Families of missing persons want action

The committee of the families of persons who went missing during the war urged the government to take action to reveal the fate of 2,312 children and relatives and said parents' right to know the truth "could neither be abolished by a resignation decree nor by a reshuffle."

In a Thursday statement, the committee called for determining the names and places of detention of the missing persons, whether dead or alive.

It also urged President Emile Lahoud or Prime Minister Rafik Hariri to brief public opinion about the results of the search, take measures to release those living and recover the bodies of those who died.

The statement stressed the need to endorse a draft law "granting moral and financial compensation" to the families of those deceased missing persons.

The statement denounced the failure to submit a report

on the issue to the Cabinet.

A committee charged with receiving the complaints of the parents of missing persons and submitting its report within six months to the Cabinet was formed 28 months ago.

It has not filed its report yet. Formerly presided over by former Minister Fouad Saad, the committee includes directorgenerals of security bodies and a representative from the Beirut Bar Association.