Dear all friends of freedom and justice, dear Bil'in committee,

unfortunately this year no one of our labour Union, Fiom-Cgil, will be able to attend the International Conference organised by the Bil'in popular committee against the Wall and settlements. Time are hard for many people in the world, in Italy and in Europe as well! Global crisis, austerity measures and multinational aggressive policies, cut of wages and rights, have a strong impact on millions of workers and on our trade union, like on others!

We feel very close to the palestinian popular struggles and we want to express our solidarity with the whole palestinian people and with all the participants to the 7th Bil'in Conference on Popular Struggle, that shows one again, and this time spread in the country, your determination in fighting against injustice, for freedom and peace.

We are really happy that civil resistance to Israel's occupation remains steadfast and is rapidly spreading throughout the land. From the local struggles of villagers on the ground, to successful BDS campaigns across the globe, demanding and implementing Israeli accountability - the struggle for justice and liberation is one.

We wish that the Bil'in conference will provide opportunities to build and strengthen ties between Palestinian, Israeli and international activists working against Israeli apartheid, to strategize and to support Palestinian popular resistance.

We hope that all of you and the participants to the Conference will attend, at the end of the year the World social forum Free Palestine in Brasil: it will be of great importance that the popular resistance representatives will join this big international gathering, where the palestinians will meet with thousands of international activists in order to walk together and stronger towards the achievement of palestinians' freedom and rights, the end of Israeli occupation and apartheid!.

Finally, I am working in order to be able, in the next months, together with a delegation of our Union, to come to Palestine and to meet some of you and to discuss together about how to improve our support to your struggle and facilitate your participation to the WSF Free Palestine.

In solidarity Alessandra Mecozzi International Secretary Fiom-Cgil

10 april 2012