Ministry of Local Government Condemns the Destruction of the Premises for Frush Beit Dajan Village Council by the Israeli Occupation

Ramallah, August 7, 2024: The Ministry of Local Government condemns the actions of the occupation forces this morning, who demolished the premises of the Council of Furush Beit Dajan in Nablus Governorate. This project, which was under construction, was intended to include facilities for the village council, an agricultural cooperative, and a women's gathering society, spanning two floors with a total area of 300 square meters.

The construction has followed the masterplan development approach for Area C developed by the Palestinian Ministry of Local Government MoLG in partnership with the EU and other EU Member States, it is worth noting that this project is within Furush Beit Dajan master plan that was discussed with the Israeli Authority over a period of 10 years in 38 joint sessions.

The project initially received a stop-work order on March 24th , 2024, which was later upgraded to a demolition order on May 15,2024. During this period and until the demolition, the Palestinian Authority was actively pursuing legal avenues. Unfortunately, appeals against the demolition order along with the license application were both rejected by the Israeli Authorities.

The Ministry of Local Government reiterated its firm and absolute rejection of such criminal acts, which target the Palestinians presence and their legitimate and undisputable rights in area C, that are persistently subjected to attacks by occupation forces and settlers.

The Ministry of Local Government will discuss further this matter with the European Union, the French Development Agency and other EU Member States -Development Partners. It will also work with international human rights organizations to put pressure on the occupation authorities to stop their demolition and destruction projects in different areas and among Palestinian communities, in particular in Area C.

The project was funded by the French Government, particularly through the French Development Agency (AFD) and the European Union (EU), and was being implemented through the Municipal Development and Lending Fund as part of the Area C Development Programme in the West Bank.