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To Whom It May Concern,

The State of Israel is at war with the terror organization Hamas, following the brutal events of October 7, with the declared goal of eliminating the threat posed to its citizens from the Gaza strip.

The ongoing security situation naturally affects economic activity to some degree. However, the Israeli economy has demonstrated exceptional strength to withstand the challenges posed by various security-related events in recent years. Israel's thriving industries continue to stand firm in the face of adverse challenges.

In more than a month since the unfathomable atrocities committed by Hamas' terrorists, the Israeli economy had to adjust to the new situation and its unique challenges: 300,000 reservists called to service with over 150% reporting for duty; some of Israel's cities had to halt their education systems due the missile threat from the Gaza strip on Israeli population centers; and approximately 250,000 Israelis had to evacuate from their homes in the communities surrounding the Gaza strip and the northern border.

The Ministry of Economy and Industry, along with many other government ministries and agencies, and many civil society organizations have been working tirelessly to aid Israeli companies, to connect workers and volunteers to companies and business in need and to ensure the continuity of the Israeli economy.

In spite of these challenges, Israel's robust economy continues to operate normally. Financial activity continues unabated, with all regulatory and financial institutions proceeding with business as usual. Air and sea ports remain open, along with the main land crossing in and out of Israel. Most local and foreign shipping companies continue to operate on a regular schedule. Air freight continue to operate by Israeli airlines and some Foreign airlines.

Imports and exports of cargo remained almost at the same level as before October 7.





Underpinned by strong macroeconomic fundamentals, effective regulatory bodies, and a high degree of innovation and creativity, the Israeli economy has learned to endure and even thrive in times of crisis. We stand amazed, yet unsurprised, by the resilience of Israeli companies, their management and workers. Israeli tech companies and startups made quick adjustments to the situation and **continue to deliver**, **no matter what**. In light of dire necessity, new inventions emerge on a daily basis. Israelis cannot but innovate. It is our DNA and culture, and will continue to be.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Economic and Commercial Mission at the Embassy of Israel in your region.

On behalf of the Ministry of Economy and Industry, I would like to thank you for your support and understanding during this period, and I look forward to continuing and expanding our cooperation in the months and years to come.

Sincerely Yours,

Amnon Merhav Director General