

*Translated from the original Hebrew to English by Adalah*

State of Israel  
Ministry of Justice

The Department for International Agreements and International Litigation

March 8, 2010  
No. 3971

Attorney Suhad Bishara  
Adalah – The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel  
P.O. Box 8921, Haifa 31090

Re: Transfer of ownership rights to leased lands in East Jerusalem and the Golan Heights

1. We received with appreciation your correspondence on this subject from January 21, 2010 (hereinafter: “your correspondence”).
2. As noted in section 3 of your correspondence, Israeli law was applied to East Jerusalem and the Golan Heights in accordance with Article 1 of the Basic Law: Jerusalem, Capital of Israel and Article 1 of the Golan Heights Law, 1981, respectively, which will be cited below for convenience.
3. Thus, Article 1 of the Basic Law: Jerusalem states that “1. Jerusalem, complete and united, is the capital of Israel.”
4. Similarly, Article 1 of the Golan Heights Law states that: “1. The law, jurisdiction and administration of the state will apply to the territory of the Golan Heights...”
5. As is known, a state’s sovereignty is one of the fundamental concepts of the international legal system, and the State of Israel has the right to exercise it vis-à-vis the territories in which it has applied its law, jurisdiction and administration.
6. In this particular case, the legislative proceeding was conducted after in-depth thought and study, which included a number of relevant government bodies.

Very respectfully,

Hila Tene-Gilad, Attorney  
Director (Human Rights and Relations  
with International Organizations)

cc: Attorney Ariel Zvi,  
Department of Counseling and Legislation (Civil)