

## **Climate and Gender Equality at Special session at the Committee of the status of Women and Gender Equality, on the occasion of the World Environment Day, 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2016**

Summary of special discussion held on the Committee of the status of women and gender equality in the Knesset MK عايدة توما-سليمان Aida Touma-Saliman : "The Housing Ministry's approach indicates oppression and discrimination - and, if necessary, even confront them about it legally".

The Association for Environmental Justice in Israel presented at the session huge gaps in governmental allocation to public open space to different population groups.

The Committee on the Status of Women and Gender Equality, chaired by MK Aida Touma-Sliman (Hadash-joint list) discussed today (Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2016) on climate change and its implications for a gender perspective, as part of the World Environment Day date specified in the Knesset.

MK Dov Henin (joint list) noted that "climate crisis, like an environmental problem, has social origins and social external manifestations. Gender perspective has focusing particularly reference to climate change. Women are affected much more because of the social structures and their constraints, and should be a special place in solving them. "

Carmit Lubanov, Director of the Association of Environmental Justice in Israel said that Israel will be affected and hurt by climate change in the world, and the desert line has been already wandering north. Ms. Lubanov reviewed AEJI research by examining the policy of allocating open public areas in various local authorities, which found that the Arabic localities have, on average, 0.34 compared to 7.36 per Public Open Spaces in Jewish communities and the municipalities in which the drum 54 is not defined at all open public land , 51 are Arab. Lubanov C., also noted that an official guidelines for planning in the Ministry of Housing, set design only 10 square meters per capita open public land in the ultra-Orthodox communities or Arabs, compared to 15 square meters per person in other cities.

Chairman of the Committee responded to the findings and said: "The fact that the ministry has decided that particular population deserves to less land per person compared to others, is a sign of oppression and discrimination against Arabs and ultra-Orthodox." MK Aida Tuma-Saliman also said that the committee will turn to the housing ministry to clarify the meaning of this decision, and that "if we have legally confront, we will do it".

The Full announcement of the Committee of Women status and Gender Equality, at Ha'knesset site at (Hebrew): [http://main.knesset.gov.il/Activity/committees/Women/News/Pages/pr070616\\_1.aspx](http://main.knesset.gov.il/Activity/committees/Women/News/Pages/pr070616_1.aspx)