4 December 2010

Current situation of assistance from abroad in the battle with the Carmel forest fire
(Communicated by the Foreign Ministry Spokesperson)

Israeli diplomatic missions in capitals around the world are continuing in their efforts to accelerate international assistance to enable the country to cope with the disaster. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has established a situations room with representatives from the Israel Air Force, the National Emergency Authority, the firefighting services and other agencies.

Following is the current situation according to the data received in the MFA's situation room:

Twenty one aircraft and helicopters have arrived in Israel. Of these, thirteen are actively engaged in extinguishing the blaze.

Breakdown by country:

Greece: 4 aircraft and an additional Hercules plane for equipment and cargo.
Cyprus: 2 aircraft, 1 plane and 1 helicopter
Great Britain: 2 helicopters
Turkey: 2 planes
Russia: 4 planes, including 1 B-20, 1 YAK which brought in 10 experts and two Ilyushin-67s.
France: 1 cargo plane
Italy: 1 cargo plane
Bulgaria: Approximately 100 firefighters
Jordan: 3 firefighting vehicles and fire prevention materials
EL Al has also flown in fire prevention materials from Marseille.

An additional thirteen planes are expected to land in Israel today, Saturday 4 December 2010:

The United States: 2 Hercules planes originating from the US Air Force base in Germany, expected to land at approximately 1800 hours at Ben Gurion Airport.
They are expected to carry fire prevention materials and other essential equipment.
Russia: 2 helicopters
France: 2 firefighting aircraft
Spain: 4 firefighting aircraft and an additional cargo plane
Azerbaijan: 2 helicopters
Switzerland: 1 helicopter

Tomorrow, Sunday 5 December, an additional 3 planes from the US and one from Canada are expected to arrive.