



Friends of the Earth

Middle East



FoEME

Tel-Aviv, Bethlehem, Amman, July 10, 2005

Mr. Roberto Epple
Director
European Rivers Network
Big Jump Europe Campaign
France, Europe

Re: The Big Jump 2005

Dear Mr. Epple,

We were delighted to welcome you and have you participate in the Jordan River event. The Big Jump idea that you created some 10 years ago has attracted tremendous interest in our region with the Mayor of Jericho in Palestine, the Mayor of the Jordan Valley council in Israel and the Mayor of Sheik Hussein in Jordan all having participated in the event. Saving the Jordan has important significance – for peace, livelihoods and nature.

As you are aware the Jordan River is in a sad state of affairs. The banks of the Jordan are either fenced or part of a closed military area. Next to no fresh water today flows down the Jordan and in its place raw sewage is presently discharged. Our aim is to learn from the experience of the Rhine and the Elbe Rivers opening up and cleaning up the Jordan River for the benefit of our three peoples.

We wish to congratulate all the organizers and partners of the European Big Jump. Though we from the Middle East will not be with you in person our support and gratitude to you will be with you in spirit.

Yours sincerely,

Munqeth Mehyar
Jordanian Director

Nader Khateeb
Palestinian Director

Gidon Bromberg
Israeli Director

**NGO in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations*

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