



## OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

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## Protection of Civilians Weekly Report

### 20 – 26 February 2008

#### Of note this week

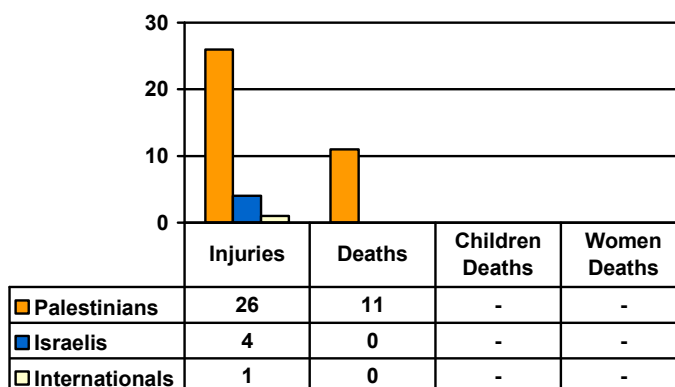
##### Gaza Strip:

- Eleven Palestinians, including three who were on picnic east of Beit Hanun, were killed and five injured by the IDF.
- Six demonstrations and two sit-ins took place in various parts of the Gaza Strip, including five to protest against the siege.
- The IDF carried out three levelling and excavation operations in the Central Gaza and Rafah governorates.
- The Palestinian Popular Committee against the Siege organised a human chain of about 13,000 people on 25 February to protest against the siege imposed on the Gaza Strip. The chain extended from Rafah to Beit Hanun along Salah Ed-Din road.
- 42 rockets and 26 mortars were fired towards Israel, resulting in the injury of one Israeli woman and two children.

##### West Bank:

- Twenty-one Palestinians were injured by the IDF, all in the northern West Bank.
- **22 February:** A prisoner affiliated with Hamas died while in PA custody. The PA claimed that the prisoner died of an underlying medical condition (Ramallah).
- **21 February:** Seventeen gas stations in Bethlehem Governorate closed down to protest against a decision by the Israeli authorities to transfer the fuel filling point from the village of Al Khader (Bethlehem) to Tarqumiya (Hebron).
- The IDF distributed 12 orders for the demolition of houses and other structures in the Qalqiliya governorate. In addition, the IDF occupied five houses in the Nablus, Bethlehem and Hebron governorates.
- The IDF handed over a confiscation and closure order stating that the Islamic Charitable Society in Hebron City is an illegal organisation affiliated with Hamas and stipulating the confiscation of the contents and land of a number of establishments owned by the Society (including shops, warehouses and a school under construction) in Hebron City as well as their closure for three years to be effective on 1 April 2008.
- **23 February:** The IDF issued military order number (T/183/5) for the requisition of 766 dunums of land from the towns of Dura, Adh Dhahiriya and Ar Ramadeen for the purpose of Barrier construction. 2,400 additional dunums will be isolated behind the Barrier.
- 22 curfew hours, 83 flying checkpoints, 105 IDF search operations and 121 arrests were reported.

#### Palestinian and Israeli conflict related casualties:<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Excluding Palestinian-Palestinian internal violence and other 'indirect' conflict related incidents reported in Section 2.

## 1. Physical Protection – conflict related casualties

### Gaza Strip:

- **22 February:** Two Palestinians (aged 24 and 33 years; Islamic Jihad members) were killed and another one was injured when an IAF helicopter fired two missiles targeting a group of armed Islamic Jihad members northeast of Al Maghazi Camp. Armed Hamas members who were in the area responded by firing Heavy Machine Gun (HMG) fire towards the helicopter (Central Gaza).
- **23 February:** Three Palestinians (aged 20, 20 and 22 years; bystanders) were killed while on a picnic in an open field and having lunch with friends when IDF soldiers stationed at the border fence fired one ground-to-ground missile targeting Nazzaz area east of Beit Hanun (North Gaza).
- **25 February:** According to Israel media reports, one Israeli woman and two children were injured by rockets fired from north of Beit Hanun on Sderot. The rockets struck a house, an underground shelter and the vicinity of a school (Israel).
- **25 February:** A 21-year-old armed Hamas member was killed and another one was injured when an IAF helicopter fired two missiles at a group of Hamas members east of Shuja'iyeh quarter in Gaza City (Gaza).
- **25 February:** Two armed Palestinians (aged 20 and 21 years; Hamas members) were killed and another two were injured when an IAF aircraft fired three missiles targeting a group of Hamas members east of Khuza'a (Khan Younis).
- **24 February:** A 22-year-old Palestinian man (member of the Palestinian Resistance Committees, PRC) was shot and killed in an exchange fire with the IDF after four IDF tanks and two bulldozers entered inside Al Jaradat area east of Rafah. The bulldozers conducted levelling and excavating operations and opened fire after armed Hamas members fired nine mortar shells at the IDF. The body was found on **25 February** inside Al Jaradat area after the IDF withdrew from the area to Kerem Shalom military base. According to Israeli media reports, the IDF discovered and demolished five tunnels in Al Jaradat area (Rafah).
- **26 February:** An armed Palestinian man was killed and another one was injured when IDF soldiers stationed at the border fence northeast of Al Bureij Camp opened fire targeting a group of Islamic Jihad members who were attempting to plant an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) near the border fence (Central Gaza).
- **26 February:** A 31-year-old Palestinian man was killed by live ammunition when IDF soldiers stationed at Kissufim military base opened fire towards an open area in Al Qarrara east of Khan Younis (Khan Younis).

### Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **21 February:** An IAF aircraft fired a missile towards an open area in Beit Hanun. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **21 February:** Israeli patrol boats opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats west of Beach Camp, forcing them to return to shore. No injuries were reported (Gaza).
- **21 February:** Armed Palestinians fired two Rocket Propelled Grenades (RPGs) at an IDF jeep passing along the border fence east of Al Maghazi Camp. The IDF responded with heavy shooting. No injuries were reported (Central Gaza).
- **21 February:** Armed Palestinians fired two mortar shells from east of Deir El Balah town towards Israel. The IDF responded with heavy shooting. No injuries were reported (Central Gaza).
- **21 February:** Six IDF tanks and two bulldozers moved out from Kerem Shalom military base and entered approximately 1.5 kilometres into Gaza. The tanks were deployed inside and around the Gaza international airport east of Rafah. Armed Palestinians exchanged fire with the IDF and fired five mortar shells. The IDF responded with heavy shooting. No injuries were reported (Rafah).
- **21 February:** Approximately 500 Hamas supporters, mainly women, demonstrated in front of PLC building in Gaza City to protest against the Israeli court trial of the head of the Palestinian Legislative Council (Dr. Azziz Dweik). The demonstration ended peacefully (Gaza).
- **22 February:** IDF patrol boats fired sound bombs and HMG fire towards Palestinian fishing boats across the sea west of Beit Lahiya, forcing them to return to the shore. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **22 February:** IDF tanks stationed at the border line east of Deir El Balah detonated a roadside bomb in an open area. No injuries were reported (Central Gaza).
- **22 February:** IDF soldiers stationed at the border line east of Khan Younis detonated a roadside bomb south of Kissufim military base (Khan Younis).

- **23 February:** Five members of the Palestinian Popular Committee against the siege organised a demonstration in Gaza City to protest against the siege imposed on the Gaza Strip. The demonstrators proceeded from Al-Azhar Park and proceeded to UNSCO building where they handed over a letter addressed to the UN Secretary General. The demonstration ended peacefully at 1110 hours (Gaza).
- **23 February:** The Muslim Youth Women Association organised a demonstration in front of the PLC building in Gaza City to protest against the siege imposed on the Gaza Strip. Approximately 5,000 women participated. At 1400 hours it ended peacefully (Gaza).
- **24 February:** The Palestinian Popular Committee against the siege of Gaza organised a sit-in at the Unknown Soldier Park demanding that the siege imposed on Gaza Strip be lifted. Concurrently, approximately 20 Palestinians staged a sit-in at the Unknown Soldier Park to protest against the non-issuance of Palestinian identification cards. At 1230 hours the sit-in ended peacefully (Gaza).
- **24 February:** Four rockets were fired from east of Sheikh Zayed City towards Sderot, two of which hit three Palestinian houses in Beit Hanoun. In response, the IDF fired two ground-to-ground missiles targeting the area from which the rockets had been fired. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **24 February:** An IAF aircraft fired a missile targeting an area east of Sheikh Zayed City. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **25 February:** Several IDF armoured vehicles and bulldozers entered the former Erez Industrial Zone. At 2000 hours the IDF withdrew to the border line (North Gaza).
- **25 February:** Five rockets were fired from north of Beit Hanun towards Sderot, three of which exploded prematurely at the launch site. The IDF fired one shell targeting the rockets' launching site. According to Israeli media reports, two rockets were fired from the northern Gaza Strip and landed in open areas in the Western Negev. The military wing of the Palestinian Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) claimed responsibility (North Gaza).
- **25 February:** Armed Palestinians fired two rockets from north of Beit Hanun towards Sderot. According to Israeli media reports, two rockets were fired from northern Gaza and landed in an open area outside of Sderot. No injuries or damage were reported. The PRC claimed responsibility (North Gaza).
- **25 February:** Armed Palestinians fired one rocket from east of Sheikh Zayed City northeast of Beit Lahiya towards Sderot. According to Israeli media reports, a rocket fired from the northern Gaza Strip landed in Sderot industrial zone. Al Mojahideen Brigades claimed responsibility (North Gaza).

#### West Bank:

- **20 February:** A 14-year-old Palestinian boy was physically assaulted in the Israeli DCO compound in Tulkarm after the IDF surrounded his father's café and arrested 15 Palestinians during a search and arrest campaign (Tulkarm).
- **21 February:** A 17-year-old Palestinian boy was injured in Beita village by rubber-coated metal bullets in confrontations between the IDF and Palestinian stone throwers during an IDF search and arrest operation (Nablus).
- **22 February:** A 22-year-old Palestinian man was injured near Sanur village by live ammunition fired by the IDF while he was working in his land near the evacuated Sanur military base (Jenin).
- **22 February:** Twelve Palestinians (aged 12, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23(2), 24, 26, 27, 30 and 39 years) were injured in Kifl Haris village by rubber-coated metal bullets when the IDF fired at Palestinians demonstrating near the village's main entrance to protest against the closure of the entrance with road blocks since 27 November 2007 (Salfit).
- **22 February:** A Palestinian with Israeli citizenship was physically assaulted by Israeli settlers on Road 60 near Yitzhar settlement (Nablus).
- **22 February:** a 47-year-old American male activist was injured in the head with a tear gas canister shot at him by IDF soldiers during the weekly demonstration held by Palestinian, Israeli and international activists in Bil'in village to protest against Barrier construction on the village land. Cases of Asphyxia between the demonstrators were also reported. In addition, one IDF soldier was injured by stone throwing (Ramallah).
- **23 February:** A 21-year-old Palestinian man was injured by live ammunition fired by the IDF while he was herding his animals near Izbizq village (Tubas).
- **23 February:** Five Palestinians were injured in Camp No.1 during an IDF search and arrest campaign; two women (aged 19 and 21 years) were injured by shrapnel when the IDF used an explosive to open the main entrance of their house to arrest their brother and a 50-year-old woman was injured by shrapnel as a bystander. The remaining two were boys injured in a confrontation between the IDF and Palestinian stone throwers—an 11-year-old boy was injured by shrapnel and a 17-year-old by live ammunition (Nablus).

Other incidents (not involving casualties/damage):

- **21 February:** Palestinians and international protestors held a sit-in to protest against the order to demolish 'Azzun municipal Park. The park was built by UNDP through donation from USAID (Qalqiliya).
- **21 February:** Seventeen gas stations in Bethlehem Governorate closed down to protest against a decision by the Israeli authorities to transfer the fuel filling point from the village of Al Khader (Bethlehem) to Tarqumiya (Hebron).
- **23 February:** Palestinians threw a Molotov cocktail at an Israeli bus travelling northeast of Ramallah. No injuries or damage were reported (Ramallah).

**2. Physical Protection – other incidents involving casualties<sup>2</sup>****Gaza Strip:**

- **20 February:** A 17-year-old Palestinian man (Islamic Jihad member) reportedly shot and injured himself by accident while handling his weapon in Rafah (Rafah).
- **20 February:** Three Palestinians (family members) were injured during a feud between two families in Rafah town. Members of the two families threw stones at each other, before the arrival of the police who made several arrests and brought the situation under control (Rafah).
- **21 February:** Two Palestinian school guards were beaten and injured by unknown gunmen when they broke into the Baptist school (Al Manara School) located inside the former Baptist hospital next to Ahli Arab Hospital. The gunmen escaped (Gaza).
- **26 February:** A Palestinian man was injured during an exchange of gunfire which took place when members of a local family tried to prevent a group of Hamas members from firing rockets near their family house east of Jabaliya (North Gaza).

Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **22 February:** Approximately 100 children demonstrated at El Nijma Square in Rafah against the republishing of the Danish cartoons of Prophet Mohammed. They asked Arab governments to cut their ties with the Danish government. The demonstration ended peacefully at 1015 hours (Rafah).
- **23 February:** Hamas organised demonstration in Al Bureij Camp to protest against the killing of a Hamas activist in a PA jail in Ramallah. Approximately 2,000 - 2,500 people participated in the demonstration, which ended peacefully at 2025 hours (Central Gaza).
- **23 February:** A Hamas delegation crossed Rafah crossing heading to El Arish City in Egypt to discuss with the Egyptian authorities the closure of Rafah crossing and the situation of the kidnapped IDF soldier. The delegation returned to Gaza at 1900 hours (Rafah).
- **23 February:** Hamas and Fatah El Yaser organised a demonstration in Rafah to protest against the siege imposed on Gaza and the republishing of the Danish cartoons of Prophet Mohammed. The demonstration ended at 1830 hours (Rafah).
- **24 February:** Police members broke into the Prisoners' Association in Deir El Balah and confiscated official documents and furniture (Central Gaza).

**West Bank:**Other incidents (not involving casualties/damage):

- **21 February:** Unknown armed persons opened fire in the direction of the German and Egyptian Representative offices in Ramallah City, causing minor damage to their premises. The Palestinian Police is currently investigating the incidents (Ramallah).
- **25 February:** Unknown persons shot at one of the guards deployed at the residence of the Minister of Agriculture and Social Affairs in Ramallah City. No injuries or damage were reported (Ramallah).

**Inter-factional violence****Gaza Strip:**

No incidents to report.

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<sup>2</sup> Casualties recorded in this section relate to Palestinian inter-factional fighting, family and community disputes, reckless use of weapons, and disputed incidents. Also reported in this section are casualties indirectly related to the conflict such as incidents involving Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), traffic accidents between Israeli and Palestinians in the oPt and deaths resulting from delay in receiving medical treatment at a checkpoint or during a military operation/curfew. These casualties are not recorded in the total in Section 1.

Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **20 February:** Unknown gunmen fired several bullets at the house of a Hamas leader whose house is located in Sabra area in Gaza City. His bodyguards responded by firing at the source of the fire. The attackers managed to escape. No injuries were reported (Gaza).
- **23 February:** The Hamas police attempted to arrest a member of Abu El Rish Brigades (affiliated with Fatah) in Gaza City who was wanted for opening fire at the police. The suspect escaped and no injuries were reported (Gaza).
- **24 February:** A Fatah member opened fire in the air during the funeral procession of a Palestinian man who was killed on 23 February due to IDF shelling. The police attempted to arrest him but he escaped (North Gaza).

**West Bank:**

- **22 February:** A prisoner affiliated with Hamas died while in PA custody. The PA claimed that the prisoner died of an underlying medical condition (Ramallah).

Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **22 – 25 February:** Palestinian Security Forces (PSF) in Ramallah have been on high alert following the death of a Palestinian prisoner affiliated with Hamas while in their custody (Ramallah).
- **24 February:** Clashes between the relatives of a prisoner affiliated with Hamas, who died while in PA custody on 22 February 2008, and the PSF took place in Ramallah City centre before the funeral that was scheduled for later in the day. No injuries or arrests were reported.

**3. Shelter and Property****Table 1: Structures Demolished/Damaged by the Israeli Authorities (IDF, Border Police, Civil Administration...etc) and Israeli Settlers**

Date	Location, Governorate	Structures demolished	Structures damaged	People displaced	People affected
26/02/2008	Al Hadidiya, Tubas	0	2+	0	N/A
<b>Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>2+</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>N/A</b>

**26 February:** Four IDF soldiers walked from Ro'i settlement into Al Hadidiya community, entered Palestinian shelters and damaged their contents. Community residents report having experienced this damage by the IDF for the second time in two weeks (Tubas).

Other incidents (not involving demolitions/property damage):

**20 February:** The IDF handed two orders for the demolition of two houses in Qalqiliya City due to the lack of building permit. The houses are located in Area C (Qalqiliya).

**20 February:** The IDF handed an order for the demolition of an animal pen in Wadi Qana due to the lack of building permit. The animal pen is located Area C (Qalqiliya).

**20 February:** The IDF handed four orders for the demolition of four zinc houses in 'Arab ar Ramadin ash Shamali west of the Barrier due to the lack of building permit. The zinc houses are located in Area C (Qalqiliya).

**20 February:** The IDF occupied a four-storey house in Nablus City for 15 hours and converted it into an observation post. The 22 residents of the house were held in one room. The same house was occupied for 10 hours on 14 February (Nablus).

**21 February:** The IDF occupied two houses in Nahaleen village for six hours (Bethlehem).

**22 February:** The IDF raided several establishments owned by the Islamic Charitable Society (Al Jamiya Al Khairiya Al Islamiya) in Hebron City and confiscated two buses, files, computers and other equipment. The establishments include a school under construction (Al Huda school), Al Huda market building, the society's warehouses and bakeries. The IDF handed over a confiscation and closure order (copy available at OCHA) stating that the Islamic Charitable Society is an illegal organisation affiliated with Hamas and stipulating the confiscation of contents of all targeted structures as well as their closure for three years to be effective on 1 April 2008. According to the order, the ownership of targeted establishments will be transferred to the IDF which will then "be entitled to remove the existing infrastructure and carry out any other action deemed necessary." In addition, "any person who enters, stays in, or uses the aforementioned establishments for any reason will be subject to five years in prison and his/her action will constitute a confession of working for Hamas." (Hebron).

**22 February:** The IDF raided the administrative offices of the Muslim Youth Society's Boys school in Hebron City and confiscated computers, furniture, files and two buses (Hebron).

**26 February:** The IDF handed five orders for the demolition of two houses and extensions (rooms) to three residential structures in Umar Rikhan village west of the Barrier due to the lack of building permit. The structures are located in Area C (Qalqiliya).

**26 February:** IDF soldiers occupied two houses in the town of Beit Ummar for four hours (Hebron).

Ongoing incidents (not involving demolitions/property damage):

No incidents to report.

**Internal Violence Incidents Affecting Shelter and Property:**

**26 February:** Stray bullets hit an empty classroom in UNRWA Deir El Balah Elementary school during a Hamas military training, damaging the door and a desk. No injuries were reported (Central Gaza).

## 4. Natural Resources

### **Land levelling/Requisitions/Tree Uprooting<sup>3</sup>**

#### **Nablus, Jenin, Tubas, Tulkarm, Qalqiliya and Salfit Governorates:**

No incidents to report.

#### **Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
  - **As of 6 November:** Barrier construction has totally stopped in the Ramallah governorate, including construction on 'Abud land to encircle Beit Arye and Ofarim settlements—as part of the extension of the “Ariel finger.” According to the DCL officer in Ramallah, the decision was made due to technical reasons at the Ministry of Defence.
  - Barrier construction on Palestinian land extending between Rantis (northwest of Ramallah governorate) and Beit Nuba (southwest of Ramallah governorate) is complete, except for Al Midya-Ni'lin section.
  - Barrier construction between Al Midya and Ni'lin has stopped pending a decision by the Israeli High Court of Justice based on appeals submitted by Ni'lin village residents and Hashmon'im settlers (each side is demanding that the barrier be pushed closer to the other side).
- Construction of four “fabric of life” roads, which is part of a Gol plan to build roads for Palestinians as an alternative to main roads now inaccessible due to closures and Barrier construction:
  - Construction continues at a fast pace of a new road between Rantis and Shuqba, parallel to bypass Road 465.
  - Construction of a road between Beit Liqya and Beit 'Anan has been completed and is now operational.
  - Construction continues of an underpass road between Beit 'Ur al Fauqa and Tira under Road 443. The construction is in its final stages.

#### **Jericho Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

#### **Jerusalem Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
  - Construction continues along the projected route in the Jerusalem governorate. Exceptions to this are northeast of Al 'Eizariya towards Ma'ale Adummim settlement. Construction has been stopped along a 3-km stretch of the Barrier south of Ma'ale Adummim and Kedar since 3 March 2006 pending an appeal filed by a few Bedouin families who would be displaced if construction continues.
  - Construction of the Barrier between the neighborhoods of Ar Ram and Dahiyat Al Bareed remains incomplete. One detour route for pedestrian and vehicular traffic continues to connect these two neighbourhoods, but when the Barrier is completed, the Dahiyat Al Bareed neighbourhood will

<sup>3</sup> 4 dunums = 1 acre; 10 dunums = 1 hectare



- be separated from Ar Ram and the rest of the West Bank. The iron gate between Ar Ram and Dahiyat Al Bareed remained closed during the week for all pedestrian and vehicular traffic. The gate is planned to be used only by Israeli security patrol vehicles.
- The construction of a road barrier continues on Road 1 east of Az Za'ayem.
- Since **26 November 2007**, Barrier construction has been halted between Al Jib and An Nabi Samwil villages due to budget constraints.
- Construction of an Israeli police station (two large buildings) in E1 is ongoing. E1, or East 1, is an area north of Ma'ale Adummim and Road 1. Major infrastructure work is being carried out on the hill around the two buildings in preparation for building the roads that will lead to the police station.
- A new "fabric of life" road between Anata and Az Za'ayim (Road 70) is in the final construction stage to allow Palestinians to enter and exit Az Za'ayim without using the entrance lane off Road 1 near Za'ayim checkpoint.

#### **Bethlehem Governorate:**

##### Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
  - The Barrier contractor halted the installation of 12-meters-high concrete blocks along the eastern side of Road 60 to the south of the Tunnel checkpoint but building of the patrol road along this section was started.
  - The Barrier contractor halted the installation of 8-meters-high concrete blocks along Road 60 between Al Khadr Tunnel and Al Nashash (southern entrance of Bethlehem City).
  - The Barrier contractor suspended land levelling and asphaltting the section of the Barrier to the east of Efrat Settlement.
  - Land levelling and installation of 12-meters-high concrete blocks was suspended in the Barrier section between the two tunnels.
  - Land levelling for the construction of the Barrier was suspended around the Israeli settlement of Har Gilo.
- Land levelling for the construction of Al Khadr Tunnel was suspended during the reporting period. This tunnel will be the only access point for the Palestinian towns within the proposed Gush Ezion enclave.
- Construction of buildings for new crossing continued next to Al Jab'a checkpoint.
- Land leveling and installation of new buildings at An Nu'man crossing is ongoing.
- Land leveling and construction of new buildings is taking place in Betar Ilit, Elizar, Allon Shevut and Efrat settlements.

#### **Hebron Governorate:**

**23 February:** The IDF issued military order number (T/183/5) calling for the requisition of 766 dunums of lands from the towns of Dura, Adh Dhahiriya and Ar Ramadeen for the purpose of Barrier construction. 2,400 additional dunums will be isolated behind the Barrier.

##### Ongoing incidents:

- Construction of a building continued next to Beit Yatir checkpoint.
- Pavement of roads and construction of new buildings continued west of Tarqumiya checkpoint.
- Construction of new buildings continued in Karmil, Susyia, Kiryat Arb'a and Shani settlements.
- Land leveling for building a new road – parallel to Road 60 between Shim'a settlement and Metar checkpoint – continued during the reporting period.

#### **Gaza Strip:**

- **21 February:** Six IDF tanks and four bulldozers entered approximately 300 metres into the Palestinian Johr Ed-Dik area north of Al Bureij Camp. The bulldozers conducted levelling and excavation operations. The IDF carried out sporadic shooting. No injuries were reported. At 1645 hours the IDF tanks and bulldozers withdrew to the border line (Central Gaza).
- **22 February:** Four IDF tanks and two bulldozers moved from Sufa crossing and entered approximately 500 metres into Al Shouka area east of Rafah. The tanks provided covering fire while the bulldozers conducted excavation and levelling operations. The IDF withdrew to the border at 1700 hours (Rafah).
- **24 February:** Four IDF tanks and two bulldozers moved from Sufa crossing 1 kilometre into Al Jaradat area east of Rafah. The bulldozers conducted levelling and excavating operations. At 1515 hours Hamas members fired nine mortar shells at the IDF soldiers.

The tanks responded with heavy shooting. No injuries were reported. At 2000 hours the IDF withdrew to Kerem Shalom military base. According to Israeli media reports, the IDF discovered and demolished five tunnels in Al Jaradat area (Rafah).

## 5. Access and Movement for Civilians

### a) *Incidents of curfews*

**Table 2: Incidents of Curfew Imposed by the IDF**

Date	Location, Governorate	Duration
21 February 2008	Beita, Nablus	13 hours
25 February 2008	Qatanna, Jerusalem	9 hours
<b>Total Week</b>		<b>22 hours</b>

**21 February:** The IDF imposed curfew on Beita village for 13 hours from (0100—1400 hours), after Palestinians allegedly opened fire at an Israeli settler's bus travelling on Road 60 en route to Israeli settlements (Nablus).

**25 February:** The IDF imposed curfew on Qatanna village for 9 hours (0100—1000 hours) whilst conducting a major search operation in the village. IDF soldiers entered several houses, causing damage to their contents. The IDF also fired live ammunition and tear gas at village residents who gathered to protest the operation. No injuries were reported. Thirty Palestinian males were arrested (Jerusalem).

Ongoing incidents:

- **17 May to date:** Palestinians living in Gaza Strip areas (northeast of Beit Hanun and north, and northwest of Beit Lahiya) continue to maintain a self-imposed curfew after dark due to IDF military operations.

### b) *Access to education*

- **21 February:** UNRWA Al Shouka Elementary School was evacuated as a result of the IDF incursion into Rafah. At 1130 hours armed clashes erupted between the IDF and armed Islamic Jihad members; bullets fired struck the school breaking five window panes. At 1330 hours the IDF withdrew to the border fence (Rafah).
- **23 February:** UNRWA school teachers, head teachers and supervisors organised a sit-in inside UNRWA schools to protest against the siege imposed on the Gaza Strip between 1100 and 1140 hours and between 1530 and 1610 hours (Gaza).
- **25 February:** Fifteen UNRWA schools (in the southern and central Gaza Strip, Gaza City and Beit Hanoun) experienced disruptions due to demonstrations against the siege on Salah Ed-Din Road (Gaza).
- **During the reporting period:** the IDF and Israeli Police escorting Palestinian students to and from their elementary school in At Tuwani (south Hebron) to their homes in Tuba and Magyar Al Abid came on schedule to escort the children from and to the school in At Twani. The escort has been provided since 2004 to protect the students from attacks by Israeli settlers from the Ma'on settlement. It needs to be noted that the escort decision indicated that the soldiers must be walking with the children. The soldiers, however, usually stay in the jeep while the students walk alone in front of the IDF jeep (Hebron).

### c) *Access to employment*

- **During the reporting period:** Palestinian workers from the Governorate of Hebron holding valid permits to work in Israel were present in the early morning hours in front of the Meitar checkpoint, located south of the town of Adh Dhahiriya (Hebron), in order to reach their work places inside Israel on time. This checkpoint is the only checkpoint in the Governorate of Hebron that can be used by Palestinian workers to reach their work places inside Israel. It is manned by the Israeli Border Police and checks are conducted using palm identification. Similarly, Palestinian workers from the Governorate of Bethlehem holding valid work permits were present in the early morning hours at Gilo checkpoint in order to cross and reach their work places inside Israel on schedule (Hebron and Bethlehem).

Ongoing incidents:

- **12 March 2006 to date:** Palestinian workers from the Gaza Strip have been prevented from entering Israel.
- In the West Bank, all Palestinians must apply to the Palestinian DCL offices in the Jerusalem peripheries to obtain Israeli permits. The criteria for people to be eligible for an Israeli permit are similar for both workers and traders; a Palestinian should be above 35 years of age, married with at least one child, and with no security file.



#### d) Closures/movement restrictions

##### Age Restrictions on Access

**5—25 February:** The IDF prevented Palestinian males aged 16 – 35 years who are residents of Jenin and Tulkarm from traveling southwards through Huwwara, Beit Iba, 'Awarta, Tappuah, Enav and Ar Ras checkpoints.

**14—25 February:** The IDF prevented Palestinian males aged 16 – 35 years who are residents of Jenin, Tulkarm and Nablus from traveling southwards through Deir Ballut checkpoint in Salfit.

**6 February to date:** The IDF continues to prevent Palestinian males from Jenin aged 16 - 35 years from crossing through Hamra and Tayasir checkpoints to access the northern Jordan Valley area.

##### Nablus Governorate:

**During the week:** delays and long queues were reported at Huwwara, Beit Iba and Tappuah checkpoints.

**24 February:** The IDF closed Huwwara checkpoint for two hours due to a security alert (Nablus).

Ongoing incidents:

- **29 October 2007 to date:** The IDF continues to close the southern entrance of Jamma'n village with road blocks. The closure was placed four days after a drive-by shooting incident on an adjacent road (Road 505).
- **29 October 2007 to date:** The IDF continues to close a gate connecting 'Asira Ash Shamaliya village with 'Asira Ash Shamaliya checkpoint, denying access through the checkpoint, including access to ambulances with emergency cases.
- **29 August 2007 to date:** The IDF continues to close 'Asira ash Shamaliya checkpoint, preventing access for all except ambulances with emergency cases (Nablus).
- **28 March 2007 to date:** The IDF continues to close Shave Shomron checkpoint for all Palestinians, ambulances, UN and international organisations (Nablus).

##### Jenin Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- **7 February 2008 to date:** The IDF continues to close three roads connecting Al Judeida with Sir, Tubas and Meithalun with earth mounds.
- **30 August 2006 to date:** The IDF have continued to allow 40 commercial trucks (with a freight load of under two tonnes) to transport food products into Barta'a enclave. A list with the plate numbers of the trucks is present at the checkpoint. Other materials require prior coordination.

##### Tubas Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- **6 February 2008 to date:** The IDF continues to close the main road connecting Tubas to Jenin with an earth mound. The closure was placed on the road segment between 'Aqqaba and Al Kufeir.

##### Tulkarm Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- **15 February 2008 to date:** The IDF continues to close the road connecting Shuweika to Iktaba village with an earth mound.
- **14 February 2008 to date:** The IDF continues to close the road connecting Beit lid and Kur village with an earth mound.
- **8 February 2008 to Date:** The IDF continues to close four roads connecting Bal'a with Road 57, 'Anabta, Deir al Ghusun and Iktaba with earth mounds.
- **5 February 2008 to date:** The IDF continues to close the road connecting Al Masqufa and Shuweika with an earth mound (Tulkarm).
- **12 December 2007 to date:** The IDF continues to close the road connecting Dhinnaba to Kafr al Labbad with an earth mound.

##### Qalqiliya Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- **9 February 2008 to date:** The IDF continues to close the northern entrance of 'Azzun with concrete blocks and an earth mound. The IDF also closed with earth mounds the road connecting 'Azzun with 'Asla and a dirt road connecting 'Azzun with Kafr Laqif, after stones were thrown at Israeli vehicles travelling on Road 55 en route to Israeli settlements.

- **18 May 2007 to date:** The IDF continues to close the road connecting Izbat at Tabib with 'Azzun village with an earth mound.
- **13 July 2007 to date:** IDF soldiers positioned at the partial checkpoint placed at the eastern entrance of Qalqiliya City (DCO) continue to prevent Palestinians with Israeli citizenship from entering Qalqiliya City.

#### **Salfit Governorate:**

**23 February:** Palestinians removed the five earth mounds that the IDF had placed since 6 February 2007 to close the road connecting Haris with Kifl Haris.

Ongoing incidents:

- **27 November 2007 to date:** The IDF continues to close the entrance of Kifl Haris with road blocks.
- The IDF continues to close the gate at the northern entrance of Kafr ad Dik.

#### **Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- **1 July 2007 to date** The road gate of At Tira (Ramallah) opens three times a day for half an hour each time. The gate is used by the residents travelling in Palestinian-plated taxis to enter/exit the village—only 11 Palestinian taxis were permitted to cross and travel on Road 443.

#### **Jericho Governorate/Jordan Valley:**

Ongoing incidents:

- **14 September 2006 to date:** The IDF has announced that only Palestinians with Jericho residency, Jerusalem ID-holders, and residents of Bethlehem and Hebron, would be able to exit via the DCO checkpoint, forcing all others to either request a permit or to travel on the Al Mu'arrajat old road to reach the rest of the West Bank. Palestinians employed by international organisations, humanitarian workers and residents of Abu Dis, Ash Sheikh Sa'd, Al 'Eizariya, Az Za'ayem and As Sawahira village are allowed to exit Jericho via the DCO checkpoint.
- **26 April 2007 to date:** Movement from the West Bank continues to be controlled through the four main checkpoints: Tayasir, Hamra, Ma'ale Efraim and Yitav. A personal permit is no longer required to enter the Jordan Valley for West Bank residents through Hamara and Tayasir checkpoints only. Access is only possible with public transportation as West Bank private vehicles continue to be prohibited from entering the Jordan Valley.
- **As of 2 January 2008:** The Dead Sea checkpoint was converted to a partial checkpoint. Palestinians and Palestinian plated vehicles are no longer prohibited from accessing the Dead Sea area. However, all Palestinians and their vehicles have been denied access by the Israeli Border Police whenever the checkpoint is manned, particularly during the weekends.

#### **Jerusalem Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- **As of 10 January 2008:** Additional installations were added to Ramot checkpoint and the Israeli Border Police presently checks all vehicles and IDs of Palestinians travelling between Bir Nabala and Biddu enclaves.

#### **Bethlehem Governorate:**

- **22 February:** IDF soldiers obstructed the movement of Palestinian vehicles at the southern entrance of Bethlehem City (a.k.a. Al Nashash) due to the weekly anti-barrier demonstration held in Al Khader town.

#### **Hebron Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

#### **Gaza Strip**

Functioning of Gaza crossing points:

- **Erez** was open on five days this week for the movement of diplomats, international humanitarian workers, senior Palestinian traders and critical medical cases with special coordination arrangements. National UN staff members continue to be denied entry to Israel, even with permits and prior co-ordination. (Appendix for daily log of movement is based on information provided by the Palestinian civil affairs office due to the absence of Palestinian DCL staff at the present time).
- **Rafah** crossing continues to be closed. It was last open on 9 June.

- **Karni** crossing: the conveyor belt/chute operated on two days this week to transfer wheat grain and animal feed into Gaza. However, the crossing has remained closed for other imports and all exports since 12 June.
- **Sufa** crossing was open on six days this week, it was closed on 23 February. Sufa crossing was re-opened on 23 December for humanitarian and commercial commodities (it had been closed since 28 October). Sufa has been the principal alternative commercial crossing following the closure of Karni crossing in mid-June.
- **Kerem Shalom** crossing was open on one day this week (20 February) for the entry of commercial and humanitarian goods. During the closure of Sufa between 28 October and 22 December, Kerem Shalom was effectively the only crossing allowing the entry of commercial and humanitarian goods into Gaza.
- **Nahal Oz energy pipelines** were open on five scheduled operating days this week.
- Gaza fishermen continue to be permitted to fish up to six nautical miles off the coastline.

Ongoing incidents:

- Following Israel's unilateral disengagement from the Gaza Strip in September 2005, the IDF announced that Palestinians should keep a distance of at least 150 metres from the perimeter fence along the eastern and northern borders of the Gaza Strip.
- On 28 December 2005, the IDF declared the former northern settlement bloc to be a "no-go" zone. Entry into the area for the 250 Palestinian residents and international organisations requires prior coordination with the IDF. Since 17 May, IDF presence in this area has been enforcing this ban.
- **17 May to date:** Palestinian farmers have been unable to reach their farms in the areas east and north of Beit Hanun and north and northwest of Beit Lahiya due to ongoing IDF military activities. Palestinian farmers have also been unable to reach farms located east of Al Bureij Camp and east of Khan Younis due to intermittent military operations by the IDF.

**Table 3: Reported IDF Flying (random) Checkpoints in the West Bank**

Governorate	Location, # of flying checkpoints in brackets	Total # of flying checkpoints
Nablus	Bizzariya (2), Beita (1), Qabalan (1)	4
Jenin	'Arraba (5), Jab'a (3), Al Kufeir (2), 'Ajja (2), Fahma (3), Silat ad Dhahr (1), At Tayba (1), Al Araqa (1), Sanur (1), Ya'bad (1)	20
Tubas	Tubas (1), Tammun (1)	2
Tulkarm	Ramin (2), Al Jarushiya (1), Deir al Ghusun (1), 'Anabta (1), Kafr Sur (2), Al Jarushiya (1)	8
Qalqiliya	'Azzun (4), Jayyus (2), Wadi Qana (5), Izbat at Tabib (3), Kafr Laqif (2), Immatin (1), Habla tunnel (3), Kafr Thulth (2), Ras 'Atiya (1)	23
Salfit	Iskaka (2), Haris (2), Az Zawiya (1)	5
Ramallah/Al Bireh	-	0
Jericho	-	0
Jerusalem	-	0
Bethlehem	Bethlehem western entrance junction with Rd 60 (4), Tuqu' (3), Obaidiya (1), Al Ubayyat area (1)	9
Hebron	H1 Area of Hebron City (4), Halhul (3), Beit Kahil (1), Al Fawwar RC (4)	12
<b>Total West Bank</b>		<b>83</b>

## 6. Search/Arrests/Detentions

**Table 4: Searches, Arrests, and Detentions Conducted by the Israeli Authorities (IDF, Border Police, Civil Administration...etc)<sup>1</sup>**

Governorate	Location of arrests/detention by the IDF, number of searches noted at locations within brackets	Total # of Searches	Total # of Arrested/ Detained
Nablus	Nablus City (6), Balata RC (2), Camp No.1 (2), Urif (1), Beita (2), Balata village (1), Huwwara CP	14	28
Jenin	Jenin RC (4), Jenin City (4), Qabatiya (1), Al Yamun (1), Raba (1), Zbuba (3), Bir al Basha (1)	15	5
Tubas	Tubas (2), Tammun (2), 'Atuf (1), Al Far'a RC (1), Al Malih (1)	7	3
Tulkarm	Tulkarm City (3), Tulkarm RC (1), 'Anabta (1), Qaffin (1), Ar Ras/ Kafriat CP, Zeita (2), 'Attil (2)	10	26
Qalqiliya	Qalqiliya City (4), 'Azzun (5), Jayyus (3), Kafr Qaddum (2), Hajja (2), Jit (2), Habla (2), Jinsafut (2), Immatin (1), Kafr Thulth (1)	24	2
Salfit	Deir Istiya (3), Kafr ad Dik (1), Marda (3), Salfit City (1), Haris (2)	10	3
Ramallah	Sinjil (1), Silwad (1), Biddu (1)	3	3
Jericho	Jericho City (2)	2	2
Jerusalem	'Anata (2), Qatanna (1)	2	31
Bethlehem	Bethlehem City (3), Ubeidiya (1), Ad Dhuheisha RC (2), Nahalin (1)	7	7
Hebron	H1 Area of Hebron City (4), Beit Ummar (2), Sa'ir (2), Beit Ula (2), Dura (1)	11	11
<b>Total Week West Bank</b>		<b>105</b>	<b>121</b>
Gaza North <sup>2</sup>	Erez crossing (1)—all of the them were reportedly <b>released</b> later in the day	1	40
Rafah	Al Jardat (1)	1	10
<b>Total Gaza Strip</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Total oPt</b>		<b>107</b>	<b>171</b>

<sup>1</sup> Figures exclude the number of West Bank Palestinians arrested in Israel due to the lack of work permits.

<sup>2</sup> **25 February:** According to local eyewitnesses, a group of Palestinian youngsters gathered near Palestinian checkpoint at Erez and threw stones at an IDF observation post adjacent to Erez checkpoint. The IDF responded with gunfire and tear gas canisters and subsequently arrested about 40 youngsters. No injuries were reported. On 25 February at 1800 hours, all the youngsters arrested by the IDF were reportedly released (North Gaza).

**Table 5: Searches, Arrests, and Detentions Conducted by Palestinian Security Forces**

Governorate	Location of arrests/detention (number of searches, number of arrests) – additional information	Total # of Searches	Total # of Arrested/ Detained
Nablus	Nablus City (1,1)	1	1
Tubas	Tammun (1,1)	1	1
Tulkarm	Tulkarm City (2,2)	2	2
Qalqiliya	Jayyus (1,2), 'Azzun (1,20)—allegedly stone throwers	2	22
Salfit	Salfit City (2,2), Qarawat Bani Hassan (2,2), Bidya (1,1)	5	5
<b>Total Week West Bank</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Gaza Strip</b>			
Central Gaza	Al Maghazi Camp (1, 2+)—family dispute, An Nuseirat Camp (1, 2)—head of the popular refugees committee and a Fatah member, An Nuseirat Camp (1,2)—two Fatah activists	3	6+
Gaza	Gaza City (1, 2+)—family dispute	1	2+
Rafah	Rafah (1, 2+)	1	2+
<b>Total Gaza Strip</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>10+</b>
<b>Total oPt</b>		<b>16</b>	<b>41+</b>

<sup>1</sup> Carried out by the Gaza police affiliated with the dismissed Hamas government.

## Appendix: Checkpoints: 20 – 26 February 2008

Checkpoint	Status
<b>Tulkarm :</b>	
<b>Ephraim (Green Line CP)</b>	Operating from 0430 to 1900 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0430 to 1300 hours on Fridays for Palestinian workers and traders with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Kafriat</b>	Operating 24 hours. Divided into three parts: one controls movement to and from Tulkarm town; one controls movement to Israel; and one controls movement to and from Khirbet Jubara.
<b>Ar Ras/ Kafriat</b>	Controls traffic heading south from Tulkarm including Jenin residents. <b>5—25 February:</b> The IDF prevented Palestinian males aged 16 – 35 years from exiting Tulkarm through Ar Ras checkpoint.
<b>Jubara</b>	Manned gate at the Barrier serving Jubara community behind the Barrier.
<b>Enav</b>	Located at the eastern entrance of Tulkarm on Road 57. <b>5—25 February:</b> The IDF prevented Palestinian males aged 16 – 35 years from exiting Tulkarm through Enav checkpoint.
<b>Qalqiliya:</b>	
<b>Jaljoulia</b>	Operating 24 hours. Access is only granted to holders of permits to enter Israel and residents of Ras at Tira, Ad Dab'a, Wadi ar Rasha, Ramadin and Arab Abu Farda, which are isolated behind the Barrier. Ambulances travelling from Qalqiliya City to these five villages need prior coordination with the DCL.
<b>Qalqiliya North (Green Line CP)</b>	Operating from 0400 to 1900 hours Sunday to Thursday and from 0400 to 1400 hours on Fridays. The checkpoint is used by Palestinian workers and merchants with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Qalqiliya DCO Partial CP</b>	Controls the main eastern entrance of Qalqiliya City.
<b>Izbat Jalu'd Partial CP</b>	Located south of Habla village. Controls movement to the southern entrance of Qalqiliya City.
<b>Ras 'atiya</b>	Barrier Checkpoint.
<b>'Azzun Atme</b>	Barrier Checkpoint.
<b>Jit Junction, Partial CP</b>	Located at the key junction connecting the governorates of Nablus, Qalqiliya and Tulkarm.
<b>Salfit:</b>	
<b>Deir Ballut</b>	Operating from 0600 to 1800 hours. Controls movement between Ramallah and the villages in the western Salfit governorate. <b>14—25 February:</b> The IDF prevented Palestinian males aged 16 – 35 years who are residents of Jenin, Tulkarm and Nablus from traveling southwards through Deir Ballut checkpoint.
<b>Kafr Kasem On Road 5</b>	Operating 24 hours for UN, international organisations and Palestinians with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Nablus:</b>	
<b>Huwwara Southern main entrance</b>	Operating from 0500 to 2300 hours for humanitarian organisations and Palestinian pedestrians. Israeli citizens can pass only after prior liaison with the IDF. Public transportation and private vehicles need permits to cross between 0600 and 2100 hours. Commercial trucks are not allowed to pass. <b>5—25 February:</b> The IDF prevented Palestinian males aged 16 – 35 years who are residents of Jenin and Tulkarm from crossing through Huwwara checkpoint. During the week, delays and long queues were reported. Between 14 and 16 February, the age restriction also applied to residents of Nablus.
<b>Beit Iba Western entrance, mainly for trade</b>	Operating from 0500 to 2100 hours for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians. Israeli citizens, Palestinian holders of Jerusalem IDs and holders of international passports can pass only following prior liaison with the IDF. Public transportation, commercial trucks, trucks carrying aggregates and private vehicles need permits to cross. <b>5—25 February:</b> The IDF prevented Palestinian males aged 16 – 35 years who are residents of Jenin and Tulkarm from crossing through Beit Iba checkpoint. During the week, delays and long queues were reported. Between 14 and 16 February, the age restriction also applied to residents of Nablus.
<b>Al Tur Southern checkpoint connecting the Samaritan area of Jarzim with Nablus City</b>	Operating from 0630 to 1930 hours from Sunday to Friday for Samaritans and 13 Palestinian non-Samaritan families living east of the checkpoint.
<b>Beit Furik Eastern checkpoint</b>	A major linkage between Nablus and the Jordan Valley area. Operating from 0500 to 2100 hours. Palestinians travelling out of Beit Furik and Beit Dajan must enter Nablus City through this checkpoint

	and then cross through other Nablus checkpoints to reach their destinations.
<b>Shave Shomeron</b> <i>Northwest, main road to Jenin</i>	Closed since 15 August 2005 for Palestinians as well as for ambulances, UN and humanitarian organisations. For the latter category, the checkpoint was temporarily opened between 1 and 28 March 2007, after which it was re-closed.
<b>Tappuah</b> <i>South, main road to Ramallah</i>	Operating 24 hours. Controls Palestinian movement southwards on Roads 60 and 505. <b>5–25 February:</b> The IDF prevented Palestinian males aged 16 – 35 years who are residents of Jenin and Tulkarm from crossing through Tappuah checkpoint. During the week, delays and long queues were reported. Between 14 and 16 February, the age restriction also applied to residents of Nablus.
<b>17' 'Asira ash Shamaliya (Closed)</b> <i>On road leading to Nablus's northern villages</i>	As of 29 August 2007, the IDF closed the checkpoint for all except ambulances in emergency cases. Since 29 October 2007, the IDF has closed a gate connecting 'Asira Ash Shamaliya village with 'Asira Ash Shamaliya checkpoint, preventing all access through the checkpoint including to ambulances with emergency cases.
<b>Yizhar, Partial CP</b>	Located north of Huwwara village on Road 60.
<b>Majdal Bani Fadel Partial CP</b>	Controls access to areas north of Road 505.
<b>Al Badhan, Partial CP</b>	Located on Road 57 leading to the Jordan Valley, Tubas and Jenin.
<b>Jenin :</b>	
<b>Al Jalama (Green Line CP)</b>	A crossing for workers and traders to enter Israel. Operating between 0530 to 2000 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0530 to 1400 hours on Fridays.
<b>Reikhan/ Barta'a</b> <i>Main gate to the Barta'a ash-Sharqiya/ Umm ar Rihan enclave</i>	Operating between 0500 to 2200 hours for Palestinians living in the enclave behind the Barrier as well as UN and international organisations crossing in their vehicles. 40 vehicles with their plate numbers on a list at the checkpoint are allowed to transport foodstuff into the closed area behind the Barrier. Other materials need prior coordination.
<b>Salim DCO (Green Line CP)</b>	Entrance to the Israeli DCL.
<b>Mevo Dotan</b> <i>On Road 585 near Ya'bad</i>	Operating from 0400 to 2300 hours for all Palestinians.
<b>Tubas :</b>	
<b>Bisan</b> <i>Main entrance to Israel On the Green Line</i>	Located north of Tubas. Since 9 January 2007, the checkpoint is officially open from 1000 to 1800 hours Sunday through Thursday, 0600 to 1200 hours on Fridays, and closed on Saturdays and Jewish holidays. Palestinians holding both businessman cards and permits to enter Israel are allowed to cross. Palestinians working for international organisations continue to be prohibited from using Bisan checkpoint.
<b>Tayasir</b> <i>Gate to the Tubas eastern agricultural lands in the Jordan Valley</i>	Previously the main road to the Jordan Valley, Tubas and Jenin. Operating from 0300 to 2200 hours. As of 26 April 2007, this checkpoint is open for all Palestinians from the West Bank governorates using public transportation as well as commercial trucks. West Bank private vehicles continue to be prohibited from crossing. An Israeli permit to access the Jordan Valley via this checkpoint is no longer required. <b>6 February 2008 to date</b> , Palestinian males from Jenin between 16 and 35 years of age are not allowed to cross to access the northern Jordan Valley area.
<b>Maale Efrayim</b> <i>Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus</i>	Connects Jericho and Nablus governorates. Operating from 0600 to 2200 hours. Only Palestinians with a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or possess an Israeli permit that allows them to be present in the Jordan Valley area are permitted to cross. The same restrictions apply to commercial trucks.
<b>Hamra</b> <i>East, before closure regime main road to Jordan and Nablus</i>	Previously the main road to the Jordan Valley and Nablus. Operating from 0300 to 2200 hours. As of 26 April, the checkpoint is open for all West Bank Palestinians using public transportation and commercial trucks. West Bank private vehicles continue to be prohibited from crossing. An Israeli permit to access the Jordan Valley via this checkpoint is no longer required. Some delays were reported during the reporting period. <b>6 February 2008 to date</b> , Palestinian males from Jenin between 16 and 35 years of age are not allowed to cross to access the northern Jordan Valley area.
<b>Ramallah/Al Bireh:</b>	
<b>Bet El/DCO</b>	Since 20 August the checkpoint has been in operation from 0600 to 2000 hours. Access in vehicles is reserved only for diplomats, foreign passport holders, UN staff, international humanitarian organisations, PRCS and PMRS ambulances, staff of the water and electricity companies and Palestinians with special work permits. As of 14 January 2008, a Border Police company is in charge of manning the



	checkpoint.
<b>'Atara Bridge</b>	Manned by Border Police. No permits are required to cross the checkpoint. As of 1 December, random checks of Palestinian vehicles and IDs going through the checkpoint in both directions.
<b>An Nabi Salih gate, Partial CP</b>	Usually Open.
<b>At Tayba</b> <i>At intersection between Road 458 and Road 449 (Al Mu'arrajat road that links Road 90 to Road 458)</i>	Manned by the IDF. Controls movement between Ramallah governorate and the Jordan Valley. No permits are required to cross the checkpoint. Beginning on 1 July, the partial checkpoint has become a permanent one and there have been random checks of the vehicles and IDs of Palestinians crossing the checkpoint.
<b>Makkabim</b> <i>On Highway 443</i>	Usually open for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders and foreign passport holders. Road 443 is off-limits to West Bank Palestinians, except those with permits to enter East Jerusalem and Israel.
<b>Ni'lin</b>	Operating daily 24 hours for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders, and foreign passport holders. Palestinian merchants with BMC cards, workers inside Israel, coordinated medical cases and holders of Israeli permits for personal needs are allowed through the checkpoint.
<b>Rantis</b>	Operating daily 24 hours for Israelis and holders of Jerusalem IDs and foreign passports. West Bank Palestinians are not allowed to cross irrespective of their possession of permits to enter Israel.
<b>Jericho:</b>	
<b>DCO</b> <i>Main checkpoint off Road 1</i>	Operating 24 hours/day. As of 26 September 2007, all West Bank ID-holders can enter Jericho via the DCO checkpoint. Palestinians from the north of the West Bank (Nablus, Qalqiliya, Jenin, Tulkarm) are not allowed to exit Jericho via this checkpoint and are hence forced to take the old road to Ramallah via Yitav checkpoint. All other West Bank ID-holders may exit Jericho via the DCO checkpoint or Yitav. During the reporting period, delays of up to one hour were reported on a daily basis for people leaving Jericho through the checkpoint.
<b>Al Auja (Yitav)</b> <i>On Road 90</i>	Operating 24 hours/day for Palestinians living in Jericho Governorate. Palestinians who are non-residents of Jericho and hold West Bank IDs travelling northward to Al Auja and the northern Jordan Valley area are prohibited from crossing unless they hold Israeli permits that allow them access to the area. No permit is required for those travelling from and to Ramallah. Delays of up to 45 minutes were reported on a daily basis during the reporting period.
<b>Gate opposite Allenby</b> <i>Checkpoint off Road 90</i>	Gate manned by the IDF but remains closed. Soldiers open the gate only for shuttle busses taking Palestinians to Jordan via Allenby Border crossing.
<b>An Nwemeh, Partial CP</b> <i>North Jericho</i>	Open. The checkpoint leads to al Mu'arrajat road, the only road out of Jericho for residents of Ramallah and the northern West Bank.
<b>Dead Sea</b> <b>Became a partial checkpoint as of 2 January 2008</b>	Located on Road 90 near the Dead Sea. Was a permanent checkpoint between 1 July 2007 and 01 January 2008. As of 31 October 2007, it is manned by the Border Police and until 2 January 2008 operated on a daily basis 24 hours/day allowing passage only to Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders, and holders of foreign passports. As of 2 January 2008, the checkpoint was converted to a partial checkpoint. Palestinians holding West Bank ID cards and Palestinian-plated vehicles are denied access to the Dead Sea area whenever the IDF is present, at random during weekdays and 24 hours per day on the weekends.
<b>Jerusalem :</b>	
<b>Qalandiya</b>	Open for internationals, Jerusalem ID holders and Palestinians with West Bank IDs. Only drivers and their family members are allowed to cross while staying inside the vehicle. All other persons, both West Bank and Jerusalem ID holders, have to cross through the pedestrian lanes. As of 10 December, Israeli private security guards are present at the checkpoint along with the IDF for extra random security checks. Delays facing pedestrians continue to be reported on a daily basis. Long delays and verbal assaults by IDF soldiers were reported at the pedestrian lane during the week.
<b>Hizma</b> <i>Eastern entrance of junction Road 437/Psigat Ze'ev settlement</i>	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. UN staff have been requested on several occasions to show personal IDs/national passports in addition to their UN ID card. As of 3 February 2006, Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross unless they also are employees at international organisations, medical staff, chronic patients, teachers or BMC Card holders.
<b>Az Za'ayyem</b> <i>North eastern entrance, on Road 1</i>	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem IDs, internationals, Palestinians working for international organisations, medical staff, chronic patients, teachers and BMC Card holders. Palestinian permit holders who do not belong to one of these categories are not allowed to cross since this is not one of the four Israeli-designated crossings

	into Jerusalem.
<b>Ar Ram</b> <i>Northern entrance, on Road 60</i>	Open for internationals, diplomats, Palestinians working for international organisations and residents of the southern part of Dahiyat al Bareed whose names and ID numbers are registered on a list at the checkpoint. All other Palestinians, both holders of Jerusalem IDs and permit holders, are not allowed to cross since this is not one of the four Israeli-designated crossings into Jerusalem.
<b>Bir Nabala / Atarot</b> <i>Northern entrance on Road 404 /45 Road Atarot Junction</i>	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, and Palestinians with valid permits and internationals. UN staff have been requested on several occasions to show personal IDs/national passports in addition to their UN ID cards.
<b>Ramot Alon</b> <i>North western entrance on Road 436</i>	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with East Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. UN staff have been requested on several occasions to show personal IDs/national passports in addition to their UN ID cards. As of 10 January, additional installations were added to the checkpoint. The Israeli Border Police now checks all vehicles and IDs of Palestinians travelling between Bir Nabala and Biddu enclaves. Since 14 January 2008, delays of up to 20 minutes have been reported on a daily basis by Palestinians crossing the checkpoint westwards to reach Beit Iksa village.
<b>Shu'fat Refugee Camp/ Anata Checkpoint</b>	Operating 24 hours for Palestinians with Jerusalem IDs and UN and international organisations. West Bank Palestinians need permits to cross. West Bank vehicles are not allowed to cross. Commercial trucks transporting merchandise from places other than Shu'fat Camp are not allowed to cross and must use Beituniya checkpoint.
<b>Container ("Wadi nar")</b> <i>East of Abu Dis, main transit between north and south West Bank</i>	Operating for all Palestinian vehicles without permits and for internationals. Israeli yellow-plated cars are not allowed to cross.
<b>Az Zaytoun (olive)</b> <i>North eastern entrance on Road 1</i>	Operating 24 hours. Access is permitted for Jerusalem ID holders, other Palestinians holding West Bank IDs and valid permits, and internationals with valid Israeli visas (all pedestrians). No vehicles are allowed to cross.
<b>Abu Dis</b> <i>Between Abu Dis and Ras al 'Amoud</i>	Closed. Access is allowed only for military and Barrier construction contractors.
<b>Lazarus</b>	Closed. Access is allowed only for military and Barrier construction contractors.
<b>Bir Nabala / Rafat / Masyion</b> <i>On the new road between Rafat and Bir Nabala village</i>	Was moved northward to the new Israeli-built Rafat road and has become closer to the Ramallah neighbourhood of Masyion.
<b>Jaba' Between Jaba' Junction and Qalandiya CP</b>	Random checks by IDF soldiers. During the reporting period, delays were reported on a daily basis. On 26 February the checkpoint was closed for about 60 minutes during the morning and again in the afternoon due to a visit by a high ranking Israeli official to Ramallah City, causing long delays and traffic jams.
<b>Atarot junction</b> <i>At roundabout leading to bypass Road 45</i>	Manned by the Border Police. Vehicle checks for those travelling towards Qalandiya and Beit Hanina are conducted.
<b>Bethlehem :</b>	
<b>Gilo (Rachel's Tomb)</b> <i>Terminal at north entrance to Bethlehem leading to Jerusalem</i>	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Operating 24 hours for humanitarian organisations, diplomats, Jerusalem ID holders and Palestinian permit holders. West Bank Palestinians (including those working for the UN and other international agencies) must walk through the terminal to undergo search procedures. Jerusalem ID holders travelling to Bethlehem City are asked to show their IDs. Yellow-plated tourist buses are allowed to cross only if driven by a Palestinian with Israeli citizenship. Palestinians holding valid work permits can access East Jerusalem and Israel through this checkpoint after showing their IDs, work permits, and occasionally their magnetic cards as well as sometimes undergoing hand print scanning. Palestinian workers from Bethlehem and Hebron governorates holding valid work permits were obliged to stay overnight at Gilo checkpoint in order to reach their work places inside Israel on schedule.
<b>An Nu'man</b> <i>On the main entrance of Khallet an Nu'man from Beit Sahur side</i>	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Only Palestinians living in An Nu'man and listed vehicles and drivers of service providers are allowed through. Extended family members are not allowed to visit Palestinian residents. International organisations wishing to enter the village are required to hold a permit, show their organisation's ID and their national IDs and/or passports. As of 31 August 2007, the checkpoint is open to settlers from 0600 to 1800 hours to allow them to travel on the newly opened Jerusalem-Gush Herodion highway.
<b>Ein Yallow / Al Walaja</b>	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Previously known as Ein Yallow.

<i>Bypass road east of Walaja, on Green Line</i>	Operating 24 hours only for Israeli-plated cars, international organisations and commercial trucks.
<b>Beit Jala DCO, Partial CP</b> <i>Entrance to Beit Jala</i>	Rarely-manned. Operating 24 hours and movement is allowed in both directions for all vehicles.
<b>Tunnels</b> <i>Road 60 at Har Gilo</i>	Operating 24 hours. Manned by the Israeli Border Police and private security personnel since 23 February 2007. Palestinians working for international organisations are requested to show their local IDs and permits to cross into Jerusalem. Other Palestinian permit holders are not allowed to cross and are redirected to Gilo checkpoint. Commercial trucks are permitted to cross from 1100 to 1600 hours. Palestinian ambulances use the back-to-back system to send patients to hospitals in East Jerusalem or Israel.
<b>Settler checkpoint: Mizpe Shalem – Efrata</b>	Open 24 hours. Manned by Israeli settlers and there are restrictions on the movement of Palestinians beyond it. Previously known as settlers-Efrat checkpoint.
<b>Gush Etzion</b> <i>On Road 60, at Etzion roundabout</i>	Open 24 hours. IDF soldiers sometimes check northbound vehicles. Private Palestinian plated cars can pass.
<b>Wadi Fukin</b> <i>Crossing to Israel on Road 375. Not on the Green Line</i>	Operating 24 hours for Israelis and staff of international organisations.
<b>Al Jab'a</b> <i>Crossing to Israel on Road 36. Not on the Green Line</i>	Open 24 hours for Israelis and staff of international organisations. Operating from 0500 to 1900 hour for Palestinians with work permits to cross through the pedestrian lane to work in Israel. Land levelling and construction is ongoing to enlarge the checkpoint.
<b>Betar Illit</b> <i>Access to the settlement of Betar Illit and nearby Palestinian lands.</i>	Palestinian land owners can access their land, which is beyond the checkpoint, upon showing personal IDs.
<b>Mitzpe Shalem</b> <i>On Road 90, along Dead Sea</i>	Operating 24 hours; restricted for Palestinian movement.
<b>Hebron :</b>	
<b>Beit Awwa, Partial CP</b> <i>At entrance to Negohot settlement, on Road 354</i>	Crossing on Road 354. Manned by the Border Police. Operating 24 hours with occasional ID checks. Employees for MSF (Médecins Sans Frontier/Doctors Without Borders) reported experiencing thorough checks and maltreatment, especially while trying to reach Palestinian families living along the road leading to the settlement of Negohot.
<b>Tarqumiya</b> <i>Entrance for commercial goods (back-to-back), west of Hebron on Road 35 for both Hebron and Bethlehem governorates. Not on the Green Line.</i>	Palestinian workers from Bethlehem and Hebron governorates holding valid work permits are allowed to cross from 0500 to 1700 hours. Family visits coordinated by ICRC for Palestinians detained in Israel were cancelled between 7 and 9 January and are expected to resume on 10 January. During the reporting period, long delays of trucking movement were reported due to the new procedures enforced by the IDF after the opening of the new Tarqumiya Terminal.
<b>Meitar</b> <i>Crossing to Israeli. Road 60 on the Green Line.</i>	Manned by the Border Police and operating from 0500 to 1900 hours Sundays through Thursdays. On Fridays, the checkpoint operates from 0500 to 1300 hours and on Saturdays it is closed. Checks are conducted using palm identification. Palestinian workers with valid permits are permitted to cross. During the reporting period, Palestinian workers were allowed to reach their work places inside Israeli through this checkpoint. Incidents of Palestinian workers holding valid work permits sleeping overnight at the checkpoint to ensure for themselves a reasonable chance of accessing Israel have also been reported.
<b>Shani</b> <i>At turn for Shani settlement on Road 317. On the Green Line.</i>	Manned by the IDF. Only Israeli plated cars are allowed to cross. Palestinian workers cannot use the checkpoint to access Israel.
<b>Beit Yatir</b> <i>On Road 316, at the turn for Imneizel. Not on the Green Line</i>	Operating 24 hours and manned by the IDF. Restricts the movement of Palestinians living near the settlement of Beit Yatir south of the checkpoint. The Terminal is operational and the checkpoint was pushed back behind the roundabout. Palestinians living in Imneizil can now access their village without having to cross the checkpoint. Palestinians living beyond the checkpoint have their names listed with the IDF to allow them passage. Friends and family members holding Palestinian IDs cannot visit their relatives in the area since their names are not on the list.
<b>Prayers Road, H2</b> <i>Access to area of Ibrahimi Mosque</i>	Closed to Palestinians. During the reporting period, both Israeli settlers and IDF soldiers prevented Palestinian residents from accessing this road.
<b>Shohada street, H2</b> <i>Western entrance to Shohada street</i>	Open to Palestinians living beyond the checkpoint and in the Tel Rumeida area. Access is possible only on foot. Palestinians and internationals have to go through a mobile metal detector.
<b>Ibrahimi Mosque, H2</b>	Worshippers and visitors are searched upon entry. Residents living

<i>Access to the Mosque</i>	near the Mosque must hold a special permit to gain access to their homes.
<b>Bab Al Baladiyye , H2</b> <i>Next to settlement of Beit Romano</i>	The checkpoint is closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and a new gate has been installed across the road blocking physical access towards it.
<b>Qarantina, H2</b> <i>Junction with Shohada Street</i>	Closed to Palestinians. Entry point for Palestinian fire trucks and ambulances. No longer allows passage to international humanitarian organisations although TIPH and ICRC staff have reported being able to use it.
<b>Bab Al-Khan, H2</b> <i>Entrance to Avraham Avinu</i>	Closed to Palestinians travelling to Shohada Street and north toward the market.
<b>Tel Rumeida, H2</b> <i>Beginning of street leading to settlement</i>	Open to Palestinian pedestrians living between the checkpoint and the settlement. A military order was issued on 17 July 2006 that declared the area beyond the checkpoint a "Closed Area", barring the entry of anyone except Israeli citizens, the IDF, Israeli Police and those with an IDF-issued permit.
<b>Al Kasaba, H2</b> <i>Exit from the Kasaba, old city (Tomb of the Patriarchs)</i>	Filters Palestinian movement from the Kasaba area directed to the Ibrahimi Mosque. Palestinians exiting Al Kasaba must go through several turnstiles and a metal detector that allow one person to pass at a time. The process is slow during Friday prayers.
<b>Abu Rish, H2</b> <i>Near the Abu Rish Mosque at the end of Al Shohada St.</i>	Manned by the IDF. The only official access point for international organisations into the Old City of Hebron. Palestinians have to go through a mobile metal detector.
<b>Ar Ramadin</b> <i>Not on the Green Line.</i>	This checkpoint was removed on 17 October 2007. Located at intersection between Ar Ramadin entrance and Road 325.
<b>Halhul – Sa'ir, Partial CP</b> <i>Also called 'Nabi Younis' CP)</i>	Located at Halhul's entrance on the junction between Halhul and Sa'ir on Road 60. Monitored from the nearby observation tower.
<b>Al Fawwar, Partial CP</b> <i>Al Fawwar-Dura junction</i>	On Road 60. Monitored from the nearby observation tower. On 6 and 11 February, the IDF erected a flying checkpoint at the entrance of Al Fawwar Camp, east of Al Fawwar partial checkpoint.
<b>Tarqumiya – Idhna, Partial CP</b>	On Road 35. Manned on a temporary basis by the Israeli Border Police.
<b>Ras Al Joura, Partial CP</b>	Near the junction between Road 35 and Road 60. Manned on a temporary basis by the IDF.
<b>Gaza Crossings/Checkpoints</b>	
<b>Erez crossing</b>	Erez was open on five days this week for the movement of senior Palestinian traders as well as diplomats, international humanitarian workers and critical medical cases with special coordination arrangements. It was closed on 23 and 25 February. On 26 February, Erez was open only for internationals with special coordination to cross in vehicles; at 1200 hours it was also open for pedestrians.  The crossing remains closed for Palestinian workers since 12 March 2006.
<b>Rafah Passenger Terminal</b>	Rafah crossing continues to be closed. It was last open on 9 June. On 25 and 26 February, Rafah was open for the return of Palestinians from Egypt.
<b>Commercial checkpoints:</b>	
<b>Tulkarm/Qalqiliya</b>	
<b>Taybeh (Green Line CP)</b>	A private Israeli company controls traffic movement. The back-to-back system is operational for goods traffic from 0800 to 1600 hours Sunday to Thursday. Closed on Fridays and Saturdays.
<b>Nablus</b>	
<b>Awarta checkpoint</b> <i>Main commercial checkpoint in Nablus since July 2003</i>	Open from 0600 to 1800 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0600 to 1300 hours on Fridays. Closed on Saturday. About 120 commercial trucks have permits to cross whereas all other loads must be transferred using the back-to-back system. <b>5—25 February:</b> The IDF prevented Palestinian males aged 16 – 35 years who are residents of Jenin and Tulkarm from crossing through Tappuah checkpoint. During the week, delays and long queues were reported. Between 14 and 16 February, the age restriction also applied to residents of Nablus.
<b>Jenin</b>	
<b>Al Jalama (Green Line CP)</b> <i>Main commercial checkpoint</i>	Open between 0800 to 1600 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0800 to 1200 hours on Fridays.
<b>Tubas</b>	
<b>Bisan</b> <i>Main entrance to Israel</i>	Located north of Tubas. Since 9 January 2007, the checkpoint is open from 1000 to 1800 hours Sunday through Thursday and 0600 to 1200 hours on Fridays. Closed on Saturdays and Jewish holidays. Open for Palestinian merchants from the Jordan Valley area to export their agricultural produce to Israel using the back-to-back system.

<b>Ramallah/AI Bireh</b>	
<b>Beituniya</b> <i>Back-to-back checkpoint</i>	Operating from 0700 to 1700 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0700 to 1300 hours on Fridays. Closed on Saturdays and Jewish holidays. Open for commercial goods (back-to-back system). Only Palestinians holding Jerusalem IDs and driving Israeli yellow-plated trucks are allowed to cross without using the back-to-back system, but only if the bill of lading stipulates Kafr 'Aqab and/or Sameeramees as offloading destinations. It is not open for private cars or pedestrians. As of 1 July, UN staff and diplomats are not allowed to cross.
<b>Hebron</b>	
<b>Tarqumiya</b> <i>West of Hebron on Road 35</i>	Entrance for commercial goods from both Hebron and Bethlehem governorates. The back-to-back section is open from 0700 to 1700 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0700 to 1300 on Fridays. All cargo is checked by the Border Police and a container x-ray machine is in place. During the reporting period, long delays of commercial trucks were reported.
<b>Gaza Strip</b>	
<b>Karni</b>	The conveyor belt operated on two days this week (20 and 21 February) for the transfer of grains and animal feed into Gaza. However, since 12 June, Karni remained closed for all other imports and all exports.
<b>Sufa</b>	Sufa crossing was open on six days this week; it was closed on 23, February. Sufa crossing was re-opened on 23 December for commercial and humanitarian goods.
<b>Kerem Shalom</b>	Kerem Shalom was open on one day this week (20 February) for the entry of commercial and humanitarian goods.
<b>Nahal Oz Energy Pipelines</b>	Nahal Oz energy pipelines were open on five scheduled operating days this week. On 23 and 25 February, it was closed for the weekend.

- End -

**Method and Sources**

The information used to compile these Briefing Notes comes from a range of sources with a field presence in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The accuracy of the reported information is ensured through the corroboration of reports by two additional sources. Typically, the OCHA Field Coordination Unit (FCU) receives an initial incident report from a source, which is verified through visits to the incident site in addition to further corroboration with a third source, such as an NGO. In addition, OCHA FCU collects military orders as documentary evidence and provides information on incidents witnessed in person.

In the interests of timeliness and readability, the sources are not listed for each incident within the texts of the report. Listed below are the sources relied upon each week in compiling this Briefing:

- Physical protection: OCHA FCU, Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS), United Nations Relief Works Agency (UNRWA), World Health Organisation (WHO), Israel Defence Forces (IDF) website, Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), offices of Palestinian Authority (PA) governors, Palestinian District Civilian Liaison (DCL).
- Shelter and property: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL.
- Natural Resources: OCHA FCU, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL, Village Councils, Land Defence Committee and Land Research Centre.
- Access for Medical Assistance: OCHA FCU, WHO, PRCS, Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH), UN World Food Programme, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNRWA.
- Access and Movement for Civilians: Sources: Palestinian DCL, Christian Peacemakers Team (CPT).
- Curfews: OCHA FCU, Village Councils, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL.
- Access to Education: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, UNICEF, Palestinian DCL, Village Councils.
- Access to Employment: UNRWA, United Nations Office of the Special Coordinator for the Middle East (UNSCO), Palestinian Ministry of Labour (MoL), Palestinian DCL, Palestinian Chamber of Commerce, Israeli DCL.
- Closures/Movement Restrictions: OCHA FCU, UNRWA.
- Additional Protection issues: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS), UNSCO, Palestinian DCLs, Palestinian Governors' offices, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, IDF.