



AIDA statement on new measures restricting travel to / from and within the oPt

28 August 2009

AIDA agencies express concern about new measures restricting travel to, from and within the occupied Palestinian territory. International NGOs fear that these measures could have serious repercussions on our ability to deliver humanitarian services and implement development projects.

In recent months, the Government of Israel has introduced several new measures at its border crossings. A number of people arriving at the Allenby border crossing with Jordan have been given a new entry visa stamp that permits travel only in Palestinian Authority-controlled areas of the West Bank; while others arriving at Ben Gurion Airport have been given an Israel-only visa. In addition, some travelers have been required to sign a statement which commits them to not entering the Palestinian Authority controlled areas of the West Bank under penalty of legal action.

“These additional restrictions will be problematic because they add further constraints on movement to, from and within the oPt; this is another page in the catalogue of restrictions on movement and access in the oPt”, said Chair of AIDA, Martha Myers.