## Saudi Arabia to finance new Palestinian homes in Hebron

04/09/2006

Geneva

The Saudi Committee for the Relief of the Palestinian People has said it will finance the construction of 100 housing units in the West Bank city of Hebron at cost of US\$ 6.3 million.

The project, to be undertaken in cooperation with UN-HABITAT, was approved on the instructions of His Majesty King Abdalla Bin Abdel Aziz Al Saud, and Prince Naif Bin Abdel Aziz Al Saud, Minister of Interior and General Supervisor of the Saudi Committee for the Relief of the Palestinian People. Officials said the new homes would be allocated to underprivileged or widowed women.

The Chairman of the Saudi Committee for the Relief of the Palestinian People, Mr. Said Al Orabi Al-Harthi, who also serves as Advisor to the Minister of Interior, said the idea was to improve the living conditions of widowed women and their families.

The project would be implemented, during a period of 24 months, through the Special Human Settlements Programme of UN-HABITAT and in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, and the Ministry of Public Works and Housing of the Palestinian National Authority and local NGOs.

He cited the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's deep commitment to mitigate the suffering of the Palestinian people and help meet their essential needs. To date, he added, it had financed more than 36 relief and humanitarian programmes in the Palestinian territories in cooperation with a number of international organizations.

UN-HABITAT and the Saudi Committee for the Relief of the Palestinian People will soon sign a Memorandum of Understanding to commence the implementation of the project.