Beirut 15 May 2018
Time 10.00 am

Urgent appeal

To clarify the situation of PHRO General Director after being summoned and subjected to prolong investigation that led to arbitrary detention by the Lebanese General Security for investigation and continued detention

The Palestinian Human Rights Organization (PHRO) expresses its deep concern at the situation of its General Director Mr. Ghassan Abdullah, its representative towards the Lebanese State, who was summoned more than 24 hours ago by calling him to the Lebanese public security "for security investigation" (Attached hereto), on the morning of Monday, 14 May, and he is still being held without knowing the reasons.

PHRO notes that Mr. Ghassan Abdullah, in his personal capacity and as a juridical figure, and by extension of the Palestinian Human Rights Organization, did not undertake any activities that required any query or question, which raises our concern about this emerging situation. The health of Mr. Abdullah, who is wounded in war and lost one of his limbs, is very fragile and can't tolerate any pressure or detention, especially since he is in constant need of daily medicines for chronic diseases, which he did not equip with him when he went voluntarily to the General Security, and that his continued detention and not taking the medicines regularly would pose a serious threat to his life.

Therefore, the Palestinian Human Rights Organization - PHRO calls for the immediate release of its General Director, clarifying the reasons for his detention and assuming full responsibility for any deterioration in his health condition. PHRO also calls on of all local, regional and international bodies and organizations to intervene immediately with the Lebanese public security to release the human rights activist and defender Mr. Ghassan Abdullah, and to hold his captors fully responsible for any deterioration in his health.

PHRO is an independent non-governmental organization, established in 1997, recognized in Lebanon under registration no. 36/AD and works for promoting, protecting and defending the Human Rights of the Palestinian Refugees in MENA region. PHRO is a member of the international Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) and the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EuroMED rights) and the Arab Organization for Human Rights (AOHR).