

SUB-WG ON GOODS OF CONCERN

Meeting: January 9, 2007.

Executive summary

The Chairman reviewed the points that had been agreed to at the first meeting. A general discussion followed that highlighted divergent views between the Palestinian and Israeli delegations on two points: 1) the Palestinians argued that the Sub-WG's mandate does not include hazardous materials whereas the GOI argued the opposite; and, 2) the Palestinians argued that dual use items were outside the mandate of the Sub-WG whereas the GOI argued the opposite. At the request of the Chairman the parties agreed to proceed with the work program described hereunder for the time being on the understanding that disagreements would be submitted to the SWG at the appropriate time for guidance.

During the preliminary discussions the timing of the training and of the procurement of the equipment to support the implementation of the procedures on goods of concern was raised. The importance of training and equipment was acknowledged by all the participants.

List of items that are weapons or explosives: The GOI representatives have already identified a number of lists applicable in other countries that are useful precedent for our work. They expect to complete their work on the development of a list for consideration of the Sub-Working Group before the next meeting of the Sub-Working Group.

Procedures applicable to the seizure, storage, and disposal of weapons and explosives: The Palestinian representatives have taken the lead in the development of those procedures and will be assisted by the EUBAM and others as required. The Sub-Working Group will review the progress on the development of those procedures at its next meeting.

Training and equipment: All the members of the Sub-Working Group agree that the procedures being developed will need to be supported by appropriate training and equipment and the parties agree that the Palestinians will need assistance in the development of the training and in the identification and purchase of the required equipment.

Hazardous materials: The Palestinians and EUBAM have agreed to start working on the development of procedures for the handling of hazardous materials and to report on the progress of their work to the Sub-WG.

The next meeting of the Sub-Working Group is scheduled for February 13.

Attendees:

Israeli Delegation
Oded Herrmann MoD
Yochai Guiski, IDF legal department
Avi Biton, COGAT
IDF representative

Palestinian delegation
BG Attalla, President's Office
Rami Dajani, NSU Legal Advisor
Nizar Farskh, NSU Policy Advisor

EUBAM Delegation
Alfredo Saviano
Louis Marie-Elie
Peter Peters

USSC Delegation
Denis Lefebvre
Lt Col Paul Evans
Lt Col Randy Helback
Nisha Singh

Sent: January 12, 2007