The Implementation of the Civil Policy in Judea & Samaria and toward the Gaza Strip

The Year 2010
2010 was fraught with substantial developments in the Palestinian arena. The civilian policy towards the Gaza Strip was expanded in order to improve the residents' quality of life. This was done despite on-going terror attacks conducted by Hamas, which seized control over the Gaza Strip in 2007. In Judea and Samaria, the trend of economic growth and development continued as a result of increased freedom of movement, eased restrictions, on-going coordination between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, and a stable security environment.

This booklet was written in order to highlight key points in the implementation of Israel’s civilian policy in Judea and Samaria and the Gaza Strip.

Civil Coordination Department
Coordination of Government Activities in the Territories

- Unclassified – 2
Main Developments in Judea & Samaria

Significant improvement in the Palestinian residents’ quality of life in Judea and Samaria continued and broadened in 2010.

Freedom of Movement

- There is free movement between Jenin in the north and Hebron in the south and only 16 checkpoints are in operation, most of them normally open.
- Infrastructure was improved at the crossings in order to ease the movement of local residents.
- There was a 42% increase in the number of permits issued for entry into Israel.

Economy

- The positive trend of economic growth in Judea and Samaria continued, and the GDP rose by 8% in 2010.
- Unemployment declined by 1% in 2010.
- There was a 5.4% increase in the number of Palestinians employed by Israeli employers compared to 2009.
- During 2010, 2.43 million tourists visited Judea and Samaria, a 49% rise compared to 2009.
- Projects – There was progress in the implementation of economic and infrastructure projects for Palestinians in Judea and Samaria.
- The agreement to allot frequencies to the Wataniya Company was implemented, improving the quality of communication in the PA.
- There was a 10% rise in the number of trucks crossing at back-to-back crossings in 2010, compared to 2009.
- Accelerated development throughout Judea and Samaria was expressed through a dramatic increase in the construction of new neighborhoods, malls, cinemas, and parks.
- Other economic indicators reinforce the positive growth trend – there was a rise in the extent of fuel and cement purchased and in the importation of vehicles.

Security Coordination: Security coordination between Israel and the PA was broadened and the activities of the Palestinian security organizations in Judea and Samaria were expanded, leading to improved overall security and to an improved sense of security among Palestinians in Judea and Samaria.
Main Developments in the Gaza Strip

In 2010 attempts to carry out terror attacks against Israeli civilians continued, as did the firing of rockets and mortar shells from the Gaza Strip, controlled by a terror organization. Over 235 rockets and mortar shells were fired at Israeli targets:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Rockets Fired</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The land crossings between Israel and the Gaza Strip operated normally throughout the year:
  - **Erez Crossing**, operated for the movement of people six days a week— in 2010 there was a 16% rise in the number of people exiting the Gaza Strip to Israel and a 70% rise in the number of medical patients and accompanying individuals who exited the Gaza Strip to receive medical treatment in Israel, Judea and Samaria, or abroad.
  - **Kerem Shalom Crossing**, the main crossing for the transfer of goods into the Gaza Strip, operated five days a week, and there was a 34% rise in the number of truckloads transferred in it the Gaza Strip.
  - **The Karni Conveyor**, operated for the transfer for grains and aggregates two days a week, and there was a 13% rise in the number of truckloads transferred through it to the Gaza Strip.
During 2010 the Government of Israel resolved to expand the civil policy toward the Gaza Strip in four central areas:

- **Expansion of activity at the land crossings** – since the government's decision there has been a 69% rise in the number of truckloads transferred to the Gaza Strip.

- **Expansion of the range of goods transferred to the Gaza Strip** – a list of items was published whose entry into the Gaza Strip will be permitted on a case by case basis.

- **Promoting internationally funded projects** – during 2010, 101 internationally funded projects were approved, 87 of which received approval following the government's decision.

- **Gradual expansion of export from the Gaza Strip** – agricultural exports from the Gaza Strip to European markets were expanded.
Implementation of the Civil Policy in Judaea and Samaria
Easing Movement

- There is free movement between all the cities of Judaea and Samaria, from Jenin in the north to Hebron in the south.
- Working hours at Allenby Bridge were extended in 2010; there was a 15% rise in the number of people crossing through Allenby Bridge in both directions.
- In 2010, 98 roadblocks were removed throughout Judea and Samaria.
- 16 checkpoints operate in Judea and Samaria, most of them normally open.

42 Checkpoints  ➔ 16 Checkpoints

July 2008  ➔ September 2010
Easing Movement

The opening of roads
- The Einav checkpoint in the Tulkarem district and the Bir Zeit checkpoint in the Ramallah district were opened.
- The North Halhul crossroad in the Hebron district was opened, resulting in a 20 minute shortening of the travel time between Bethlehem and Halhul.
- The opening of a road in the Hebron district resulted in a 30 minute shortening of the travel time between the western villages and the Hursa triangle.
- The opening of the Dahariya crossroad in the Hebron district to traffic shortened the travel time between Dahariya and the city of Hebron by 15 minutes.
- Road 443 was opened to Palestinian traffic.
- The regular movement of people to Azon Atma was approved.

Extending the crossings’ working hours
- The working hours at the Ramallah DCO checkpoint were extended to 24:00.
- The working hours at the Te’enim (Jubara) crossing in the Tulkarem district were extended to 24:00.
- The working hours at the Awarta checkpoint in the Nablus district were extended to 22:00.
- A public transportation lane was opened at the Qalandiya crossing.
- The working hours at the Eyal and the Ephraim crossings were moved back in order to facilitate the movement of workers employed in Israel.
- The Tarqumiya crossing working hours were extended, and there was a 14% rise in the number of trucks passing through this year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Movement of Merchandise through Tarqumiya Crossing</th>
<th>(in number of truckloads)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Half 2009</td>
<td>43,251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Half 2009</td>
<td>48,468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Half 2010</td>
<td>50,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Half 2010</td>
<td>54,515</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12%   4%   8%
Upgrading and Expanding Activity at the Crossings

- The Ministry of Defense’s Land Crossings Authority invested tens of millions of NIS in crossings throughout Judea and Samaria.
  - Meitar crossing – an additional pedestrian pathway was built and the facilities for the crossing of merchandise were expanded.
  - Ephraim crossing – a new merchandise terminal was developed with the cooperation of USAID and the existing crossing for merchandise was upgraded.
  - Rikhan crossing – access for disabled persons was improved and facilities for the comfort of people through were added.
  - Jalma crossing – infrastructure was built in cooperation with USAID to enable the expansion of the volume of merchandise crossing through.
  - Bakaa crossing – crossing conditions were improved, shaded facilities were added as were facilities for the comfort of people crossing through.
In 2010, 651,734 permits were issued for entry into Israel, a 42% increase compared to 2009 - this in addition to an extension of the permits' validity.

There was a 51% increase in the number of permits issued for Friday prayers on the Temple Mount - approximately 94,000 permits were issued in 2010, compared to 62,000 in 2009.

More than 30,000 permits were issued to Palestinian youth and children for trips to Israel.

A quota of 200 VIP certificates was set for the PA in 2010.

511 cards were issued for the movement of public personalities in Judea and Samaria.

Approval was given to the regulation of the presence of 23,000 foreign nationals who were in Judea and Samaria illegally on account of humanitarian considerations.
Freedom of Worship – Muslim Holidays

Entry to the Temple Mount for prayers was granted to men above the age of 50 and women above the age of 45 without need of permits.

**Eid al Adha**
- Working hours at the Ramallah DCO checkpoint were extended to 22:00 and there was free movement at the crossing between 22:00-06:00.
- Working hours at Rikhan crossing were extended to midnight during the holiday period.
- The movement of tourists through Musa Alami at the entrance to Jericho was approved.
- 24 roadblocks in Judea and Samaria were removed.
- A quota of 7,000 permits to visit relatives in Israel was granted.

**Ramadan**
- Working hours at the Ramallah DCO checkpoint were extended to midnight during the holiday period.
- Working hours at the Jalma, Rikhan, and Shaked crossings were extended to midnight for the entry of Israeli Arabs.
- All Tulkarem crossings adjacent to Road 6 were open every day of the week for the entire month of Ramadan.
- Permits for family visits in Israel with accompanying individuals under the age of 16 were issued without regard for age and without a quota. These permits were valid overnight during "Eid al-Fitr".
- 196 visiting licenses for Judea and Samaria were issued to foreign nationals from Arab countries during the holiday period.
- 24,394 permits for Friday prayer on the Temple Mount and 5,217 permits for family visits to Israel were issued during the holiday period.
- 12,697 vehicles passed through the Jalma crossing during the holiday period.
Freedom of Worship – Christian Holidays

- The validity period of permits was extended during Christian holidays.
- Approximately 80,000 permits were issued to Christians for various holidays.
- Tourists were allowed to enter Bethlehem (organized groups in buses) through all crossings, a measure which was maintained afterwards.

Easter

- Permits were issued to Christians in the Bethlehem district for entry into Israel without a quota and including overnight stay.
- Permits were given to 150 Christians for overseas family visits through Ben Gurion airport.

Christmas (western and eastern)

- The issuance of entry permits for Israel to Palestinian Christians from Judea and Samaria was approved for the duration of the Christmas period, without a quota.
- Permits were given to 300 Christians for overseas family visits through Ben Gurion airport.
- A quota of 200 visiting licenses was granted to Christians from Arab countries for entry into Judea and Samaria during the holiday period.
- During the Christmas period, 7,660 entry permits to Israel were issued, a 7% increase compared to 2009.
- The Qasr al-Yahud baptismal site was opened – approximately 15,000 people participated in the various ceremonies.
- Approximately 300,000 visitors and tourists visited Bethlehem during the Christmas period, a 100% rise compared to 2009.
Tourism

- The number of tourists in Judea and Samaria in 2010 was 2.43 million, a 48% rise compared to 2009.
- There was a 30% increase in the extent of domestic tourism in Jericho in 2010.
- Foreign tourism in the Bethlehem sector increased by 57% in 2010, compared to 2009.
- Foreign tourism in the Jericho sector increased by 55% in 2010, compared to 2009.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Bethlehem</th>
<th>Jericho</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>1,102</td>
<td>747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1,724</td>
<td>1,174</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The entry of 200 Jewish and Druze tour guides and drivers into Bethlehem and Jericho was approved for the first time since 2000.
- The crossing of tourists through all Bethlehem crossings was approved.
- 94 hotels operate throughout Judea and Samaria and in 2010 the PA began promoting plans for 8 new hotels in Bethlehem and two in Ramallah.
The Entry of Israeli Arabs into Judea and Samaria

- The entry of Israeli Arabs into Palestinian cities was approved.
- The Gilboa crossing in the Jenin district was opened to the crossing of Israeli Arabs in vehicles.
- Working hours at the Jalma, Rikhan and Shaked crossings were extended to midnight for the movement of Israeli Arabs.
- The Tulkarem crossings were opened in the weekends for the entry of Israeli Arabs in order to shorten travel times.
- In 2010, over three million Israeli Arabs entered Palestinian cities.
Economy

Trade between Israel and Judea and Samaria

- There was a 4% rise in the number of trade permits issued in 2010 (46,934 permits in 2010 compared to 44,962 in 2009).
- 607 business person certificates (BMC) were issued, which eased the movement of Palestinian business people.
- The quota for truckloads of stone and marble through the Minharot crossing was doubled from 75 to 150.
- There was a 6% decrease in the extent of sales of agricultural produce from Judea and Samaria to Israel in 2010.
- According to figures from the Land Crossings Authority, there was a 10% rise in the number of trucks that passed through the land crossings in 2010. This rise has been continuous since 2008.
- Developments in the movement of merchandise through the Land Crossings Authority crossings in Judea and Samaria.

[Diagram showing truckloads crossing through back-to-back crossings over the years, with specific numbers and percentage changes indicated.]
Employment

- There was a 5.4% increase in the number of Palestinians from Judea and Samaria employed by Israeli employers compared to 2009, amounting to approximately 51,000 workers.

- 3,000 additional workers were given approval to work in Israel during the olive harvest.

- A quota of 5,000 employment permits was granted for work in Israel, including overnight stay.

- The daily average of wages paid to Palestinians employed by Israeli employers rose by 6.5% compared to 2009 (according to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics).
Agriculture

- Palestinian and Israeli authorities began working to establish veterinary services that comply with OIE standards in order to improve the quality of animal products from Judea and Samaria and to enable the continuation of their sale in the eastern part of Jerusalem.

- Officials from the Israeli veterinary services toured dairy factories in Hebron and the Siniora and Hamuda plants in the Jerusalem Periphery Area.

- 15 vets from the PA veterinary service conducted a professional tour in Israeli dairy factories.

- The transfer of vaccines from Israel to the PA takes place in accordance with PA requests.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>The Year 2008</th>
<th>The Year 2009</th>
<th>The Year 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>rabies</td>
<td>7,300</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foot and mouth disease- Cattle</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foot and mouth disease- Sheep</td>
<td>499,000</td>
<td>499,000</td>
<td>330,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlamydia</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>2,300</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthrax</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- During 2010 professional gatherings and tours were organized for representatives from the PA Ministry of Agriculture and for farmers in the fields of plant protection, forestry, tending to livestock, exportation, and the olive sector. To enable participation in these events 909 permits were issued.
Economic Indicators

- In the first three quarters of 2010, the average GDP in Judea and Samaria stood at $1,023.2 million – a 2.5% rise compared to the beginning of the year.

- Unemployment - there was a 0.7% decrease in the rate of unemployment in 2010, compared to 2009.

  ![Graph of Unemployment Rates](image)

- The al-Quds index registered a 1.8% decline.

- There was a 4% rise in the quantity of fuel and diesel that were transferred to Judea and Samaria in 2010, 582 million liters in 2010 compared to 560 million in 2009.

- There was a sharp, 38% increase in the importation of vehicles in Judea and Samaria compared with 2009.

- There was a 4% rise in the consumption of cement in Judea and Samaria in 2010.

- There was a 23% increase in the number of building permits issued by the PA in Judea and Samaria (according to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics).
The Palestinians were allotted frequencies for a second cellular network ("Wataniya"), and so far over 400,000 people have subscribed.

Waiting shelters for Palestinian residents/farmers at agricultural gates in the Jenin and Ephraim sectors were stabilized.

As a goodwill gesture, the construction of the Muqibla Industrial Zone's fence was permitted at a distance of 250m from the security barrier – the Palestinians have yet to arrange the acquisition of land.

During 2010 the rehabilitation of 21 roads was approved, funded by USAID, and 26 more are undergoing staff work.
The Water Network

In 2010, 37 water projects were approved:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Type</th>
<th>Approved</th>
<th>Undergoing Staff Work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water Pipelines</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drilling of Water Wells</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Filling Points</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Pools</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall</strong></td>
<td><strong>37</strong></td>
<td><strong>12</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Main projects:

- USAID established a water reservoir at a school in the Hebron sector.
- Renovation of water wells by the Red Cross in the Jenin sector is currently being implemented.
- The connection by USAID and the Red Cross of 11 villages in the Nablus sector to the water network through six pipelines is currently being implemented.
- Four water drills in the agreed reserve (southern Judea) have been approved and are now in progress.
- The rehabilitation of water drills in the Jericho sector by FAO has been approved but has yet to begin.
Waste Disposal Site Projects

Southern Judea Waste Disposal Site
- Location: Hebron and Bethlehem sectors (south of Tekoa).
- Purpose: establishing a WDS to service southern Judea.
- Involved parties: the PA and the World Bank.
- Costs: the cost is estimated to be approximately $23 million.
- The project has been approved and is undergoing the process for receiving a building permit. Construction is expected to begin in the second half of 2011.

Deir Debwan (Ramon) Waste Disposal Site
- KFW has been involved since 2005.
- Location: Ramallah sector, eastern Ramallah.
- Purpose: concentrating and processing waste from central Judea and Samaria.
- Cost: €25 million.
- Updated status: In the advanced planning stage. The organization has to submit a request for a building permit to the Civil Administration’s planning institutions.
Wastewater Treatment Plant Projects

Beituniya Wastewater Treatment Plant
- KfW involvement.
- Location: Ramallah sector, southwest of the city of Ramallah (near Beit Horon).
- Purpose: designated to serve the western part of Ramallah.
- Cost: roughly $20 million.
- JWC was approved in 2007.
- Status: a survey was submitted in January 2011 to the Civil Administration’s planning institutions.

Deir Sharf (west Nablus) Wastewater Treatment Plant
- KfW involvement.
- Location: northwest of the city of Nablus.
- Purpose: to treat west Nablus’ wastewater.
- Cost: €25 million.
- Updated status: being implemented.

Tulkarem Wastewater Treatment Plant
- KfW involvement.
- Location: west of the city of Tulkarem.
- Purpose: designated to serve the city of Tulkarem and seven other villages to its east.
- Cost: approximately $20 million.
- JWC was approved in 2005.
- Status: a request for an order for the laying of pipe infrastructure has been submitted. The order will be issued during the second quarter of 2011.
The Electricity Network

- There has been a 12% rise in the number of electricity plans approved in 2010 compared to 2009 (102 plans in 2010 compared to 90 in 2009).

- 4 Palestinian villages were connected to the electric grid in 2010 (Shufa village and Um Rihan in the Jenin sector, Arbuna village in the Ephraim sector, and Khan at-Tawani village in the Hebron sector) and the supply of electricity to two villages was increased.

- The connection of Hirbat Tawani to the electricity and water networks was approved.

EIB Project

- **Purpose**: the upgrading of the Palestinian electricity economy in Judea and Samaria from 500 Mega Watt to 860 Mega Watt.

- In the framework of the project four secondary power stations will be built in the Jenin, Nablus, Ramallah, and Hebron sectors.

- **Involved Parties**: The Palestinian Electricity Authority, Israel Electricity Company, and the European Investment Bank (EIB).

- **Cost**: the estimated cost is approximately €100 million.

- **Status**: contracts between the parties are being finalized.
Rawabi

- Purpose: establishing a new Palestinian city in the Ramallah district in which approximately 3,300 housing units will be built (stage A will include the building of 1,200 housing units and is expected to end two years from now).
- Involved parties: a private Palestinian initiative (Bashar al-Masri) and other investors.
- Project cost: the cost is estimated to be roughly $300 million.
- Status:
  - Initial work began in January 2010.
  - Planning Process: Detailed planning stages and statutory processes between the entrepreneur and the PA have been completed. In August 2010 an environmental impact survey was submitted.
  - A joint team from the Israeli and the Palestinian water authorities is examining the water issue.
  - Electricity – the entrepreneur and the Israel Electricity Corporation are in talks regarding the supply of electricity from an adjacent high voltage line. A temporary 11 KVA electricity line has been connected.
  - The PA has yet to offer a solution to the wastewater issue.
  - The access road is in the early stages of staff work.
The Medical Field

- In 2010, 175,151 permits were issued to medical patients and those accompanying them, a 1.3% rise compared to 2009.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Permits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>144,838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>172,863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>175,151</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- In 2010, 7,944 Palestinian children from Judea and Samaria were treated in Israeli hospitals.
- A number of internship projects for Palestinian doctors in Israeli hospitals continued.
- 117 gatherings were held in Israeli hospitals for medical teams from the West Bank.

Children awaits for kidney transplant in Shaare Zedek Hospital (the transplant will be funded by the Civil Administration)
Ministry of Defence  
Coordination of Government Activities in the Territories

Security Coordination

- In 2010, 686 joint meetings were held – a 26% rise compared to 2009.
- Periodic joint meetings take place between the commanders of the Palestinian security organizations and the general in command, the division commander, and the head of the Civil Administration.
- National security command posts were visited and meetings at the brigade commander level held.
- There were joint committees and open days.
  - Two joint police committees were set up to deal with crime, stolen vehicles, drugs, and forgery.
  - A joint civil defense gathering was held.
  - Two joint police open days were organized on the subject of forensic evidence, trade and theft of antiquities, the phenomenon of vehicle theft, and community policing.
- The Palestinian security organizations escorted 623 Israelis out of Area A.
- Hundreds of special permits were issued to members of the Palestinian security organizations.

The Activity of the Palestinian Security Organizations

- There was a 118% rise in the coordination of activity with Palestinian police (2,968 instances of coordination in 2010 compared to 1,297 in 2009).
- The freedom of operation for Palestinian police was expanded, particularly at nighttime and, among others, in the Ephraim, Nablus, Jenin, and Hebron sectors.
- Currently, 52 Palestinian police stations operate in the rural areas of Judea and.
Development of Security Forces

- The departure of two national security battalions for training in Jordan was coordinated – 7 battalions have trained in Jordan so far.
- The departure of 200 civil defense policemen for training in Jordan was approved.
- Courses and training was coordinated to improve the professionalism of Palestinian police (courses in command and conduct, political intent, computers, forensic evidence, driving, logistics, and others).
- The transfer of equipment to the Palestinian security organizations was approved.

Public Order Activity

- The Palestinian security organizations undertook 1,207 public order activities during 2010.
- Activity was initiated to enforce public order in the rural areas (Qibya, Badrus, Shikba, Shbatin, Hawara, Awarta, Yeta Jilzun, Dora, Shwikha, and Barta’ah).
- Intensive treatment of car theft and the drug trade.
- Explanatory and enforcement activity was employed against the phenomenon of drug abuse.
- Enforcement of traffic regulations – there was a 53% rise in the number of traffic tickets issued.
Implementation of the Civil Policy towards the Gaza Strip
The Expansion of the Civil Policy towards the Gaza Strip

On June 20, 2010, the Committee of Ministers for National Security Matters decided to expand the civil policy towards the Gaza Strip.

Summary of the Government Decision

1. Publish a list of items not permitted into Gaza that is limited to weapons and war materiel, including problematic dual-use items. All items not on this list will be permitted to enter Gaza.
2. Enable and expand the inflow of dual-use construction materials for approved PA-authorized projects that are under international supervision and for housing projects.
3. Expand operations at the existing operating land crossings, thereby enabling the processing of a significantly greater volume of goods through the crossings and the expansion of economic activity.
4. Add substantial capacity at the existing operating land crossings and, as more processing capacity becomes necessary and when security concerns are fully addressed, open additional land crossings.

Hamas has taken control of the Gaza Strip and turned it into a hostile territory that is used for the planning and execution of attacks against the State of Israel and its citizens. The IDF will continue to prevent the entry and exit of terrorists, weapons, combat equipment, and dual-use items that increase the military capability of Hamas and other terrorist organizations in Gaza. Israel calls upon the international community to act against the smuggling of weapons and combat-support equipment into Gaza.

Gilad Shalit has been held captive by Hamas for nearly four years. It is incumbent upon the international community to join Israel in strongly condemning his imprisonment and to drastically increase its efforts to secure his immediate release.
On December 8, 2010, the Council of Ministers decided to expand exports from the Gaza Strip.

Main Points of the Government Decision
The Security Cabinet this morning approved additional measures to expedite increased exports from the Gaza Strip, thus assisting its economy and easing the burden of the Gazan population under the repressive Hamas terrorist regime.

Israel has recently approved the export of strawberries and flowers from the Gaza Strip to European markets. Exports from the Gaza Strip, following the aforesaid decision, will – at the current stage – focus, inter alia, on the agriculture, furniture, and textiles sectors. The exporting is subject to security and logistical preparations at the Kerem Shalom crossing.

In the interest of implementing the liberalization of the civil policy, two joint teams have been established with the PA:

- **Committee to promote projects** – headed by COGAT and the Palestinian Prime Minister, Salam Fayyad;
- **Committee for the expansion of the land crossings activities** – headed by COGAT and the Palestinian Minister for Civil Affairs, Hussein Al-Sheikh.
The expansion of activity at the Kerem Shalom Crossing – the main crossing – is part of a gradual process intended to increase the number of truckloads entering the Gaza.

The Ministry of Defense’s Land Crossings Authority has led the improvement of infrastructure on both sides of Kerem Shalom Crossing, and will invest 55 million NIS for the expansion of activity at the crossing.

- On the Israeli side of the crossing, a 12 million NIS investment resulted in the following: the site was expanded, means of operation were added, hours of operation were extended, manpower was increased, and procedures were streamlined.

- On the Palestinian side of the crossing, the site was expanded, access roads were widened, and means of operation were added. To enable this, over 8,000 tons of aggregates and 5,000 tons of asphalt were transferred to the Palestinian side of the crossing. The Ministry of Defense’s Land Crossings Authority invested 1.5 million NIS in the Palestinian side of the crossing.
Expansion of Activities at the Land Crossings

The daily average of truckloads delivered through Kerem Shalom in 2010 was 128.

Karni Conveyor

- The daily average of truckloads delivered through Karni Conveyor in 2010 was 91. Prior to the Cabinet's decision, the daily average was 82.5 truckloads, and after the decision (June 20, 2010) the daily average increased to 98 truckloads.

- The Karni Conveyor operates two days per week due to security threats on it. As an alternative, a conveyor will be set up at Kerem Shalom Crossing.
Internationally Funded Projects

Since the beginning of 2010, Israel has been liberalizing the civil policy vis-à-vis Gaza. In this context, a coordination and supervision mechanism was established for the implementation of internationally funded humanitarian projects, subject to security considerations.

Since the Cabinet’s decision, 87 internationally funded projects have been approved, out of a total of 101 such projects approved in 2010.

121 Projects Funded by the International Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>37 Education Projects</th>
<th>23 Water &amp; Sewage Projects</th>
<th>14 Health Projects</th>
<th>10 Housing Projects</th>
<th>13 Agriculture Projects</th>
<th>4 Welfare Projects</th>
<th>4 Projects for International Organization facilities</th>
<th>2 Electricity Projects</th>
<th>7 Infrastructure Projects</th>
<th>2 Other Projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prior to the Cabinet's</td>
<td>14 Projects</td>
<td>June 2010</td>
<td>July 2010</td>
<td>October 2010</td>
<td>November 2010</td>
<td>January 2011</td>
<td>February 2011</td>
<td>20 Projects</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>29 Projects</td>
<td>9 Projects</td>
<td>22 Projects</td>
<td>4 Projects</td>
<td>23 Projects</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Since the beginning of the year, 55,056 tons (1,723 truckloads) of building materials have been transferred for use in these projects.

So far, 19 projects have been completed, and 29 are in various stages of implementation.

Organizations Implementing the Projects

- USAID: 38%
- UNRWA: 37%
- UNDP: 17%
- ICRC: 2%
- World Bank: 3%
- KFW (Germany): 1%
- AFD (France): 2%
An expanded range of goods has been permitted entry into Gaza since the beginning of 2010.

On July 5, 2010, a list of controlled items for the Gaza Strip was published, which specifies all the items whose entry into Gaza requires special approval on an individual basis.

The list of controlled items is based solely on security considerations, chief among them the ability of terrorist organizations to use the items in terrorist activities and to develop, produce, or improve rockets and explosive charges whose purpose is to harm the citizens of the State of Israel.
Activities at the Land Crossings

- In 2010, there was a 28% increase in the number of truckloads that were transferred into the Gaza Strip. Following the Cabinet’s decision, there has been a 69% increase in the number of truckloads:

The daily average of truckloads in 2010 was 163, a 43% increase in comparison with the daily average of truckloads in 2009.

In 2010, 37,913 tons were transferred into Gaza, equivalent to an increase of 1% in comparison with 2009.

Since the beginning of the year, 599 private vehicles were transferred into Gaza.
In 2010, 17,924 patients and accompanying individuals were permitted to exit the Gaza Strip, equivalent to a 70% increase in comparison with 2009.

More than 50 Palestinians exited Gaza to attend medical conventions, in accordance with PA requests.
The transfer of medical equipment and medicine is conducted on the basis of the requests of the PA and the international community. Accordingly, 3,322 tons (456 truckloads) of medical equipment and medicine (including X-ray machines, CT scanners, and MRI scanners) were transferred into the Gaza Strip.

There was a 24% decrease in the number of truckloads of medical equipment and medicine whose entry into the Gaza Strip was coordinated by the PA and the international community.
Projects in the Field of Health

- Israel attaches great importance to the issue of health and therefore appealed to the UN to promote projects in this field.
- So far, 10 projects have been approved in the field of health.

4 UNRWA Projects
- Construction of a health Center in Nuseirat – project being implemented.
- Construction of the Jabalia Health Center – project being implemented.
- Construction and equipping of new health center in Saftawi.
- Reconstruction of Khan Yunis Health Center.

4 USAID Projects
- Renovation of "Right to Live" Society's building.
- Renovation of a health center - project being implemented.
- Renovation of Al Amal Hospital - project being implemented.
- Renovation of Al Ahli Hospital - project being implemented.

One AFD (France) Project
- Rehabilitation of Al Quds” Hospital - project being implemented.

One Project funded by Belgium
- Establishment of a cardiological wing in the European Hospital.
Economic Activity

During the year, 3,818 businessmen exited the Gaza Strip to Israel, the West Bank, and abroad, a development that was facilitated by the decision to expand the civil policy in June.

Funds:

- In 2010, over 807 million NIS was transferred to Gaza for the payment of wages and to fund the ongoing activities of international aid organizations and PA employees.
- In accordance with the PA’s requests, a total of 464 million NIS was transferred from banks in Gaza to banks in Israel and the West Bank.
- The transfer of National Insurance funds to beneficiaries began in October 2010. So far, more than 580 beneficiaries have received payments totaling one million NIS per month.
Ministry of Defence
Coordination of Government Activities in the Territories

Exports from the Gaza Strip

- The Defense Minister approved the exportation of strawberries and flowers from the Gaza Strip to European markets. In this context, 152 tons of strawberries (73 truckloads) and 368,208 flowers (17 truckloads) have been exported from Gaza since the beginning of the season.
- Following the Cabinet decision to gradually broaden exports from Gaza to European markets, the export of peppers was permitted on December 26. One ton has been exported so far.

Agriculture

- During the year 2010, 26,022 tons (1,458 truckloads) of inputs for agriculture were coordinated into the Gaza Strip, an 87% increase in comparison with the year 2009:

![Bar chart showing inputs for agriculture coordinated into the Gaza Strip during 2010 (in truckloads)]
Agriculture

In accordance with the PA’s request, Israel helped farmers in the Gaza Strip deal with the "Tuta Absoluta" virus, which was discovered there.

Throughout the year, professionals from Gaza attended professional seminars and conferences in Israel. In this context:

- 30 farmers participated in an agricultural exhibition at Yair Farm in the Arava region;
- 19 cultivators of flowers from the Gaza Strip went on a professional tour to Beit Dagan;
- 30 farmers participated in a professional workshop on growing strawberries.

13 agricultural projects were approved.

8 USAID Projects

Agricultural development – project completed.
Agricultural land rehabilitation – project completed.
Construction of 400 greenhouse units – project being implemented.
Construction of 600 greenhouse units - project being implemented.
Greenhouse repairs – project being implemented.
Greenhouse rehabilitation.
Construction of a cooling house – project was cancelled by the organization.
Construction of a chicken coop - project was cancelled by the organization.

5 UNDP Projects

100 strawberry packing rooms (2 projects).
Agricultural land rehabilitation.
Agricultural wells rehabilitation.
Rehabilitation of chicken coops and sheep pens.
Economic Indicators

  - Gaza’s GDP increased consistently throughout 2010. The GDP in the third quarter was 11.5% higher than the GDP in the first quarter.
  - The average GDP in the first three quarters of 2010 was 367 million dollars.

![Graph showing the GDP of the Gaza Strip in 2010: 350, 361, and 390 million dollars for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarters respectively.]()

- There was an 8% increase in per capita GDP in the Gaza Strip in the first three quarters of 2010.
- In 2010, there was a 0.9% decrease in unemployment in comparison with 2009.
- According to an IMF report, the economy in the Gaza Strip grew by 16% in the first half of 2010.
International Community Activity

- 607 diplomatic delegations visited the Gaza Strip in 2010, an increase of 44% in comparison with 2009.
- Over 177,000 individual crossings by international organization employees were registered at Erez Crossing in 2010.
- In 2010, 227 students who received scholarships exited Gaza for academic studies abroad.

In 2010, senior officials visited the Gaza Strip in order to evaluate firsthand the humanitarian situation and the implementation of the civil policy. Those who visited the crossings included: the EU’s Foreign Minister, Catherine Ashton; the Quartet’s Middle East Envoy, Sir Tony Blair; US Special Envoy Senator George Mitchell; and the Foreign Ministers of Germany, Italy, Norway, Finland, and Malta.

Four projects for international organization facilities were approved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3 UNRWA Projects</th>
<th>Construction of the last floor of the UNRWA emergency building GFO – project being implemented. Construction of offices in the UNRWA warehouse in Rafah. Renovations to the UNRWA staff building in Gaza.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One AFD (France) Project</td>
<td>Construction of a cultural center.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Two projects were approved in other areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One USAID Project</th>
<th>Rehabilitation of the Al Badr Flour Mill – project completed.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One UNDP Project</td>
<td>Entry of Point of Sale (POS) devices – project completed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Goods brought into the Gaza Strip by international organizations amounted to 8% (3,281 truckloads) of the total of goods that were transferred in 2010, a 56% decrease in comparison with 2009.

The field hospital operated by the Jordanian army in Gaza has continued functioning since Operation Cast Lead. The replacement of staff and equipment was coordinated in accordance with the requests of the Jordanian government.

Every month, UNRWA transferred $13.5 million for the payment of wages and to fund ongoing activities.

Four welfare projects were approved.

4 USAID Projects

Supply of materials for Palestinian welfare societies – project completed.


120 psychological workshops for women – project completed.

Sewing of school uniforms, distribution of food, repair of damaged houses – project being implemented.
Projects in the Field of Education

Israel attaches great importance to projects in the field of education.

So far, 30 projects have been approved, providing among other things for the construction of 13 UNRWA schools.

21 UNRWA Projects
- Entry of materials for UNRWA summer camps – project completed.
- Entry of caravans that will be used as UNRWA classrooms – project completed.
- Construction of 6 schools – projects are being implemented.
- Expansion of 3 UNRWA schools, overall addition of 16 classrooms – projects are being implemented.
- Completion of the Community Center in Khan Yunis.
- Construction of a kindergarten in Beit Hanun – project being implemented.
- Construction of 7 schools by UNRWA.
- Establishment of a library by UNRWA.

9 USAID Projects
- Renovation of 9 kindergartens – project completed.
- Entry of 150 notebook computers for educational institutions – project completed.
- Renovation of 8 special education classrooms – project completed.
- Renovation of a library – project being implemented.
- Renovation of Arab Orthodox Cultural Club - project being implemented.
- 4 projects for the renovation of 8 kindergartens and 4 community centers – projects were cancelled by the organization.
Housing Projects

Eight housing projects were approved, in which a total of 607 housing units will be built.

- **6 UNRWA Projects**
  - Construction of 151 housing units in Khan Yunis – project completed.
  - Construction of 12 housing units in Deir el Balah – project being implemented.
  - Construction of 8 housing units in Khan Yunis – project being implemented.
  - Construction of 8 housing units in Rafah – project being implemented.
  - Construction of 223 housing units in Khan Yunis.

- **One UNDP Project**
  - Construction of 200 housing units in Khan Yunis.

- **One Project funded by Egypt**
  - Entry of caravans.
Civil Infrastructure

**Water and Sewage**

- Throughout 2010, Israel maintained a supply of 5 billion liters of water to the Gaza Strip.
- Over the course of the year, 321 truckloads of equipment for water and sewage networks were transferred to the Gaza Strip.
- 4,136 tons of hypochlorite were transferred to Gaza for the purification of drinking water (128 truckloads).
- Israel supported the travel of Palestinian Water Authority representatives to conferences, meetings, and tours in order to promote the improvement of the water economy in the Gaza Strip.
- Projects – so far 28 projects in the fields of water and sewage were approved.
  - 12 water projects were approved-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4USAID Projects</th>
<th>Installation of two main pipelines for two areas in Khan Yunis.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Construction of a water reservoir and a booster station in Khan Yunis.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Digging of a water well – project was cancelled by the organization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rehabilitation of a rainwater reservoir – project was cancelled by the organization.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7 UNDP Projects</th>
<th>Supplying pumps to water wells.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 bridge rehabilitation projects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Construction of Deir Al Balah seawater desalination plant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Establishment of a laboratory for monitoring the quality of the water supply in the Gaza Strip.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| One World Bank Project | Water well project in Rafah – project completed. |
Water and Sewage

- 16 sewage projects were approved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 USAID Projects</td>
<td>6 wastewater network installation projects. Rehabilitation of a wastewater pumping station in Beit Lahia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One UNDP Project</td>
<td>Establishment of a wastewater purification facility in Khan Yunis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 UNRWA Projects</td>
<td>Upgrade of the sewage pumping station in Tel Sultan – project completed. Two projects for the completion of drainage and sewage networks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 World Bank Projects</td>
<td>Completion of a sewage pumping project – project completed. Establishment of a wastewater purification facility in northern Gaza (Stage B) – project being implemented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 ICRC Projects</td>
<td>Upgrade of the wastewater purification facility in Rafah – project completed. Upgrade of the wastewater purification facility in Khan Yunis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One KFW Project</td>
<td>Upgrade of the wastewater purification facility in Sheikh Ijleen – project being implemented.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Telecommunications

In the course of 2010, 61 truckloads of equipment for telecommunications networks were transferred into the Gaza Strip. In this context, over 500,000 SIM cards and 1.5 million pre-paid cards were transferred into Gaza.

- Unclassified— 48
Electricity

Throughout the year, Israel maintained the supply of electricity to the Gaza Strip. Additionally, 83 truckloads of supplies for the maintenance of the electricity network in Gaza were transferred, including 16 truckloads of equipment for maintenance work carried out by Siemens on the Power Station.

The transfer of diesel for the Power Station was carried out according to PA requests. In 2010, there was a 36% decrease in the amount of diesel transferred to the Power Station due to an internal financial dispute between the PA and Hamas.

In 2010, 70,876,781 liters of diesel were transferred to the Power Station.

The transfer of diesel to the Power Station (in millions of liters).

![Transfer of Heavy-duty Diesel for the Power Plant (million liters)](chart)

Two projects were approved for the improvement of the electricity network in the Gaza Strip, and they will be implemented by the UNDP. The projects will increase the Power Station’s transmission capacity by 40 Mega Watts.
## Contact list

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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