

**PREPARATORY MEETING FOR PRESIDENT ABBAS MEETING WITH PRIME
MINISTER SHARON
FEBRUARY 14, 2005
MEETING NOTES**

Attendees:

Palestine: Dr. Saeb Erekat, Mohamad Dahlan, Habib Hazzan.
Israel: Dov Wiesglass, Amos Gilad, Shalom Tourgman.

SE: I was informed today of the proceedings of the commanders level meeting for handover of Jericho. There is a major problem since the Army is rejecting the agreements we reached in this forum and refuses to lift the checkpoints.

The Army is rejecting the removal of the DCO checkpoint on Route 90 and the cement roadblock on the Northern exit of Jericho on Route 90. They agreed to remove Aim Dyok checkpoint but they however want to erect a new checkpoint 900 meters away which will change nothing.

AG: There is a meeting today at 10:00 PM between Mofaz and the Chief of Staff and the Jordan valley commander. I will participate in this meeting and we will discuss this. It is my understanding of the agreements reached in this forum that the checkpoints and road blocks will be lifted. I do not know what happened but we will try to sort it out tonight.

DW: This is my understating too. But now it is at the Minister's level and he knows and is informed what we agreed here. Hopefully it will be sorted out.

Note: there was not commitment to remove all checkpoints but the issue was kept for review at Israeli internal cycles.

MD: The fugitives and deportees committee was also informed that there are 6 deportees with "blood on their hands" that will not be allowed to come back. This is again contradicting all the agreements we reached so far.

DW: I agree. We agreed that all deportees return. Some might be included in the fugitives arrangements but they can return to their home towns.

AG: This is my understanding as well. I will communicate with the committees members.

DW: What we want to discuss today is reactivating the committees and structure them. We want immediate action.

After short discussion the following committees were agreed.

1. **Higher Liaison C.:** Sharon – Abbas

a. **Steering and Monitoring C.:** Weisglass – Erekat

i. **Higher Security C.** Mofaz – Dahlan ?

1. **Fugitives and Deportees C.**
2. **Handover Coordination C.**
3. **Intelligence Cooperation C.**
4. **Police Cooperation C.**

ii. **Prisoners C.:** Israeli Side: Livni, Ezzra, Nazeh, Ben Elyezer
Palestinian Side: Abe El Razek, Kadora Faris,
Karake, Hazzan.

iii. Civil Affairs Committee (CAC) Mishleb - Tarifi

The Israelis then suggested the following committees and the following names to head the Israeli side on them (All ministers):

- iv. Trade & Economics – Olmert
- v. Labor – Olmert
- vi. Incitement - Shalom
- vii. People to People – Shalom
- viii. Regional Development and other Civil Issues – Peres
- ix. Law Enforcement – Livni
- x. Legal Corporation – Livni
- xi. Health- Naveh
- xii. Agriculture – Katz
- xiii. Telecom – Itzik
- xiv. Water& Environment - Ben Eleyezer

SE: We do not want to form anymore committees before the tangibles of Sharm El Shiekh summit are felt. Prisoners release, redeployment etc. We also need to form our new government before we name members of committees. After government is formed you will have an answer on all the suggested committees not agreed in Sharm.

DW: We need procedure, phone numbers coordinator or point of contact for each committee. *We will not allow you to slow down the peace process.*

DW: Once security responsibility is handed over in Ramallah the prime minister wants to visit Abu Mazen in Ramallah. Next meeting should take place in Ramallah.

SE: on behalf of our President and PM I say that we welcome him in Ramallah.

DW: Regional economic development will mainly focus on Gaza since it is a worldwide effort.

As far as the health committee is concerned. The Prime Minister gave direct instructions to facilitate treatment in Israel for all Palestinian needing it especially for children.

SE: Another issue is the weapons, cars etc taken from the PA Police in 2002 – Defensive Shield

AG: We can not find them. Most were destroyed in the battle field.

SE: Tirawi? I urge you to find a solution.

DW: We are still looking into it, the answer so far is no.

SE: Qassam Barghouti? You told us here that he was to be released, we got back to our people and told them and you retracted.

DW: All 500 prisoners, first batch, will be released Monday morning, at 6:00 AM. We already instructed military. You must take care of the media coverage.

SE: What about Barghouti?

DW: Bring his case, as the first case of the prisoners committee. We , the team here, made mistake and we are sorry for it, we told you he is going to be released but he is not. This should be the first case at the committee. We already talked to Zippi Livni about it. He is not sentenced or convicted yet.

SE: But that is not what we agreed, you are retracing. Same old tactics that don't help us.

MD: This is personal request, personal embarrassment to me.

DW: We will convey this and consider it.

SE: Saadat and Shoubaki ?

DW: No change in their situation. Reject to discuss.

SE: What about second wave of CBMs?

DW: CAC will discuss it. Leave it to the professionals.

SE: Airport?

DW: Same position, later.

SE: Alenbi Bridge, PA Policemen on Bridge.

DW: Why not?

AG: Yes we are considering it, it worked well in the past.

MD: Another problem. Fugitives not in cities under our control. The committee is asking us to take weapons from them. How can we do this now? I have an idea. Fugitives committee members from PA side will go to the cities and meet the fugitives. It will appoint two of them or others to be in charge of them all and take over their weapons and then tell them to be in low profile and to respect ceasefire. Those who respect ceasefire are covered. When we get cities, we will have their weapons under our custody.

AG: It does not sound reasonable to collect weapons in cities not under your control. We will check your suggestions and maybe approve this method.

MD: The problem is that since Sharm El Shiekh nothing happened on the ground. People did not feel any change. Give instructions to open Salah El Din Road in Gaza.

AG: We will, give us some time to get organized.

MD: I do not think we will have another meeting until things move on the ground. No more committees.

MD: Another thing we must discuss is the limitations on Gazan's between the age of 16 to 35 to leave Gaza through Rafah crossing point.

DW: Why are they restricted?

AG: This is the age they are recruited by terror organizations abroad and trained. There is a security reason for this. But we have solved this, there is a new easier arrangement announced soon.

MD: Sharon gave us Gaza, a dry bone and brought the whole world to him.

DW: All Gaza is a dry bone

MD: Worse, but we have to enjoy it right?

**A proposed last draft for Israeli Palestinian understanding
(Subject to final approval)**

A complete cessation of violence and hostilities: All Palestinians will stop all acts of violence and hostilities against all Israelis everywhere.

The Palestinian Authority will reiterate its commitments to take all necessary steps to insure cessation of all acts of violent activities and to take active steps to prevent them, inter alia: cessation of all weapon production, cessation of any rockets launching and production, cessation of weapon smuggling, exploring of tunnels and ceasing all activities in the tunnels, arrest those who will resort to violence and implementing the "chain of prevention".

Parallely, Israel will cease all its military activities against all Palestinians anywhere, including: those fugitives and deportees that will be part of the arrangements specified below, targeted killings, arrests, demolition of houses, deportation. Security coordination between the two sides will be resumed to manage crisis and act jointly against those imminent threats that can be dealt with in this manner.

Transfer of security responsibilities over Palestinian areas: Israeli will transfer security responsibilities over five Palestinian cities and its XXX surroundings (Jericho, Bethlehem, Qalqilia, Tulkarm and Ramallah) including lifting roadblocks in those areas. The transfer of security responsibilities will be done gradually. All other relevant details, including that handover of security responsibility of the remaining Palestinians cities and their surroundings, will be concluded by the joint security committee.

Fugitive's arrangement: Israel will provide a list of fugitives and the joint committee will agree on effective date for starting this arrangement. In the effective date, their weapon will be under the control and custody of the PA, and the fugitives will undertake to stop any involvement in any violent activities. Fugitives who live in Palestinian areas under the PA security control will be supervised and controlled by the PA within the area limits. Fugitives who will stay in areas that have not been yet handed over to Palestinian security responsibility, will be controlled and supervised in a manner which will be agreed in a joint fugitives committee.

As long as this arrangement is implemented Israel will commit not to harm those fugitives and deportees(?), regardless of their past actions.

Improving the Humanitarian conditions for the Palestinians population: Israel will take all necessary steps to ease the Humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian population, including improvement of mobility and removing of closures and roadblocks.

Release of prisoners: Israel will release 900 Palestinian security prisoners. It will be done in two phases, the immediate release of 500 prisoners and the release of additional 400 prisoners following Palestinian security activities.

Both sides agree to form a joint ministerial committee to deal with the issue of Palestinian prisoners in order to agree on new arrangements, including new parameters for the release of Palestinian prisoners.

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The committee will submit its recommendations for the next meeting between the two leaders, with the aim for releasing the next group of prisoners agreed by two parties, following the next meeting of the two leaders.

Deportees from the nativity church in Bet Lehem: will be included within the fugitives' arrangement. Other deportees

Sea port and Airport: construction of the sea port in Gaza will resume. Reconstruction of the Airport will be considered in a later stage.