



WEST BANK: ITALIAN MoP MASSIMO D'ALEMA MEETS PALESTINIAN DEP. MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND THE JAHALIN COMMUNITY AT THE SCHOOL OF TIRES (Khan al Akhmar)

JERUSALEM, Feb. 2nd, 2012 - A school in the desert to remember that education is a fundamental right for anybody.

In this school which was realized for the Bedouin community living in Khan al Akhmar village (West Bank) in 2009 by the Italian NGO Vento di Terra, the Palestinian **Deputy Minister of Education H.E. Dr. Hisham Khael** and **President Massimo D'Alema, Italian MoP** will meet the representatives of the Jahalin's Bedouin community.

The meeting, which will be held on **Saturday 4th of February at 9,30 a.m. in Khan al Akhmar**, is sponsored by Vento di Terra NGO and the Department of Cooperation and Peace of Rozzano Municipalities (MI), will be an opportunity for dialogue and confrontation with the Bedouins, that live in conditions of isolation and suffer from lack of infrastructure and services.

"The Khan al Akhmar school, is an important result of the intervention of the Italian Cooperation in the Middle East but first of all is an essential tool to protect local development and promote the culture of respect and peace and to give to the Bedouin's children a future", says Massimo Annibale Rossi, Head of board of Vento di Terra NGO.

The former MP and Councillor Stefano Apuzzo, on behalf the Fund for Development and Cooperation of Milan's district, said: "This mission is particularly important due to the risk of demolition of the school. The visit of President Massimo D'Alema represents a new hope for the Jahalin'children".

The School of Tyres, realized on the architectural design of the ARC - ò - Architettura e Cooperazione Group, employing 2,200 discarded tires, is under constant threat of demolition, as well as most of the buildings belonging to Palestinian Bedouin communities in Area C. UNRWA, UNICEF and Amnesty International have campaigned to stop the demolition of the school and ask for the suspension of all expulsion plans against the Palestinian Bedouins.

Vento di Terra NGO since 2009 works aside Bedouin population in Gaza Strip and West Bank and launched the campaign: "Who demolish a school demolish the future."

At the ceremony, which is part of president D'Alema agenda in the Middle East, will attend the Italian Consul General in Jerusalem Giampaolo Cantini and representatives of international institutions and of the Italian NGOs network in West Bank.

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