



STATE OF ISRAEL  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE

SPOKESPERSON OFFICE

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
DEPARTMENT

Date: February 3, 2010

**Press Release**

**The Finance Minister Closed Trading on the NYSE Yesterday Evening in a Celebration Held to Mark the Start of Trading in Israeli Sovereign Bonds on the Exchange**

Finance Minister Dr. Yuval Steinitz yesterday evening closed trading on the New York Stock Exchange in a celebration held to mark the start of trading in Israeli sovereign bonds.

Trading in the bonds began today on the New York Stock Exchange's regular trading floor, in accordance with an agreement which the Finance Minister signed during his visit there. This is the first time that Israeli sovereign bonds have been listed for trading on the NYSE.

The Finance Minister said: "The listing of the bonds for trading on the New York Stock Exchange will make the Israeli bonds more accessible to all investors and dealers, including private investors. The listing will strengthen the economic status of Israel and Israeli companies in world markets". He added: "I am hopeful that this will be the beginning of increasingly fruitful cooperation between American and Israeli business, and we believe this will also encourage more Israeli companies to come together with US and global investors on the NYSE".

The Accountant-General Mr. Shouky Oren said: "Israel is joining the front rank of countries and companies whose bonds are traded on the prestigious New York Stock Exchange, such as the USA, Sweden and New Zealand".

(A photograph of Minister Steinitz and other officials marking the end of the trading day is included on the following page.)



STATE OF ISRAEL  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE

SPOKESPERSON OFFICE

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
DEPARTMENT



Finance Minister Dr. Yuval Steinitz, Accountant-General Shouky Oren, and other officials close trading on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. (Photo: Shakhar Azran)