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[Emblem]
State of Israel
Ministry of Defense

Coordination of Activities in the Territories		
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Tamuz	2	5774
June	30	2014

To Gisha – Advocate Naomi Hagar HaMo<u>ked: Center for the Defence of the Individual – Advocate Anat Gonen</u>

Re: <u>Clarifications regarding entry arrangements of Israelis to the Gaza Strip through the Erez Crossing</u>

- 1. Changes have been recently made in the procedure applied in the Erez Crossing to the entry into the Gaza Strip of Israelis who received the required permit for this purpose.
- 2. Please be advised that in our letter dated May 20, 2014, a *bona fide* mistake was made, of which we apologize. In order to set the record straight, the following are the updated guidelines concerning the procedure for the entry of Israelis into the Gaza Strip through the Erez Crossing (after receipt of the required DCO permit for this purpose according to prevailing policy).

Entry of Israelis into the Gaza Strip will be made possible as follows:

- 3. Identification before the Population and Immigration Authority's border inspection is required by the presentation of the following Israeli identification certificates:
 - a. <u>Passengers aged 16 and over</u>: by the presentation of an Israeli identification card, and a valid Israeli travelling certificate (passport/*laisser passer* etc.), if any was issued to him.

<u>Clarifications:</u> A passenger, who was issued with a travelling certificate in the past, is required to bring it and present it in the crossing, and his entry into the

Strip will not be permitted without it. A passenger who has not been issued with a travelling certificate will be identified by an identification card only. A passenger who was not issued with an identification card, will be identified by a travelling certificate.

b. Minors (up to the age of 16): only by the presentation of a valid travelling certificate (passport/*laisser passer* etc.)

<u>Clarification</u>: a minor who has never been issued with a travelling certificate is required to have such a certificate issued to him/her before his/her arrival to the crossing.

- 4. As a condition for receiving the permit and entering the Gaza Strip, passengers aged 16 and over are required to deposit, at the Erez Crossing, their Israeli identification card and Israeli travelling certificate (if any was issued to them), and minors are required to deposit their Israeli travelling certificate. The documents will be returned to the passengers upon their return and entry into Israel.
- 5. Unless and until otherwise notified, each Israeli, of all ages, wishing to enter Gaza must bring with him to the Erez Crossing two (2) up-to-date passport pictures.
- 6. It should be emphasized that difficulties or special problems which may arise as a result of the implementation of the above guidelines, especially in urgent humanitarian cases, or in cases in which there is an objective impediment preventing the issue of a travelling certificate, will be handled individually *vis-à-vis* DCO Gaza and the Population and Immigration Authority, and solutions will be provided, to the extent possible.
- 7. It is hereby clarified that as of July 30, 2014, and onwards, a deviation from the above guidelines will not be permitted. Therefore, the entire Israeli population wishing to enter Gaza is requested to make all necessary arrangements to obtain the required identification documents ahead of time, so as to avoid mishaps and distress at the crossing.
- 8. Nothing in the above said may derogate from any current requirement for the receipt of a permit or for the execution of any examination which may be required by the competent authorities at the crossing according to their procedures.
- 9. Sincerely,

(signed)

Elad Rachamim, Captain
Public Liaison Officer
Coordination of Government
Activities in the Territories