

## **In the Occasion of International Tourism Day, 27/09/2006**

### **The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics Issued a Press Release on the Main Indicators of Tourism**

#### **The tourism sector have comprehensive retreat in all indicators in compare with 1999, 131,908 Guests Stayed 350,219 Nights During 2005**

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) is pleased to release the most important indicators for the tourism sector in the Palestinian Territory. It is worth to mention that there is a big retreat in the tourism situation in the Palestinian Territory due to the Israeli measures during Al-Aqsa Intifada which outbreaked in September 2000 in compare with the year 1999.

#### **The number of operating hotels in the Palestinian Territory during 2005 had decreased by 15.4% in compare with 1999**

The number of operating hotels in the Palestinian Territory at the end of 2005 was 77 hotels, comprising a total of 3,691 rooms with a total of 7,923 available beds. Data indicated that the number of operating hotels was decreased by 15.4% in compare with 1999, the maximum decrease was during 2002 (20.9%), but during the last three years this indicator showed little increase, during 2005, the indicator increased by 5.5% in compare with 2002.

#### **The occupancy rate of rooms in the Palestinian Territory during 2005 had decreased by 57.7% in compare with 1999**

The occupancy rate of rooms in the Palestinian Territory at the end of 2005 was 15.5%. Data showed that the occupancy rate of rooms was decreased by 57.7% in compare with 1999, the maximum decrease was during 2001 and 2002 (77.3%), but during the last three years this indicator showed little increase, during 2005, the indicator increased by 19.6% in compare with 2001 and 2002.

#### **The occupancy rate of beds in the Palestinian Territory during 2005 had decreased by 60.9% in compare with 1999**

The occupancy rate of beds in the Palestinian Territory at the end of 2005 was 12.4%. Data showed that the occupancy rate of beds was decreased by 60.9% in compare with 1999, the maximum decrease was during 2001 and 2002, but during 2005 this indicator showed little increase in compare with the last four years (2001-2004).

#### **131,908 Guests stayed 350,219 nights during 2005**

During the year 2005, the total number of guests in the Palestinian Territory reached 131,908 persons with a decrease by 58.4% in compare with 1999, and the total number of guest nights was 350,219 nights with a decrease by 60.9% in compare with 1999.

#### **34.0% of the Palestinian households or one of its members conducted domestic trips during the year 2005**

Data of 2005 showed that 34.0% of the Palestinian households or one of its members conducted domestic trips during the year 2005, with 27.7% in the West Bank, and 46.2% in Gaza Strip, and the average of expenditure during the domestic tourism trip by the Palestinian household is estimated by 44.6 US \$.

Also, data indicated that 49.2% of the Palestinian households didn't conduct domestic trips during the year 2005 because of the difficult economical situations.