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**The State of Israel
Ministry of Interior
Local Authority Administration
Freedom of Information**

Jerusalem: 5 Cheshvan 5769
3 November 2008

To
Att. Yotam Ben Hillel
HaMoked: Center for the Defence of the Individual
4 Abu Obeida Street
Jerusalem

Dear Sir,

Re: **Revocation of Residency Status of Permanent Residents of Jerusalem**

Reference: Your letter of 4 February 2008

In response to your letter referenced herein, I respectfully reply as follows:

I would first like to apologize for the delay in the response.

1. Regarding the information requested in section A of your letter, in 2006, 1360 expirations were updated for residents of East Jerusalem.
In 2007, 289 expirations were updated for residents of East Jerusalem.
2. As for the information requested in sections 3(B), 3(C) and 3(D) of your letter referenced herein, as regards the causes for the expirations: indeed, we are unable to perform a computerized break down of expirations by cause as the computerized coding for the expirations is uniform. A response to this inquiry necessitates individual examination of each and every file in the East Jerusalem Population Administration Bureau in which an expiration

was implemented. Thus, pursuant to the provisions of Sections 8(1) and 9(b)(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 5758 – 1998 which establish that a public authority may reject a request for information when the processing of such a request requires unreasonable allocation of resources, and when disclosure of the information may obstruct the proper functioning of the public authority or its ability to carry out its duties, indeed there is no obligation to provide the requested information.

3. As for the information requested in section E of your letter referenced herein, information regarding the acquisition of citizenship or permanent residency by a resident of Israel in a foreign country is provided to the Population Administration Bureau by the resident himself, or by Israel's diplomatic missions abroad.
4. As for the information requested in section G of your letter referenced herein, I refer you to the words of Regulation 11a of the Entry into Israel Regulations 5734 – 1974. In any case, the status of a resident of Israel who acquired foreign citizenship or permanent residency, remained abroad for a limited number of years and now resides in Israel will be examined, on an individual basis, each case on its merits and according to its circumstances, whether handled by the East Jerusalem Population Administration Bureau or a different Population Administration Bureau.
5. As for the information requested in section H of your letter referenced herein, the Interior Ministry serves any person whose residency expires written notice regarding the expiration decision. Appeals regarding the expiration decision may be submitted to the East Jerusalem Population Administration Bureau within 45 days of the date on which the decision was made.
With regard to the number of appeals against expiration decisions and the hearings held in the process of reviewing the appeals, a response to this inquiry requires unreasonable allocation of resources as the computerized system does not include a special general indication for appeals of this kind. Thus, providing a response to this question requires individual examination of each and every file in which expiration was implemented, and therefore, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 8(1) and 9(b)(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 5758 – 1998 which establish that a public authority may reject a request for information when the processing of such a request requires unreasonable allocation of resources, indeed there is no obligation to provide the requested information. Additionally, such obligation does not exist in light of the fact that disclosure of the information may obstruct the proper functioning of the authority and its ability to carry out its duties.
6. As for the information requested in section I of your letter, indeed notice of the expiration is sent, as detailed in section 5 of this letter, to every individual whose residency expired at his address as registered in the population registry.
7. As for the information requested in section J of your letter – details follow:
Of 220 expiration updated in the year 2005 for residents of East Jerusalem, 169 expirations were updated for residents who were abroad.
Of 1360 expiration updated in the year 2006 for residents of East Jerusalem, 1081 expirations were updated for residents who were abroad.

Of 289 expiration updated in the year 2007 for residents of East Jerusalem, 217 expirations were updated for residents who were abroad.

As for your question as to how many residents of East Jerusalem whose residency expired while they were abroad attempted to enter Israel and were denied and how many entered Israel using a foreign passport and received a tourist visa, indeed, as no use was made of the identity number regarding which expiration was updated for the purpose of entering Israel, but rather a foreign travel document, the requested information cannot be located.

8. As for the information requested in section K of your letter, regarding a breakdown of expirations by countries where citizenship was acquired, we cannot perform a computerized breakdown of expirations due to acquisition of foreign citizenship by country, as the computer coding of the expiration is uniform and does not include a division according to country of settlement. A response to this question requires individual examination of each and every file in which expiration was implemented, and therefore, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 8(1) and 9(b)(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 5758 – 1998 which establish that a public authority may reject an application for information when the processing of such application requires unreasonable allocation of resources, as well as since disclosure of the information may obstruct the proper functioning of the public authority or its ability to carry out its duties, indeed there is no obligation to provide the requested information.

Regarding expirations due to immigration to the Area [the Occupied Territories], see details below:

Of 220 expiration updated in the year 2005 for residents of East Jerusalem, 20 expirations were updated due to immigration to the Area.

Of 1360 expiration updated in the year 2006 for residents of East Jerusalem, 49 expirations were updated due to immigration to the Area

Of 289 expiration updated in the year 2007 for residents of East Jerusalem, 40 expirations were updated due to immigration to the Area.

Respectfully,
[signature]
Daniel Segev
Freedom of Information Commissioner