



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

Provisional programme

Tuesday, 31 March
10.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.

OPENING SESSION

Statements by:

Representative of the Secretary-General
of the United Nations

Representative of Austria

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

Representative of the State of Palestine

Recess

*12 March 2015
7.30 p.m.*

11.10 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

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

H.E. Mr. Maumoon Abdul Hadi Hassan Abu Shahla

Minister of Labour

State of Palestine

Ms. Katleen Maes

Head of Office

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

Gaza

Mr. Ahmed Sourani

Resilient development expert

Gaza

Ms. Eva Pillip

Special Coordinator for Palestine

Society for Austro-Arab Relations

Vienna

Discussion

3.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.

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. Robert Turner (*presenting via Skype*)

Director of Operations

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

Gaza

Mr. John Gatt-Rutter

EU Representative

Office of the European Union Representative
(West Bank and Gaza Strip, UNRWA)

Jerusalem

Mr. Michael Neuwirth

Coordination Officer

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

Jerusalem

Mr. Haitham Ghanem

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

6.30 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.

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 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

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

H.E. Mr. Shaddad Attili
Minister in-charge of the water portfolio
State of Palestine

Mr. Fuad Bateh
Senior Advisor for environment and water
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

3.00 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.

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 Research and Development
Ramallah

Mr. Frode Mauring

Special Representative of the Administrator

United Nations Development Programme

Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People

Jerusalem

H.E. Mr. Nasser Qatami

Deputy Minister of Labour

State of Palestine

Mr. Rachid Bencherif

Head, OFID Grants Unit

The OPEC Fund for International Development

Vienna

Discussion

5.30 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.

CLOSING SESSION

Statements by:

Representative of the State of Palestine

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

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For updates : www.un.org/depts/dpa/qpal/calendar.htm