



Report No. 87
Implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access
and Update on Gaza Crossings
(04 - 17 March 09)

The United Nations is submitting the 87th bi-weekly report on the implementation of the 15 November 2005 Agreement on Movement and Access (AMA)¹, covering the period 04 - 17 March 09 (Annex)². In light of the closure of Gaza, this report also monitors movement and access through other crossings not included in the AMA.

Summary:

AMA Benchmarks:

- **Rafah** crossing has remained closed for the movement of people for 647 working days. It was last open for public use on 09 June 2007. However, the crossing was partially open on an exceptional basis for passengers on all days during the reporting period, allowing 688 Palestinians including many medical cases to cross out, and 870 to cross in, compared to 1,719 departures and 995 arrivals in the previous reporting period. 105 truckloads of humanitarian relief items were allowed entry to Gaza through Rafah Crossing compared to zero in the previous reporting period. The crossing was partially open on three days (7,8,9 March) for this inflow.
- **Karni** crossing has remained closed since 12 June 2007 for the movement of goods in and out of Gaza. The conveyor belt/chute for cereals and animal feed was open on six days (04,08,09,11,16 and 17 March), the same as in the previous reporting period. A total of 334 truckloads of cereals and animal feed, entered Gaza, via the conveyor belt, compared to 270 in the previous reporting period. Neither gravel nor bulk cement were allowed entry during this period. Gravel and bulk cement were last allowed into Gaza on 26 and 29 Oct 08 respectively.
- **Erez** crossing has remained closed for more than three years since 12 March 2006 for workers, and more than a year, since 12 June 2007, for all other Palestinians, except for a limited number of Palestinian senior traders, aid workers and medical cases who have been granted special permits. For these persons, Erez crossing was partially open on 12 out of the 14 scheduled days. Almost no traders were allowed out during the reporting period, and an average of 11 medical cases per day were allowed through.
- **Obstacles to movement in the West Bank** has increased from 630 reported during the previous reporting period to 632. Overall, the figure of 630 represents an increase of 254 obstacles (68.1%) over the baseline figure (376) of August 2005.
- *Convoys between the Gaza Strip and the West Bank:*
Truck convoys Implementation now 38 months overdue (since mid-January 2006).
Bus convoys Implementation now 39 months overdue (since mid-December 2005).
- *Ports:*
Seaport Awaiting GoI assurance of non-interference with the seaport operation.
Airport Awaiting commencement of discussions since November 2005.

Non-AMA Crossings:

- **Sufa** crossing was not open during the whole reporting period. It was last open on 12 Sept 08. In mid March 09, Israel announced that Sufa crossing is no longer a crossing point between Gaza and Israel.
- **Kerem Shalom** crossing was open on 12 days compared to 11 days during the previous reporting period. A total of 1,160 truckloads of goods including 371 for humanitarian aid agencies were allowed in compared to 991 reported during the previous reporting period. Four truckloads of carnations were allowed out (exported) on 05, 09, 12 and 16 March.

¹ The United Nations, through the OCHA oPt office, has assumed reporting responsibilities for reporting on the implementation of the AMA since April 2006.

² The AMA was negotiated by US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, between the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority to promote peaceful economic development and improve the humanitarian situation on the ground. It represents the commitments of both the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority to facilitate access and movement into/out and throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip.



- **Nahal Oz** fuel pipelines was partially opened on all 10 scheduled days compared to eight days reported during the previous reporting period. In mid March Israel announced that the working days of Nahal Oz fuel pipe line have been reduced to five days per week (Sunday - Thursday). No petrol or diesel for private/commercial use was allowed entry during this reporting period. 1,230 tonnes of cooking gas and 4,369,050 litres of industrial gas for the power plant were allowed in, compared to 1,107 tonnes and 4,417,650 litres respectively, in the previous reporting period.
- **Of note:** Overall, 1,599 truckloads, including 477 truckloads from humanitarian agencies were allowed entry to Gaza during this period, compared to 1,261 truckloads allowed in during the previous reporting period.

A. General update on Gaza Crossing Points

1.a. Goods - Gaza Strip	Rafah (AMA) ^a		Erez (AMA) ^b		Karni (AMA) ^c		Kerem Shalom ^d		Sufa ^e		Total
	Primary; Closed since 12/06/08										
	Actual	% of Scheduled	Actual	% of Scheduled	Actual	% of Scheduled	Actual	% of Scheduled	Actual	% of Scheduled	
Days open in period	14.0	36.8%	12.0	100.0%	0.0	0.0%	12.0	100.0%	0.0	0.0%	38.0
Number of days experiencing closure	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%	14.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%	#####	0.0%	#VALUE!
Working hours (daily ave.)	0.0	-	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%	8.0	#VALUE!	#####	#VALUE!	#VALUE!
Total working hours in period	0.0	-	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%	96.0	100.0%	0.0	0.0%	96.0
Number of trucks out (daily ave.)	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	0.0%	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0
Number of trucks in (daily ave.)	0.0	-	0.0	-	27.8	-	96.7	-	0.0	-	124.5
Security incidents on Palestinian side of the crossing	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0

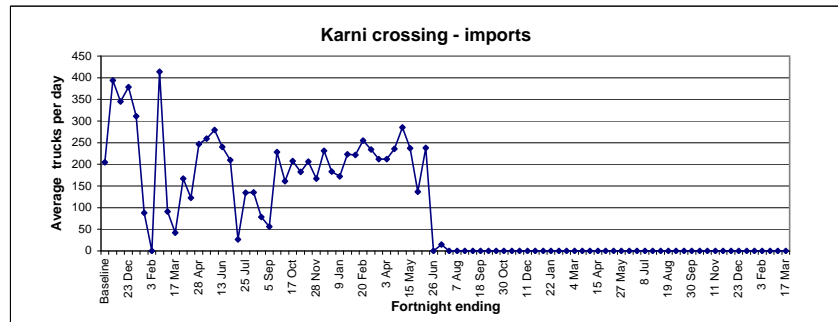
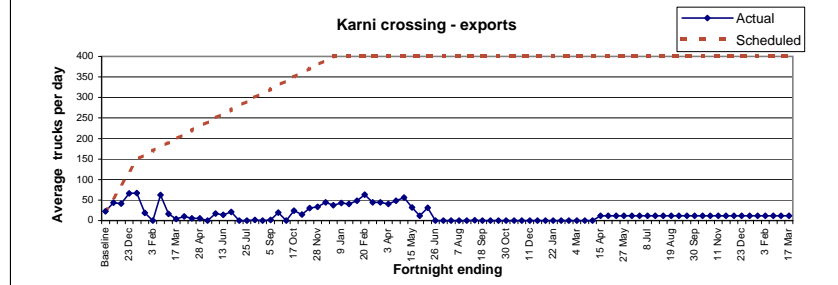
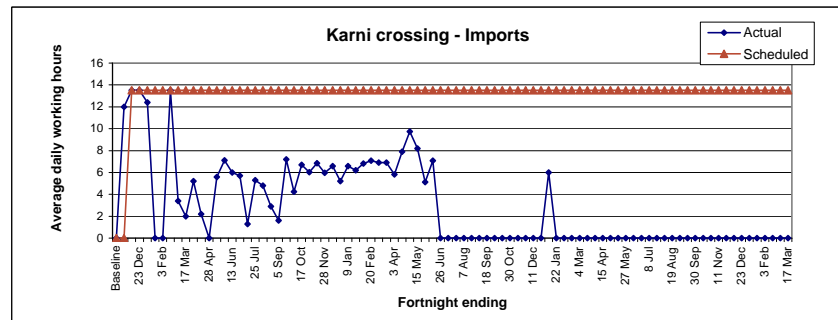
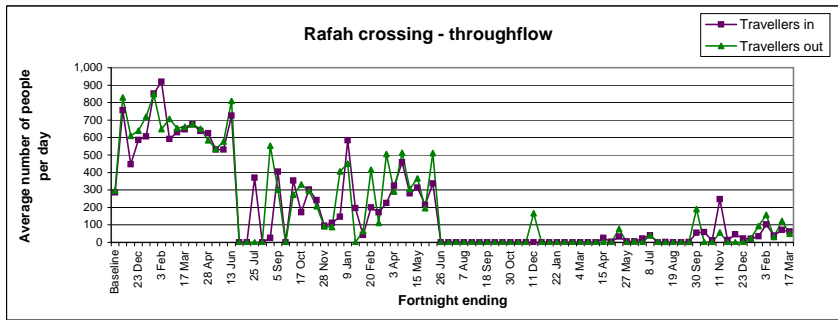
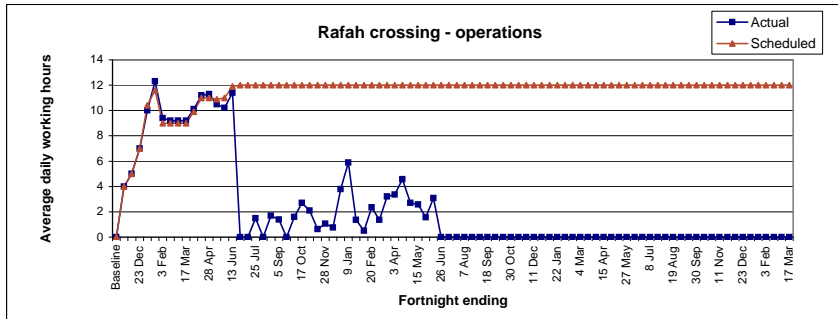
1.b. People - Gaza Strip	Rafah (AMA)		Erez (AMA)		Kerem Shalom		Total
	Primary; Closed since 09/06/08		Primary; Closed since 12/06/08				
	Actual	% of total	Actual	% of total	Actual	% of total	
Days open in period	14		12	100.0%	-	-	26
Number of days experiencing closure	0	100.0%	0	0.0%	-	-	0
Total working hours in period	168	0.0%	-	-	-	-	168
Working hours (daily ave.)	12	0.0%	-	-	-	-	12.0000
Travellers through crossing (daily ave.)	<i>In</i>	<i>Out</i>	<i>Traders</i>	<i>Workers</i>	-	-	
	62	49	0	0	-	-	

1.c. Fuel - Gaza Strip	Nahal Oz ^f	
	Actual	% of total
Days open in period	10.0	100.0%
Number of days experiencing closure	0.0	0.0%
Total working hours in period	-	-
Working hours (daily ave.)	-	-
Total number of litres in period	n.a	n.a
Number of litres (daily ave.)	n.a	n.a

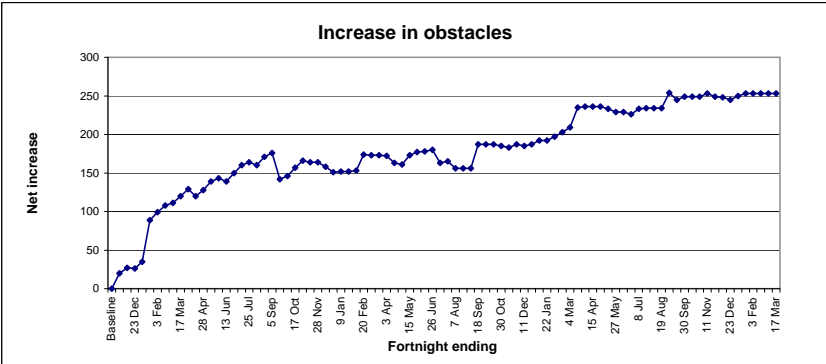
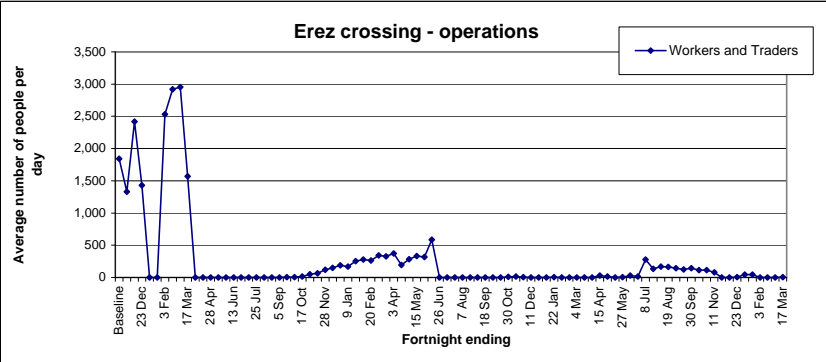
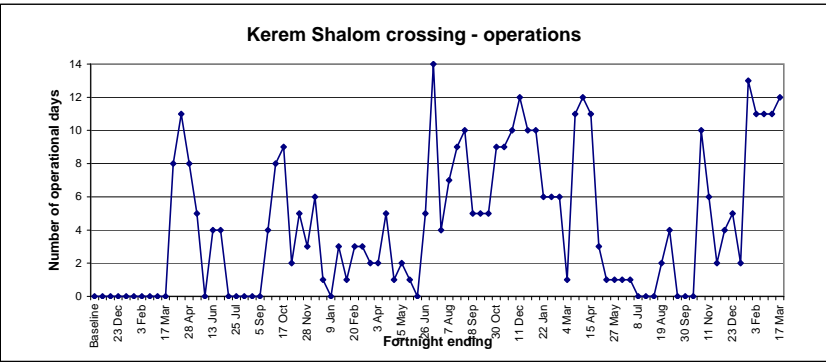
Background

- Rafah crossing is Gaza's international terminal for passengers. It is scheduled to open 7 days per week, from 08:00 to 20:00 hours. Rafah has been closed since 10 June 2007.
- Erez crossing, the primary crossing point for workers, traders and humanitarian personnel, remains closed for all Palestinians as well as for Palestinian workers since 12 March 2006. A limited number of critical Palestinian humanitarian cases and senior traders have been permitted to cross subject to prior coordination with the IDF. Erez crossing is scheduled to open for Palestinians between 06:00 and 22:00 hours, seven days per week. On 12 October 2007, Israel announced that the crossing will close every week from 15:00 on Fridays until 07:00 on Sundays (6 days per week).
- Karni, the principal commercial crossing, is scheduled to operate six days per week. Since its closure on 12 June 2007, a single-lane conveyor belt transferring grain and animal feed operates on average two days per week. During the reporting period 334 truckloads of grain and animal feed were transferred to Gaza. Grain was transferred by a conveyor belt and not through an opening of the crossing itself.
- Kerem Shalom has traditionally not had any scheduled operating days and was opened periodically for humanitarian goods only. However, since mid-June 2007, Kerem Shalom was opened by Israel to allow for the entry and occasional exit of humanitarian and commercial goods. Since 28 October 2007, Kerem Shalom is scheduled to open on 5 days per week from 08:00 until 16:00 hours.
- Sufa crossing, which was for aggregates and now is being used for basic commercial and humanitarian supplies, is scheduled to operate five days per week (closed Fridays and Saturdays), between 08:30 and 15:00 hours. In mid March 09, Israel announced that Sufa crossing is no longer a crossing point between Gaza and Israel.
- Nahal Oz, the crossing point for fuel, is scheduled to open 6 days per week, from 08:00 to 15:00 hours. Israel has in mid March 09 announced that working pipe lines have been reduced to five days per week (Sunday - Thursday)

B. Trends Analysis of Gaza Crossings



Trends Analysis of Gaza Crossings - Continued



C. Update on the implementation of additional benchmarks of the AMA

1. Karni (scheduled hours: Sunday-Friday, 08:00-20:00) - CLOSED SINCE 12 JUNE 2007

	Actual	% of scheduled
Utilization ratio ^a	n.a	n.a
Number of Agricultural trucks out (daily ave.)	0	400
Number of Non-Agricultural trucks out (daily ave.)	0	0.0

a: Ratio of actual vs. planned working hours of scanners and cells.

2. General Management and Operations (West Bank and Gaza Strip)

2.a Management and Operations - Gaza Strip		YES/NO		
PA established clear operating procedures		YES		
Israel provided PA with population registry data		Incomplete		
Liaison office established		YES		
PA established baggage limits		YES		
PA provided the 3rd party the list of names of workers at Rafah		YES		
Security working group established		YES		
PA customs officials clearing incoming cargo at Kerem Shalom		NO		
Kerem Shalom operating procedures being discussed		NO		
New and additional scanner installed at Karni by 31 December 2005		NO		
Common management system adopted by both parties		Incomplete		
New generation of x-ray equipment installed and used		Incomplete		
Passages protected on the Palestinian side of the border		Incomplete		
Training program in place		Incomplete		
Security equipment installed		Incomplete		
PA established a unified system of border management		Incomplete		
Management system developed for Karni applied to Erez and Kerem Shalom		NO		
2.b Management and Operations - West Bank		Tarkumiya	Jalame	Sha'ar Ephraim
Israel put in place similar arrangements to make West Bank passages fully operational ^f		NO	NO	NO
Operational procedures developed for those passages		YES	YES	YES

a: New infrastructure has been put in place since the AMA was reached, however the current capacity (approximately 8 trucks/hour) does not meet AMA requirements for a capacity equivalent to Karni.

3. Gaza Strip Seaport (destroyed in 2001 by the IDF during construction)

	YES/NO
Gol assured donors that it will not interfere with operation of seaport / letter sent	NO
Tripartite committee to develop security and other arrangements for the port established	NO

4. Gaza Strip Airport (closed by Israel in Feb 2001 and destroyed in Dec 2001; renovated and vandalized in July 2007)

	YES/NO
Discussions continuing on security, construction and operations issues	NO

5. Link Between Gaza and the West Bank			
Convoys			YES/NO
Bus convoys established by December 15 2005			NO
Truck convoys established by January 15 2006			NO
Detailed implementation arrangements worked out			NO
<i>Buses (both directions - ave. in period)</i>	0		
Number of convoys per day	0		
Number of people per day	0		
<i>Trucks (both directions - ave. in period)</i>	0		
Number of convoys per day	0		
Number of trucks per day	0		

6. Movement Within the West Bank			
Obstacle reduction			YES/NO
Work ongoing to establish a plan to reduce obstacles			NO
Plan to reduce obstacles completed by 31 December 2005			NO
	Current count	Baseline (1 Aug 05) ^d	% increase over baseline
Number of identified obstacles ^c	632	376	68.1%
<i>of which manned</i>	92	59	55.9%
<i>of which unmanned</i>	540	317	70.3%
			-
Breakdown, by type of obstacle	Current count	Previous period count	Changes
<i>Checkpoints</i>	75	74	1
<i>Partial Checkpoints</i>	18	18	0
<i>Earthmounds</i>	225	228	-3
<i>Road Gates</i>	104	103	1
<i>Roadblocks</i>	66	66	0
<i>Earthwalls</i>	46	46	0
<i>Trenches</i>	22	23	-1
<i>Roadbarriers</i>	74	74	0

c: Since 15 September 2007, OCHA does not count checkpoints on the Green Line in the total closure number. The figures reported here are based on field observations updating a quarterly comprehensive field survey count.

d: This first figure was agreed upon by OCHA and the IDF in August 2005 and is used as the baseline for the AMA.