Date: 26 February 2012.  At: Tel Aviv.

Joint Declaration

1. In order to promote the economic development of the Palestinian Authority (PA), through expanded trade flows, while safeguarding the security of Israel, the Government of the Netherlands (GON), in a series of discussions with the Government of Israel (GOI), has reached the understanding that Israel will expedite the installation of a gantry scanner in the Kerem Shalom crossing, as this step will make the transfer of goods more efficient and increase trade.

2. The installation of the scanner will provide the capacity to scan an increased range of goods imported into Gaza, as well as all types of goods exported out of Gaza.

3. The GON has agreed, in coordination with the GOI and the PA, to donate, as a first step, a gantry scanner to the PA, with a five-year maintenance contract, which will be installed in the Allenby Bridge Crossing. The PA will be the owner of this scanner. This scanner, which will be state of the art and capable of scanning all cargo, including goods in containers, will support and greatly improve the process of transporting goods from the PA to Jordan and other countries.

4. The GOI will provide the needed infrastructure for the operation of the scanners.

5. The installation of the scanners with the Involvement of the GON and the Office of the Quartet Representative (OQR) is part of the ongoing effort to develop the private sector in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in particular.

6. The GON and OQR will work together with the GOI, the PA and the Government of Jordan, as fast and efficiently as possible, to finalize all necessary arrangements for the installation and operation of the scanner at the Allenby Bridge Crossing.
7. The cooperation between the GON, the OQR, the PA and the GOI, on installing advanced scanners, constitutes an important infrastructural development in the process of transporting goods from the West Bank and Gaza Strip to Jordan and other countries, as well as between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

8. The scanners will be operated by the relevant Israeli authorities, in order to maintain and ensure the security requirements of the GOI.

9. As part of the process, meetings will be held by the GON and the OQR with the parties in order to facilitate the conclusion of the relevant arrangements, as well as to promote the operation and effectiveness of the arrangements. These meetings will be conducted for a minimum of one year following completion of the installation and the start of operations.

10. This declaration will in no way prejudice future negotiations between the PA and the GOI on the operation of the Kerem Shalom and Allenby Bridge Crossings.

For the Government of Israel

Maj-Gen Eitan Dangot
COGAT

For the Government of Netherlands

Caspar Veldkamp
Ambassador