

SUMMARY OF ISRAELI ROAD MAP VIOLATIONS SINCE ANNAPOLIS

27 November 2007 - 14 September 2008

Despite the renewal of the parties' respective commitments under the Road Map at the Annapolis Conference on 27 November 2007, Israel has failed to implement any of its Road Map obligations thus far. Following is a summary of Israeli Road Map violations in the first nine months since Annapolis, during which numerous serious Israeli violations took place with respect to: (1) settlement activity, (2) attacks against Palestinians and their property, (3) internal closures, (4) Jerusalem institutions, and (5) other Road Map obligations.

I. SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

Among Israel's primary Road Map obligations is to "*freeze all settlement activity (including natural growth of settlements).*" Far from being "frozen", however, Israeli settlement activity throughout the West Bank actually intensified in the nine months since Annapolis in virtually all areas—from planning to authorization to construction—particularly in and around East Jerusalem.

A. Settlement Construction

Settlement construction, including both housing and infrastructure, continued at an accelerated pace throughout the West Bank, particularly in and around East Jerusalem.

1. Construction Projects

- The Israeli Ministry of Construction and Housing currently identifies construction projects in at least nine "urban" settlements in the West Bank (including East Jerusalem), totalling **4,486 settlement housing units**.¹ Some **92 percent** of these are in **Metropolitan Jerusalem**, with 40 percent in Har Homa alone. Following is a breakdown of current settlement construction projects:

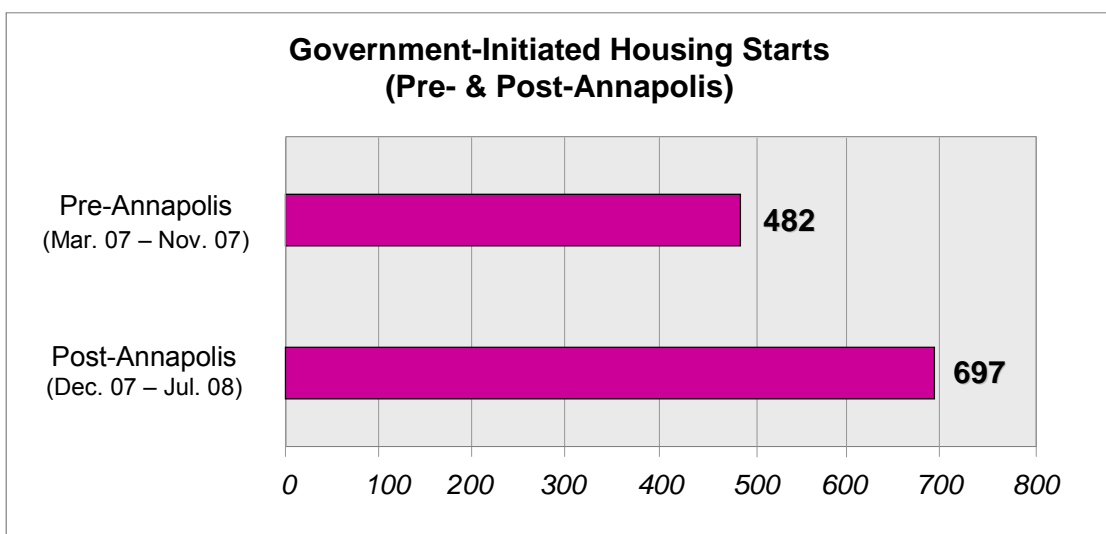
Settlement	District	# Housing Units	# Sold
Alfe Menashe	Qalqilya	200	115
Ariel	Salfit	130	62
Betar 'Illit	Bethlehem	540	363
Efrata	Bethlehem	102	73
Geva' Binyamin (Adam)	Jerusalem	180	104
Giv'at Ze'ev	Jerusalem	546	45
Har Homa	Jerusalem	1,814	925
Ma'ale Adumim	Jerusalem	944	354
Qarne Shomron	Salfit	30	0
		4,486	2,041

¹ Available figures are only for "urban" construction (*i.e.*, settlement municipal and local councils, but not regional councils). Available at: <http://www.moch.gov.il/Moch/ProjektyBniya.htm> (accessed on 25 August 2008).

- Overall, according to Peace Now, construction has continued in **at least 101 settlements** (*excluding* Jerusalem-area settlements) in the months since Annapolis.

2. Housing Starts and Completions

- Government-initiated construction: Government-sponsored construction in the settlements increased dramatically after Annapolis. According to official data, the Israeli Ministry of Construction and Housing began construction on **at least 697 new housing units** in West Bank settlements in the nine months after the Annapolis Conference (Dec 07 – Jul 08), as indicated in the table below.² This is an **increase of 45 percent** over the nine-month period prior to Annapolis, during which the government initiated construction on 482 units (Note: Figures do *not* include publicly-initiated construction in settlements in and around East Jerusalem).



- Privately-initiated construction: Construction initiated by the private sector in West Bank settlements proceeded at a similar pace. For example, during the first half of 2008 (Jan 08 – Jun 08), private construction began on **500 settlement housing units**, which is a **36 percent increase** over the 369 units initiated in the first half of 2007.³ (Note: Figures do *not* include privately-initiated settlement construction in and around East Jerusalem.)

3. Roads and Infrastructure

- During the reporting period, construction work continued on three major settlement infrastructure projects in and around Jerusalem:
 - Excavation work for **three tunnels** adjacent to **Al-Aqsa Mosque compound** (Haram al-Sharif) in Jerusalem's Old City and the neighborhood of Silwan.

² Ministry of Construction and Housing, "Housing Starts Initiated by Ministry of Construction and Housing, By District - Urban and Rural Areas," (Table A.7(A)); "Housing Completions Initiated by Ministry of Construction and Housing, By District - Urban and Rural Areas," (Table A.8(A)). Available at: <http://www.moch.gov.il/MOCH/MonthlyBulletin/boards.htm> (accessed on 14 Sep. 2008).

³ Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, "Dwellings, by Construction Initiator and District" (Table O/4). Available at: http://www1.cbs.gov.il/reader/yarhon/yarmenu_e_new.html (accessed 14 Sep. 2008).

- The northern section of the **Jerusalem Ring Road** (Rd. # 20), which will connect to the eastern ring road via the newly built settler bypass road around `Anata and Az-Zaim.
- The first phase of the **Jerusalem Light Rail** (currently concentrated in the Shu'fat and Shaykh Jarrah areas), which is aimed at linking the settlements of Pisgat Ze'ev, Neve Ya'kov and French Hill with West Jerusalem.
- Road and infrastructure preparation also continued in the **E-1 expansion area** between East Jerusalem and Ma'ale Adumim settlement, particularly in relation to the **newly constructed police headquarters** in the eastern part of E-1, which was officially inaugurated on May 19. The new police station, the second to be built inside the E-1 area, will replace the one located in Ras al-Amud neighbourhood in East Jerusalem, which in turn was handed over to settler groups for their use.

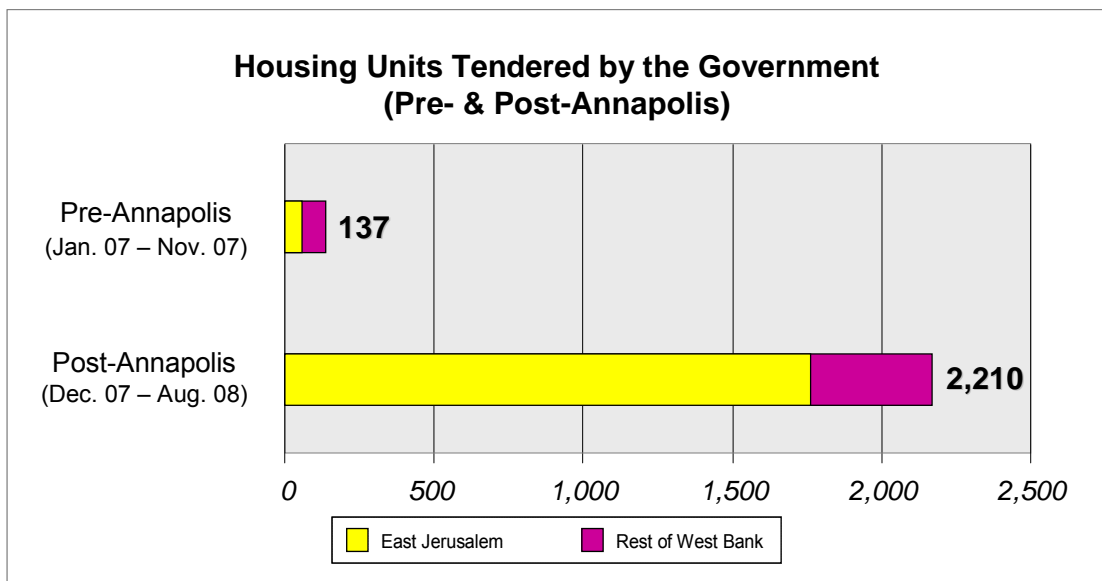
4. The Wall

Work on the Wall, which is an integral component of Israel's settlement enterprise, along with its supporting infrastructure, continued in several places throughout the West Bank, particularly in the Jerusalem area and in the southern West Bank. According to UN-OCHA, as of the end of May, approximately 57 percent of the 723 km planned route of the Wall had been completed.

B. Settlement Authorization and Planning

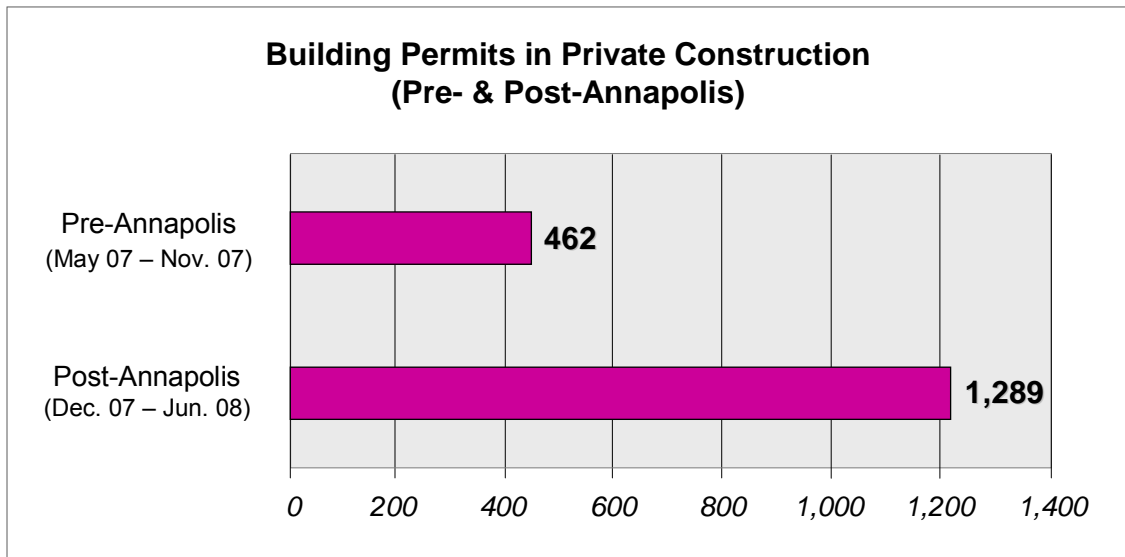
1. Tenders

Government tenders for settlement construction, primarily in and around East Jerusalem, have reached record highs since Annapolis. In the nine months since Annapolis, Israeli authorities have issued 18 tenders for settlement construction, totalling **2,210 new housing units**, which is **more than 16 times as many** housing units tendered in the *11 months* prior to Annapolis (see graph below). Moreover, **80 percent** of these are in settlements located in East Jerusalem, as compared with 34 percent during the 11 months prior to Annapolis.



2. Building Permits

In terms of privately-initiated construction, the Israeli government issued building permits for **at least 1,289 housing units** in West Bank settlements (*excluding* those in and around East Jerusalem) in the first seven months after Annapolis (Dec 07 – Jun 08), **nearly three times** as many as those issued in the seven-month period prior to Annapolis (462 permits).⁴



3. Other Plans and Approvals

Even as settlement construction intensified on the ground, Israeli authorities continued to authorize and plan for thousands of additional housing units for settlements throughout the West Bank. For example:

- In East Jerusalem alone, Israeli authorities have advanced plans for **nearly 10,000 housing units** in Israeli settlements since Annapolis. Of these:
 - Town planning schemes for **4,370 housing units** in East Jerusalem settlements have been approved and are ready for immediate implementation, including in East Talpiot (620 units), Har Homa (2,653 units), Pisgat Ze'ev (759 units), Ramot (338 units) and Gilo (hotels and residences).⁵
 - **5,247 units** were submitted for public review, including in the settlements of East Talpiot (104 units), Giv'at HaMatos (3,150 units), Neve Ya'aqov (393 units) and Ramot (1,600 units).⁶
- Similar plans are being approved elsewhere in the West Bank as well:
 - In the first six months after Annapolis (Dec 07 – May 08), Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak approved the construction of **at least 946 housing units** in several West Bank settlements, including Ariel, Avenat, Betar 'Illit, Elqana,

⁴ Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics, "Construction Area, Buildings and Dwellings Approved in Private Construction" (Table O/8). Available at: http://www.cbs.gov.il/yarhon/o8_e.htm (accessed 9 September 2008).

⁵ Ir Amim Monitoring Report, "Negotiations toward an Accord on Jerusalem: Declarations vs. Actions," Apr 2008.

⁶ Ibid.

Efrata, Giv'at Ze'ev, Ma'ale Adumim, Modi'in 'Illit, Talmon, Negohot and Sha'are Tiquva.⁷

- An additional **750 units** in **Giv'at Zeev** were moved toward implementation on March 9 when Prime Minister Olmert approved the resumption of the construction project, which had been suspended since 2001. (Reuters, *Ha'aretz*)
- In early April, the Israeli Ministry of Construction and Housing presented a plan developed in coordination with the Prime Minister's Office to build **1,900 new settlement housing units in 2008** for settlers evacuated from Gaza in 2005. The plan calls for the construction of 158 housing units in Efrata, 682 in Betar 'Illit, 160 in Geva' Binyamin, 510 in Giv'at Ze'ev, 302 in Ma'ale Adumim, 48 in Qiryat Arba', and 48 in Ariel. (*Yedi'ot Ahranot*)

C. Settlement Outposts

Despite the Road Map's clear requirement that Israel "*immediately dismantles settlement outposts erected since March 2001,*" the Israeli government has avoided acting against the outposts. Indeed, rather than dismantle them, Israeli authorities are seeking ways to **legitimize or maintain the outposts**. Meanwhile, Israel continues to speak of removing only "unauthorized" outposts (*i.e.*, those established in violation of domestic Israeli law), having identified only 26 such outposts, although the Road Map contains no such distinction.

- Of the approximately 110 outposts in the West Bank, 58 of which were established since March 2001, **none was dismantled** since Annapolis.⁸ Meanwhile, according to Peace Now, approximately **125 new structures** have been added to the outposts, including at least 30 permanent houses.
- Under an agreement reached between the Israeli Ministry of Defense and settler leaders, the evacuation of even these limited outposts would take place in exchange for their relocation to the large settlement "blocs" or to settlements near Jerusalem, along with government assurances to approve building permits and other expansion plans for more established settlements.

II. ATTACKS ON PALESTINIANS

Israel has also failed to meet its Road Map to "*take no actions undermining trust, including deportations, attacks on civilians; confiscation and/or demolition of Palestinian homes and property, as a punitive measure or to facilitate Israeli construction; destruction of Palestinian institutions and infrastructure...*"

⁷ Peace Now, "The Death of the Settlement Freeze - 4 Months Since Annapolis," March 2008.

⁸ This does not include the handful of outposts removed by the Israeli army immediately or shortly after being established, or outposts that were only partially dismantled as in the case of Mevo Horon-North in the Ramallah Governorate.

A. Palestinian Deaths and Injuries⁹

1. *Palestinians Killed by Israeli Forces Since Annapolis (28 Nov. 07 – 04 Aug. 08)*

Location	Number of Deaths	Of which Children (%)
West Bank (including East Jerusalem)	80	7 (9%)
Gaza Strip	414	69 (17%)
Total	494	76 (15%)

2. *Palestinians Injured by Israeli Forces Since Annapolis (01 Dec. 07 – 04 Aug. 08)*

Location	Number of Deaths	Of which Children (%)
West Bank (including East Jerusalem)	851	163 (19%)
Gaza Strip	1,036	158 (15%)
Total	1,887	354 (19%)

B. Home Demolitions

According to the Israeli Committee Against Home Demolitions (ICAH), Israeli authorities demolished at least **259 Palestinian homes** since Annapolis (through 14 September), 74 of them in East Jerusalem.

C. Residency Revocations

Recent statistics on the number of Palestinian ID/residency revocations since Annapolis are not yet available. However, according to the most recent available data, the number of Jerusalem-area Palestinians who had their residency rights revoked by Israel increased sharply in 2006 to **1,363**, more than for the previous six years combined and more than any single year since 1967.¹⁰

III. INTERNAL CLOSURES

As of September 2008, Israel had established some **630 checkpoints, roadblocks and other physical barriers** to Palestinian movement throughout the West Bank, an **increase of 12 percent since Annapolis** (Nov. 2007) and a 68 percent increase since August 2005.¹¹

IV. JERUSALEM INSTITUTIONS

Instead of “*reopen[ing] the Palestinian Chamber of Commerce and other closed Palestinian institutions in East Jerusalem,*” as required by the Road Map, since Annapolis, Israel’s Minister of Internal Security Avi Dichter **has twice renewed the closure of all 10 Palestinian institutions**, including Orient House, first on 8 February and again on 5 August.

⁹ United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) Protection of Civilians database: <http://www.ochaopt.org/pocl> (accessed on 16 September 2008).

¹⁰ Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories (B’Tselem)

¹¹ UN-OCHA, “Implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access and Update on Gaza Crossings (23 June – 08 July 2008)”.

V. OTHER OBLIGATIONS

The Road Map requires the Israeli government to issue an *“unequivocal statement affirming its commitment to the two-state vision of an independent, viable, sovereign Palestinian state living in peace and security alongside Israel, as expressed by President Bush, and calling for an immediate end to violence against Palestinians everywhere.”*

Although the government of Ehud Olmert and that of his predecessor Ariel Sharon have accepted the goal of creating a Palestinian state, no Israeli leader or government has ever articulated a clear and unequivocal commitment to the establishment of an “independent, viable and sovereign” Palestinian state, as such.