



UPDATE ON FOOD SECURITY ISSUES – 17-23 February 2009

Basic commodities and vegetables are available on the market at stable prices. WFP reports a severe shortage of sugar in the shops due to the price imposed by authorities; retailers consider the price to be too low and are therefore not selling the sugar they have on stock. Some fruits (bananas, apples, oranges and strawberries) are available on the market but at high prices. Fresh chicken and eggs are available but still high (NIS 21/1 kg, 19 NIS/one carton). Most Gazans can no longer afford fresh meat and are substituting it with frozen meat.

Five out of the six mills in Gaza are open. Five bakeries in the middle and southern areas are now importing bread from other bakeries in the Gaza Strip because of a lack of cooking gas.

The Israeli navy continues to prevent Gazan fishermen from sailing and fishing further than 3 nautical miles from the shore, limiting the quantity and range of types of fish available. Only two types of fish are now sold on the market, at 25 NIS/kg and 40 NIS/kg.