

Gaza District Coordination Office

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September 13, 2009

**To:**

**Executive-Director of Physicians for Human Rights – Israel, Ms. Hadas Ziv**  
**Executive-Director of Gisha: Legal Center for Freedom of Movement – Adv. Sari Bashi**

**Executive-Director of HaMoked: Center for the Defense of the Individual – Ms. Dalia Kerstein**

Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories – Brig.-Gen. (res.) Amos Gilad

**Re: Procedure for Handling Applications to Enter Israel from Palestinians – Clarification**

1. As you know, the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories' long-standing policy is that Israeli coordination and liaison officials' work will only be carried out in conjunction with authorized officials from the Palestinian Authority, as agreed in the Interim Agreement. This policy has also been approved by the High Court of Justice in its rulings (on this matter, see HCJ 5429/07 *Physicians for Human Rights – Israel et al. v. The Minister of Defense et al.*).
2. Recently, especially since the conclusion of Operation Cast Lead, applications relating to medical treatment in Israel, particularly emergency medical cases, have temporarily been processed even if sent directly to coordination officials, and not via the Palestinian Civil Affairs Committee, as is required.
3. **We hereby inform you** that as of September 15, 2009, all your applications regarding the entry of Palestinian residents of the Gaza Strip to Israeli territory should be directed, in accordance with the Interim Agreement, to the Palestinian Civil Affairs Committee. The Civil Affairs Committee is the body responsible for collecting and prioritizing the transfer of applications from Palestinian residents of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip to the Israeli authorities.
4. **Any individual applications to address issues related to Palestinians that are sent to the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories and/or the DCO, including requests to clarify the status of an applications or requests for updates, which according to the Interim Agreement lie within the authority of the Palestinian Civil Affairs Committee – will be forwarded to the Civil Affairs Committee.**

5. When the need arises to check if a particular application has been received by Israeli coordination officials, a request on the matter should be sent in writing, accompanied by a letter of approval from the Palestinian Civil Affairs Committee stating that the request was received and referred to the Israeli side. For information on the status of an application or to receive updates, the Palestinian Civil Affairs Committee should be approached.
6. All matters relating to applications to appeal a decision made regarding a resident should also be referred to the Palestinian Civil Affairs Committee, and it will forward the request for reconsideration to the Israeli side, along with the reasons for the request.
7. You are kindly requested to carefully follow the existing procedure, which is designed to serve the Palestinian population of the Gaza Strip.
8. Best wishes for a happy New Year,

**Col. Moshe Levi**  
**Head of the District Coordination Office**  
**Gaza**