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February 4, 2009 / 10 Shevat 5769

Pastor Tommy Lilja, who directs a Christian friends for Israel organization in Sweden, has successfully raised donations from among his group's members to bring new immigrants from the FSU to Israel. The ten thousandth immigrant arrived on January 29, 2009 within a group of thirty immigrants from Russia and Uzbekistan.

Tommy and his wife, Carina, came to Israel especially to welcome the group at Ben Gurion Airport and accompanied the immigrants during the primary stages of the absorption process.



Representatives from the Keren Hayesod Fund and the Jewish Agency Immigration and Absorption Department gave Tommy a certificate of honor for his work on behalf of bringing new immigrant to Israel.

Afterward, the couple watched the immigrants' emotion-filled reunion with their family members in Israel. Tommy expressed his great satisfaction and promised to continue his efforts to bring additional immigrants to Israel.

Photo Credit: **Leon Levitas**

*Only low resolution photos available.

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