



UNITED NATIONS SEMINAR ON ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

Speeding up relief, recovery and reconstruction in post-war Gaza

United Nations Office at Vienna, 31 March and 1 April 2015

Programme

Tuesday, 31 March
10.00 – 11.00

OPENING SESSION

Statements by:

Mr. Yury Fedotov

Director-General, United Nations Office at Vienna
Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

Mr. Peter Launsky-Tieffenthal

Director-General for Development Cooperation
and Humanitarian Affairs
Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs
of Austria

H.E. Mr. Fodé Seck

Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise
of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

Mr. Mohammad Shtayyeh

Senior Advisor to President Mahmoud Abbas
Representative of the State of Palestine

Recess

11.10 – 13.00

PLENARY I

Immediate and longer-term humanitarian needs in the Gaza Strip

Housing damage after the war

Internally displaced people

Damage to critical infrastructure, access to basic services

Gaza's chronic fuel, power, environmental, housing and water crises

Food insecurity and vulnerability

Special needs of women and children

Assistance implications

Presentations by experts

Mr. Nasser Qatami

Deputy Minister of Labour
State of Palestine
Ramallah

Ms. Katleen Maes

Head of Office
United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
Gaza

Mr. Ahmed Sourani

Resilience development expert
Gaza

Ms. Eva Pilipp

Special Coordinator for Palestine
Society for Austro-Arab Relations
Vienna

Discussion

Recess

13.00 – 13.30

PRESS CONFERENCE

Conference Room 6, 7th Floor, Building C

15.00 – 16.00

PLENARY I (continued)

Presentations by experts

Mr. Robert Turner (*presenting via VTC*)

Director of Operations

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees
in the Near East
Gaza

Mr. John Gatt-Rutter

European Union Representative

(West Bank and Gaza Strip, UNRWA)
Jerusalem

Discussion

16.00 – 18.00

PLENARY II

Looking ahead: prioritizing reconstruction tasks

Resolving Gaza's severe energy deficit

Unlocking the potential of offshore gas

Alternative energy options

Possibilities for off-site generation

Presentations by experts

Mr. Michael Neuwirth

Coordination Officer

Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator
for the Middle East Peace Process
Jerusalem

Mr. Haitham Ghanem (*presenting via Skype*)

Project Manager, Sunshine4Palestine Association

Manager of the Palestinian Branch
Gaza

Mr. Simon Henderson

Baker Fellow and Director, Gulf and Energy Policy Program,
The Washington Institute
Washington, D.C.

Discussion

18.30 – 20.00
VIC Restaurant
Mozart Room

Reception hosted by H.E. Mr. Fodé Seck
Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise
of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

Wednesday, 1 April
10.00 – 13.00

PLENARY II (continued)

Resolving Gaza's critical water crisis

Treating Gaza's waste water

Rehabilitation and construction of water and sewerage networks

The need for a large seawater desalination plant

Rehabilitation and development of Gaza's infrastructure

Ending the blockade, opening additional crossings

Building Gaza's sea- and airport

Restarting exports to Gaza's traditional markets

Presentations by experts

Ms. June Kunugi

Special Representative
United Nations Children's Fund
Jerusalem

Mr. Shaddad Attili

Former Minister in-charge of the Palestinian Water Authority
Ramallah

Mr. Fuad Bateh

International Advisor on water and environment
Barcelona

Mr. Geoffrey Aronson

Former Director of Research and Publications
Foundation for Middle East Peace
Washington, D.C.

Ms. Barbara Capone

Chief Executive Officer and Project Leader
Sunshine4Palestine Association
Vienna

Discussion

Recess

15.00 – 17.30

PLENARY III

**Strengthening cooperation by all parties to provide relief,
promote reconstruction and reignite economic development**

Role of the Government of the State of Palestine

Empowering the Government on the ground

National Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan for Gaza

Role of the United Nations and its system entities

2014 Gaza Crisis Appeal
2015 Strategic Response plan
Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism

Role of intergovernmental organizations and key donors,
including local governments

Status of Cairo conference pledges
AHLC
Arab League
World Bank

Role of the private sector

Role of relief/aid organizations and civil society

Presentations by experts

Mr. Mohammad Shtayyeh

President
Palestinian Economic Council for Development and
Reconstruction
Ramallah

Mr. Frode Mauring

Special Representative of the Administrator
United Nations Development Programme
Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People
Jerusalem

Mr. Samer Salameh

Deputy Minister of Labour
State of Palestine
Ramallah

Mr. Rachid Bencherif

Head, Grants Unit
The OPEC Fund for International Development
Vienna

Ms. Dana Erekat

Special Advisor to the Minister
Head of Aid Management and Coordination Directorate
Ministry of Planning and Administrative Development
State of Palestine
Ramallah

Discussion

17.30 – 18.00

CLOSING SESSION

Statements by:

H.E. Mr. Riyad Mansour

Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations
Representative of the State of Palestine

H.E. Mr. Fodé Seck

Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise
of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

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