

I am writing this letter to express my deep concern for demolishing the houses without any advance notice to residents at Bagou village in Haidian District of Beijing. On 22 October, two houses there were destroyed by bulldozers.

The Bagou residents submitted an appeal against the eviction order to the Beijing City Higher People's Court on 19 November 2012. The demolition has been carried out while the appeal is still under review. The residents have not been offered adequate compensation or an alternative place to live by the authorities. While the government did offer some compensation to families who had already lost their homes, this did not meet the standards set in Chinese law and was rejected by the residents as not nearly sufficient.

So I urge the authorities to ensure that the evicted residents are immediately provided with alternative housing and adequate compensation.

I also urge the authorities not to evict the remaining residents in Bagou village, Haidian district in Beijing while their appeal is pending in court and without following due process requirements including adequate notice and compensation.

Lastly I urge the authorities to investigate and stop all acts of intimidation and harassment carried out both by state and non-state actors.

Thank you very much for your prompt attention to the above.

Sincerely yours,