



MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
SPOKEPERSON OFFICE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT  
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## Press Release

### The Minister of Finance Meets With the French Minister of Finance in Paris

The Minister of Finance, **Dr. Yuval Steinitz**, met this morning with the French Minister of Finance, Christine Lagarde, in Paris. The meeting was very warm and the two agreed to strengthen ties between their ministries. At the meeting, the two ministers discussed methods for dealing with the economic crisis, especially methods for protecting technology industries in general and Research and Development in particular.

It was also decided to increase the cooperation between the countries regarding a number of subjects, including technological know-how and cooperation with regard to satellites. Minister Lagarde repeatedly emphasized her country's commitment to having Israel join the OECD, which she expects to happen in the spring of 2010.

Steinitz invited the French Minister of Finance to visit in Jerusalem in the near future and she expressed great interest in such a visit.

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