conduct – one on child protection within the family, a second one on child protection within schools, and a third one on child protection with regard to the use of internet - were developed and signed by children and parents. The codes were integrated into the aforementioned PNCR child protection policy programme. The member associations of the PNCR began to participate in the Child Protection Network referral system by reporting on and referring cases of children victims of violence to DCI's Social Legal Defence Centres for follow-up or further referral.

New generally accepted positive practices emerging within the Palestinian community

Although changing cultural norms and practices is a long arduous process that involves many dynamics, and which cannot be achieved on the macro level by one actor alone, the Child Protection team did witness an increase in the general understanding of the harm of negative cultural practices in the target groups it engaged with throughout the year. A sample of parents and caregivers reported they had become aware of the negative impact of certain harmful cultural practices on their children. The awareness raising audio-visual materials produced and disseminated by DCI-Palestine, as well as the awareness raising meetings and workshops not only helped to create a better understanding among target groups of the harm of some socially accepted practices (such as corporal punishment to discipline children, or early marriage), but also suggested alternative practices and helpful tools to the target groups.

The main activities carried out to achieve this result were the following:

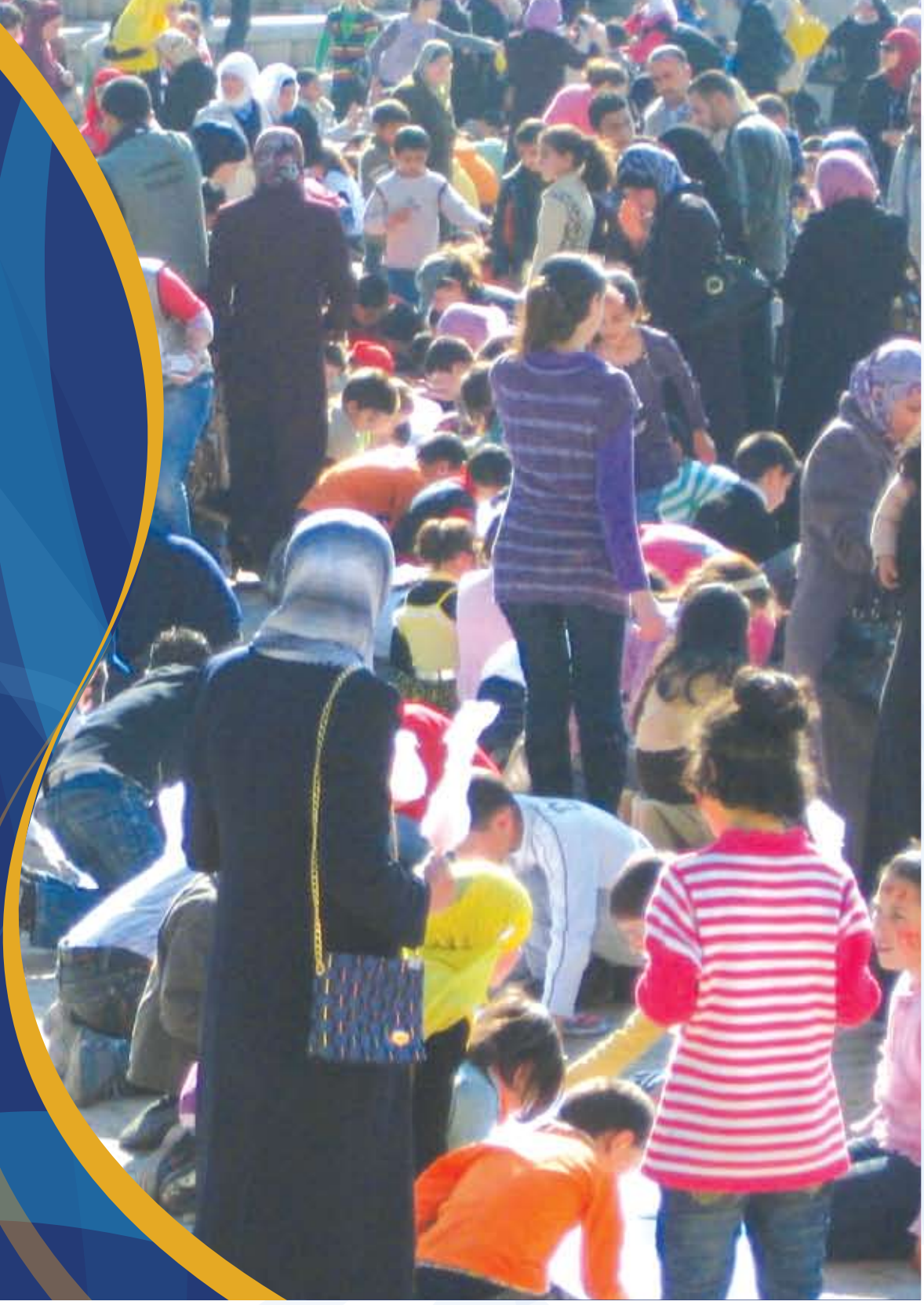
- Four TV debates on positive practices in line with international child rights and child protection standards, with the participation of a group of children.



- Six radio talks on the dangers posed by some cultural practices on children.
- A media conference on child rights and child protection mechanisms.
- Twenty meetings and workshops on children's rights with 375 mothers.
- Five educational days with 112 mothers and caregivers on preventing child abuse and neglect.
- Five thematic open days to raise the awareness of 1000 children about their rights to protection.
- Five performances of a play on children's rights, followed by a group discussion with children and their families to discuss the theme of the performance.
- An educational booklet on the prevention of child abuse and neglect for social work professionals was drafted. It is to be published and disseminated among teachers and other relevant stakeholders in 2009.
- The Palestinian Forum for Combating Child Abuse and Neglect (PFCCAN), established by DCI-Palestine in 2006, expanded its membership and met monthly to raise social and institutional awareness on all levels about child abuse and neglect.



Civil Society for Child Rights Programme



Civil Society for Child Rights Programme

Through the Civil Society for Child Rights Programme, DCI-Palestine seeks to strengthen the role and capacity of Palestinian civil society organizations to become leading child rights actors. Thus, it works at enhancing the Palestinian Network for Children's Rights (PNCr) for it to become a key child rights coalition in Palestine, and to strengthen the roles and responsibilities of community-based organizations and non-governmental organizations in relation to the government. In sum, it aims at strengthening the role and capacity of Palestinian civil society to become guardians and advocates of children's rights.

DCI-Palestine established the PNCr in January 2005. Initially there were 16 member organisations. In 2008 the network reached 65 members, and over 30 new applications were received in recent months. Of these, fifteen are under review, while the remaining fifteen have been rejected because the applicants did not fulfil the membership criteria.

Throughout 2008, the PNCr achieved certain recognition within the Palestinian community and among governmental bodies and NGOs as an active network of community-based organisations in the field of child rights. It currently has a General Secretariat of nine member organisations - in addition to four non-voting members - officially elected by its General Assembly, which consists of the 65 member organisations. The two-

level management (Secretariat and General Assembly) of the PNCr developed the network's vision, mission, strategic objectives and action plan, in addition to following-up on the network's strategies of intervention through regular follow-up meetings. One of the major achievements for the General Assembly was the modification of the PNCr by-laws to be in line with child rights and child protection principles.

Prior to 2008, there was a general lack of understanding of the role and responsibilities of community based organizations and NGOs *vis-a-vis* governmental organisations. By undergoing a process of identifying, discussing, understanding and respecting each party's role and responsibilities, the PNCr now understands the role that it can play in lobbying governmental organizations



towards adopting and practicing child protection policies, and it is more capable of complementing and supporting their role. The important complementary role that the community based organizations are playing is reflected in their participation in referring cases of children victims of violence to DCI's Socio Legal Defence Centres, who subsequently refer these cases as needed to various governmental organisations as part of the referral system of the Child Protection Network.

Main activities carried out in 2008:

- PNCR General Assembly members developed the network's action plan for 2008 and 2009 through two central workshops.
- Twenty coordination meetings took place among the PNCR General Secretariat members.
- Six district meetings among the member organisations in each district were held to discuss joint efforts and challenges.
- Eight meetings with the PNCR Secretariat were held, during which the PNCR by-laws and membership application forms were modified. Additionally, a decision to introduce membership fees was taken, given the lack of budget available for PNCR activities. The modified by-laws play an important role in leading and steering the Secretariat meetings in terms of roles, responsibilities, accountability and follow-up.
- Copies of the animation films made by the children's focus group on media under the Child Participation Programme were distributed among the PNCR member associations and other local institutions to use as awareness raising material in their local communities, and to be circulated in schools all over the West Bank.
- Six internal workshops were carried out to further develop and update the PNCR website (see www.pncr.org).
- PNCR member organisations in the different districts of the West Bank



developed and implemented an action plan to mark Palestinian Child Day (6 April). Two thousand four hundred children participated in 52 different cultural and musical activities carried out by PNCR member organisations in different villages and cities of the West Bank. One thousand five hundred thematic posters were distributed and the day witnessed wide media coverage and wide public participation.

- Through five coordination meetings, the PNCR was able to develop and implement a contingency plan to mobilise the community against child rights violations committed during Israel's attack on the Gaza Strip (Operation Cast Lead). An official statement by the network members was released and child marches were carried out in the different districts where PNCR members operate, calling the UN and international organisations to take action to stop Israel from committing child rights violations.
- A 30-hour training course on child rights programming targeting 22 PNCR association members took place. As a follow-up, and to multiply the effects of the training, each trainee implemented two workshops for children and adults using the information and knowledge gained from the course, each in his/her impact area. The PNCR Secretariat organized a follow-up workshop with trainees to evaluate their experience in training children and adults.
- A workshop with 25 member organisations from the north area, specifically from Nablus district, took place to introduce the work of DCI's Socio-Legal Defence Centres and the newly established Child Protection Network in Nablus.
- A 3-day strategic planning workshop with 22 member associations of the PNCR General Assembly took place in December, during which members reviewed their work as a network in 2008 and drew up an action plan for 2009. More importantly, during this planning session the network's vision, mission, vision and strategic objectives were revised and updated.
- A central workshop for PNCR association members took place in order to develop the code of conduct, which provides guidelines regarding the roles and responsibilities of community-based organizations and NGOs *vis-a-vis* government institutions in relation to child rights issues, with a special emphasis on child protection
- Follow-up workshops with the PNCR Secretariat were carried out to further discuss the code of conduct.



Child Participation Programme

Child Participation is one of the guiding principles of the CRC. The principle entails the recognition of children as fully-fledged persons with the capacity and rationality to form and express their own opinions, and to be heard and taken into consideration when it comes to making decisions that affect them. DCI-Palestine's Child Participation Programme seeks to promote the respect of the principle of child participation in accordance with the CRC in Palestinian society. Thus, throughout 2008, it strived to incorporate children in different activities and projects directed towards the development of Palestinian society.

The programme's specific objective is thus to enhance active participation by Palestinian children in Palestinian society in all matters affecting them. The main activities achieved towards this objective in 2008 were as follows.

Towards the integration of child participation principles in legislations and policies.

DCI-Palestine formed 5 child focus groups with children from different PNCR association members from Hebron and Bethlehem. Each focus group worked on a certain theme (media, art, girls' rights, protection and public health and environment) throughout the year. A child-led lobby group was formed by 5 children, one representative of each of the focus groups, to advocate for child rights through the different themes of the focus groups. The planned and implemented activities were developed and carried out by the children themselves, who proved to be very active, effective and creative. The child-led lobby group prepared a set of recommendations on Palestinian child protection legislations and collected signatures from more than 100 children, professionals, parents, law-enforcement personnel, and some Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) members, and presented them to Palestinian stakeholders such as PLC members and civil society organizations for endorsement by the PLC Legal Committee.

Main activities achieved:

Four workshops were carried out with children to discuss how child participation principles can be integrated into some child protection legislations and policies. The children were introduced to existing laws and DCI's proposals for legislations, and they gave their suggestions for modifications, recommendations and ideas for policies in relation to their participation. Follow up workshops targeted PLC members to get them to endorse the proposed legislative modifications and recommendations. A lobby of civil society institutions was formed with PNCR members. The children advocated and lobbied civil society organizations to endorse these proposed modifications and advocate for them at the PLC in the future.

As an outcome of ten follow-up monthly meetings, a child participation 'code of conduct' poster was produced and distributed throughout the West Bank, primarily to UNRWA schools and clinics and to 60 community based organizations, members of the PNCR.



Six 4-5 hour workshops were carried out to discuss children's recommendations and suggested modifications to the Palestinian Child Laws. As a result, a petition on the suggested modifications was signed by children and circulated to PNCR members.

Children's right to freedom of expression in the media

Several initiatives were implemented, including a child-led TV debate on child participation principles, the creation and maintenance of a child-friendly website and the establishment of an editorial committee of children and media professionals to produce a child rights newsletter called **Little Hands**, which appears as a supplement in Al-Ayyam newspaper on a quarterly basis.

In addition, the children's media focus group in coordination with the child-led lobby group developed a **code of ethics for media professionals** on child rights in the Palestinian media. In parallel, Palestinian media professionals also developed a code of ethics for media professionals. The children's media focus group combined the two codes of ethics into one. The joint draft sets guidelines to address child related issues in the media. The text was discussed during a training course that targeted media professionals in 2008 and gained the initial approval of more than 25 media professionals. The code will be presented officially at a central event to take place in 2009 with the participation of up to 100 media representatives, who will sign it and to set an action plan to activate it.

Main activities achieved:

- A training course on media and children's rights for the media focus group took place. As a result, the media focus group started monitoring local media activities and submitting reports to DCI-Palestine.
- A child-friendly website was created and maintained (see www.aswatona.ps).
- Little Hands newsletter: An editorial committee of children and media professionals was established and 12 committee meetings took place. In addition, a field visit to Al Ayyam Newspaper bureau by the editorial committee was conducted and four Little Hands newsletter editions were issued.
- A booklet was produced by children on the sixth national children's conference.
- A TV debate led by the child-led lobby group on children's rights to participation was carried out.
- A 30-hour centralised training course for 25 media professionals on the CRC was carried out. As a result, a code of ethics was produced by the trainees.

Active child participation within civil society and community

Through the Civil Society Programme children practiced their right to participation. They were given the chance to reflect their views and provide recommendations regarding matters that affect their lives through and within civil society organizations. The five thematic child focus groups developed three codes of conduct that fed directly into the development of the child protection policy (See Child Protection programme) and the modification of the PNCR by-laws, which are now much more in line with child rights principles.

- Children contributed to the development of the child protection policy document, which was adopted by the three networks of PNCR, and the Palestinian Forum for Combating Child Abuse and Neglect (PFCCAN) through developing 3 codes of conduct and a policy paper on child protection in family, child protection in schools, and child protection regarding internet use.
- 5 children's projects carried out by the children's focus groups were chosen.
 1. A film on **girls' rights** in Iskaka village produced by 5 children - 3 boys and 2 girls aged 12-17.
 2. A reportage about the image of Palestinian children in the media produced by two children from Ramallah.
 3. Presentations about a safe school environment through studying the Al-Deheisha Camp UN schools environment.
 4. A game about children's rights produced by the Jericho project on arts.

- The 6th National Palestinian Child Conference was organized under the slogan of "Children's Initiatives... Community Initiatives". More than 120 children from all over the West Bank participated in this conference. During the conference, the child-led lobby group took the opportunity to discuss the petition they had created on the recommendations for modifications to the legislation, for which they managed to collect the signatures of 300 professionals, parents, children, policy makers and PLC members.
- One of the major activities during the conference was the child-rights painting exhibition, which was coordinated by the children's art focus group
- 50 children aged 13-16 participated in a total of two 30-hour training courses on child rights (25 participants in each).
- A 'child participation principles' and code of conduct poster was produced and distributed throughout the West Bank.
- 40 outreach awareness-raising meetings took place targeting the 50 children of the child participation programme.
- Five thematic focus groups of children were established comprising the 50 children who participated in the training courses. The themes of the focus groups were child protection, art, media and child rights, public and environmental health and girls' rights.
- Ten follow - up monthly meetings took place for the focus groups: 15 workshops for the art focus group (the group produced 20 child rights-themed paintings), 3 meetings for the media focus group, 5 meetings for child protection focus group, and 2 meetings with the public health and environment focus group.
- A 3-minute animation film about Israeli violations against Palestinian children was produced by the children media focus group.
- A study about children's rights to protection from neglect, abuse, and exploitation was produced by children from the Beit Oula Cultural Center

Organisational Development Process



Organisational Development Process

DCI-Palestine constantly strives to improve its intervention in the field of child rights, and in order to do this, it must commit to being a learning and growing organisation. DCI-Palestine recognised some time ago that, in order to improve our performance and efficiency, we need to invest in the development of the internal capacity of the organisation, in terms of systems, procedures and human resources. Therefore, since 2006, DCI-Palestine has been undergoing an organizational development process, with the support of Save the Children Sweden and International Service (UNAIS).

In 2008, several activities and initiatives took place within the framework of this process, most notably a Child Rights Situation Analysis on Palestinian children's rights to protection¹. The aim of the situation analysis was to provide an up-to-date picture of the situation for Palestinian children in terms of protection in order to serve as a resource and provide insights and direction for DCI-Palestine and Save the Children Sweden's strategic planning for child rights in the oPt in the coming years. Furthermore UNAIS supported our organizational development processes by providing a Development Worker to help us improve our monitoring and documentation capacity and work practice. Other achievements in organisational development in 2008 included improved internal communication and teamwork and improved mechanisms and practices in monitoring, evaluation and reporting. For example, new internal reporting formats were developed and staff trained on their use. Moreover, the first phase of a planning, monitoring and evaluation database was set up in December, allowing DCI to maintain an overview of current projects, donor requirements, reporting deadlines, grant transfer dates, etc; and to keep track of the status of proposals submitted to donors. The second phase, which is currently in development and will be finalised in 2009, will develop this tool further so that all DCI staff can access the reports of other teams and can document activities directly in the system as they are implemented.

Regarding new developments within DCI-Palestine in 2008, there was a change in directorship in November. George Abu Al Zulof, who had been director for ten years, left to take up a position as a child protection specialist with UNICEF in Yemen. The new director, Rifat Kassis, is one of the co-founders of DCI-Palestine, as well as being a historic member in the DCI-Palestine board of directors (having served as president several times and as a board member), and being the current president of DCI global movement (serving his second term). DCI-Palestine extends its gratitude to Mr. Abu Al Zulof for the invaluable contribution he made in building up the organisation and the legacy he left behind. At the same time, the staff and board welcome Mr. Kassis, who brings years of managerial, advocacy and community development experience, having directed several local and international initiatives.

¹ <http://www.dci-pal.org/english/display.cfm?DocId=1058&CategoryId=8>.



Financial Report



DEFENCE FOR CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL - PALESTINE SECTION

Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

Year ended December 31, 2008

| | Notes | 2008 U.S. \$ | 2007 U.S. \$ |
|--|-------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Revenues | | | |
| Temporarily restricted contributions released from restriction | 11 | 1,052,815 | 921,800 |
| Unrestricted contributions | | 15,055 | 22,006 |
| Deferred revenues recognized | 9 | 7,157 | 5,788 |
| Other revenues | | 9,330 | 10,010 |
| | | 1,084,357 | 959,604 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Administrative expenses | 12 | 690,377 | 583,905 |
| Project expenses | 12 | 357,307 | 330,047 |
| Depreciation | | 33,082 | 30,224 |
| Finance cost | | 5,131 | 7,848 |
| Currency exchange loss | | 10,433 | 4,094 |
| | | 1,096,330 | 956,118 |
| (Decrease) Increase in net assets | | (11,973) | 3,486 |
| Net assets, beginning of year | | 112,353 | 108,867 |
| Net assets, end of year | | 100,380 | 112,353 |

DEFENCE FOR CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL - PALESTINE SECTION

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2008

| | Notes | 2008 U.S. \$ | 2007 U.S. \$ |
|---|-------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Assets | | | |
| Non-current Assets | | | |
| Property and equipment | 3 | 317,276 | 273,275 |
| Current Assets | | | |
| Contributions receivable | 4 | 1,305,867 | 932,115 |
| Other current assets | 5 | 18,013 | 12,190 |
| Cash and cash equivalent | 6 | 129,813 | 22,574 |
| | | 1,453,693 | 966,879 |
| Total Assets | | 1,770,969 | 1,240,154 |
| Net Assets and Liabilities | | | |
| Net Assets | | | |
| Unrestricted net assets | | 100,380 | 112,353 |
| Total Net Assets | | 100,380 | 112,353 |
| Non-current Liabilities | | | |
| Term loan | 7 | 66,587 | 77,745 |
| Provision for employees' indemnity | 8 | 185,193 | 149,987 |
| Deferred revenues | 9 | 96,010 | 29,271 |
| | | 347,790 | 257,003 |
| Current liabilities: | | | |
| Current portion of term loan | 7 | 11,158 | 10,233 |
| Accounts payable | 10 | 66,567 | 47,079 |
| Temporarily restricted contributions | 11 | 1,245,074 | 813,486 |
| | | 1,322,799 | 870,798 |
| Total Liabilities | | 1,670,589 | 1,127,801 |
| Total Net Assets and Liabilities | | 1,770,969 | 1,240,154 |

DEFENCE FOR CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL - PALESTINE SECTION

Cash Flow Statement

Year ended December 31, 2008

| | <u>2008</u> <u>U.S. \$</u> | <u>2007</u> <u>U.S. \$</u> |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Operating activities: | | |
| (Decrease) Increase in net assets | (11,973) | 3,486 |
| Adjustments for: | | |
| Depreciation | 33,082 | 30,224 |
| Deferred revenues recognized | (7,157) | (5,788) |
| Provision for employees' indemnity | <u>66,993</u> | <u>58,569</u> |
| | 80,945 | 86,491 |
| Contributions receivable | (373,752) | 35,455 |
| Other current assets | (5,823) | 3,498 |
| Deferred revenues | 73,896 | 16,517 |
| Temporarily restricted contributions | 431,588 | (182,325) |
| Accounts payable | 19,488 | (20,362) |
| Employees' indemnity paid | <u>(31,787)</u> | <u>(44,879)</u> |
| Net cash from (used in) operating activities | <u>194,555</u> | <u>(105,605)</u> |
| Investing activities | | |
| Purchase of property and equipment | <u>(77,083)</u> | <u>(7,095)</u> |
| Net cash used in investing activities | <u>(77,083)</u> | <u>(7,095)</u> |
| Financing activities | | |
| Settlement of term loan | <u>(10,233)</u> | <u>(9,422)</u> |
| Net cash used in financing activities | <u>(10,233)</u> | <u>(9,422)</u> |
| Increase (Decrease) in cash and cash equivalent | 107,239 | (122,122) |
| Cash and cash equivalent, beginning of year | <u>22,574</u> | <u>144,696</u> |
| Cash and cash equivalent, end of year | <u>129,813</u> | <u>22,574</u> |