

Jerusalem March 30th 2016

Letter of congratulations to Magen David Adom For its ongoing treatment of patients and its lifesaving activities

Dear Eli Bin, MDA Director General, employees, volunteers and friends,

Magen David Adom is the largest and longest serving lifesaving organization in Israel. For decades – even prior to the establishment of the State of Israel and of course since – MDA teams have always been standing at the ready to provide assistance to any person injured or in a life threatening situation.

The dictum holds true, "Whoever saves a single soul... is as though he had saved a whole world," and those affiliated with your organization should be credited with exactly this.

The readiness and alertness of MDA teams is not limited to hours or days. In routine times and in times of emergency, you are always there – providing first aid, carry out emergency lifesaving medical procedures, training the general public, organizing blood drives and running the national blood services, a national asset. The organization is constantly developing and adopting new technologies, enabling better command and control of field activities, as well as providing high quality medical treatment to all those in need.

Over the last year, the citizens of Israel have been witness to the responsibility and dedication which characterizes MDA employees and volunteers. During this current wave of terror, MDA teams have treated hundreds of casualties with varying levels of injury. It is not only about resuscitation efforts, treating injuries or pain relief, but also about giving peace of mind and encouragement to all those injured and suffering and giving them reassurance that they will never be left alone. Your faithful mission grants you the compassion of the entire spectrum of the Israeli public.

The appreciation that MDA receives goes beyond the borders of Israel. Ten years ago, the organization was welcomed as a full member of the International Committee of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement. MDA representatives travel to disaster-stricken areas all over the world, even at the risk of their own safety – stretching out a helping hand to those in distress, from all nationalities and religious persuasions. This sacred work is carried out with the utmost sensitivity and professionalism.

MDA team members, I give you my deepest appreciation. I wish for you to continue with your mission and see the blessed fruits of your unsurpassed labor. Go forth and succeed.

With kind regards,

Benjamin Netanyahu