



STATE OF ISRAEL
MINISTRY OF FINANCE

SPOKESPERSON OFFICE

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT

Date: January 31, 2010

Press Release

Finance Minister and Accountant-General to Sign Agreement for Listing Israel Government Bonds on the New York Stock Exchange

The Finance Minister: “Listing for trading on the New York Stock Exchange will make Israel Government bonds accessible to all investors and dealers, including private investors. The listing will enhance the economic status of Israel and Israeli companies in world markets”.

On Tuesday, February 2, 2010, Finance Minister Dr. Yuval Steinitz and the Accountant-General Mr. Shouky Oren are due to sign an agreement enabling Israel Government dollar bonds that were issued in 2009 to be traded on the New York Stock Exchange. Present at the signing ceremony will be Finance Minister Yuval Steinitz, Accountant General Mr. Shouky Oren, Deputy Accountant-General Mr. Aran Haimer and U.S. Treasury representative Mr. Zvi Halamish.

Until now, the bonds have been traded between investment houses. Under this form of trading it was not possible to obtain data in real time, which limited trading volumes in the bonds.

Prior to the signing of the agreement, the Finance Minister stated: “Listing of the bonds for trading on the New York Stock Exchange, which is the largest stock exchange in the world, will make the Israeli bonds more accessible to all investors and dealers, including private investors, and will thereby increase trading volumes in the securities and the State of Israel's participation in international money markets as well as the private sector's ability to raise money in these markets”.

The Accountant-General noted: “Israel will join the front rank of countries and companies whose bonds are traded on the New York Stock Exchange, such as the USA, Sweden and New Zealand”.

During recent months, the Finance Ministry's representative office in New York has been working to complete the arrangements necessary for listing Israel Government bonds on the New York Stock Exchange.



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In the Israel Government's issuance of dollar-denominated bonds in March 2009, led by the Accountant-General Mr. Shouky Oren, 10-year bonds bearing a yield of 5.19% were issued at an amount of one and a half billion dollars. This was the State of Israel's largest ever issue in international markets. Demand at the issue amounted to \$12 billion from 300 investors worldwide, and was the largest level of demand ever recorded for an Israel Government issue abroad.