

-unclassified-

COGAT insignia

August 12, 2021

Re: Reduced travel via Erez Crossing as part of coronavirus measures and Operation Guardian of the Walls

1. As previously publicized, in order to reduce the spread of the coronavirus, a closure has been imposed on the Gaza Strip, and travel between Israel and the Gaza Strip has been reduced. Additionally, over the course of May, crossings between the State of Israel and the Gaza Strip were closed following Operation Guardian of the Walls. Accordingly, in light of current situation assessments and as part of the broad discretion given to the authorized officials on this matter, several exceptions have been put in place under which travel via Erez Crossing will be made possible:
 - A. Entry from the Gaza Strip into Israel, transit to the Judea and Samaria area and abroad:
 - i. **Medical treatment** – Entry applications from patients and accompanying persons from the Gaza Strip will be considered according to the terms of the criterion stipulated in the document entitled Unclassified Status of Authorizations for the Entry of Palestinians into Israel, their Passage between Judea and Samaria and the Gaza Strip and their Travel Abroad (hereinafter: the ‘Status of Authorizations’).
 - ii. **Return to the Judea and Samaria area** - Applications from Judea and Samaria residents located in the Gaza Strip to transit to the Judea and Samaria area. Applications will be considered according to the criteria applicable to this matter and the policy set forth in the ‘Status of Authorizations,’ and the protocols posted on the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT) website.
 - iii. **Travel abroad** –
 1. Applications by foreign nationals located in the Gaza Strip to return to their countries of origin. Applications will be considered according to the policy set forth in the ‘Status of Authorizations’ and the protocols posted on the COGAT website.
 2. Applications of Palestinian residents to exit abroad through Allenby Bridge, submitted in accordance with the criterion set forth in the ‘Status of Authorizations.’ Travel is conditioned upon proof of vaccination from a recognized coronavirus vaccine or proof of recovery. A resident who meets the criterion but has neither recovered nor been vaccinated, will be given a one-day permit as long as he presents a negative coronavirus test conducted within 72 hours of the date of entry.
 - iv. **Funeral** - Applications by Gaza residents to attend the funeral of a first-degree relative only (mother, father, brother/sister, husband/wife (married), children) for purposes of a funeral held in Israel or the Judea and Samaria area.
 - v. **Patient visits** - According to the criterion stipulated in the ‘Status of Authorizations,’ for a first-degree relative only.

- vi. **Embassy interviews** - According to the criterion stipulated in the 'Status of Authorizations.' Entrance to Israel is conditioned upon presentation of proof of vaccination for a recognized coronavirus vaccine or proof of recovery. A resident who has neither recovered nor been vaccinated will be given a one-day permit as long as he presents a negative coronavirus test conducted within 72 hours of the date of entry.
- vii. **Legal needs** - According to the relevant procedure set forth on the COGAT website.
- viii. **Wedding** - According to the criterion set forth in the 'Status of Authorizations.' Entrance to Israel is conditioned upon presentation of proof of vaccination for a recognized coronavirus vaccine or proof of recovery. A resident who has neither recovered nor been vaccinated will be given a one-day permit as long as he presents a negative coronavirus test conducted within 72 hours of the date of entry.

B. Entry from Israel to the Gaza Strip:

- i. **Split families** - According to the criterion stipulated in the 'Status of Authorizations' and the procedures posted on the COGAT website.
 - ii. **Funeral** - Applications by Israelis to attend the funeral of a first-degree relative only (mother, father, brother/sister, husband/wife (married), children).
 - iii. **Patient visits** - According to the criterion stipulated in the 'Status of Authorizations,' for a first-degree relative only.
 - iv. **Wedding** - According to the criterion set forth in the 'Status of Authorizations.' Entry into the Gaza Strip is conditioned upon presentation of proof of vaccination for a recognized coronavirus vaccine or proof of recovery. An Israeli who has neither recovered nor been vaccinated will be given a one-day permit as long as he presents a negative coronavirus test conducted within 72 hours of the date of entry.
 - v. **Return to the Gaza Strip** - Applications by Gaza Strip residents located abroad or in Judea and Samaria to return to the Gaza Strip. According to the criterion stipulated in the 'Status of Authorizations.'
2. Recall that Palestinian residents have no vested right to enter Israel, and Israelis have no vested right to enter the Gaza Strip.
 3. Note that according to the work protocols agreed upon with the Palestinian Authority, all entry applications by Palestinians from the Gaza Strip must be submitted to the Palestinian Civil Affairs Committee. The committee is the agency responsible for collecting applications made by Palestinian residents of Gaza and prioritizing their transfer to the Israeli side.
 4. Passage and transit in Israel will be subject to directives issued by the Ministry of Health.
 5. Entry applications are considered in accordance with required individual security screening stipulated by security officials and the Israel Police, as well as according to the security, political, and strategic interests of the State of Israel with respect to the applications. Applications must pass all administrative and procedural screening required by all relevant administrative authorities. Documents enclosed in support of applications are reviewed to determine authenticity and any need for further supporting documents.
 6. This document is written in the masculine voice for convenience only and is intended for men and women alike.