

# ME talks open amid outcry over settlements, Gaza violence

AFP, Jerusalem

Israeli and Palestinian negotiators sat down yesterday for the first time since reviving the peace process, with the talks overshadowed by Israeli settlement expansion and Gaza violence.

Teams headed by Israeli Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni and former Palestinian prime minister Ahmed Qorei met shortly before 1100 GMT at a Jerusalem hotel, Israeli and Palestinian officials told AFP on condition of anonymity.

The meeting, far from the media glare, marked the first time that negotiators met since the conference in the US city of Annapolis last month.

In Annapolis, Israeli Prime Minister

Ehud Olmert and Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas formally relaunched the peace process after a seven-year freeze, pledging to aim for a comprehensive agreement by the end of 2008.

"I intend to invest in trying to create a path for dialogue and negotiations with our neighbours," Olmert said late Tuesday. "At Annapolis we initiated an effort, which I hope will mature into ongoing and serious dialogue."

But the Palestinians headed into the meeting furious with Israel for last week inviting bids to build more housing units in a settlement in annexed east Jerusalem, a city they hope to make the capital of their future state.

"Israel took a step that handicaps and distracts negotiations in launch-

ing a tender bid for building at Abu Ghneim. Under the roadmap it is obliged to stop settlement activity, including natural growth needs," Abbas told AFP in an interview on the eve of the talks.

Israel's move has likewise been blasted by its main ally Washington, the European Union and the United Nations.

Abbas said he had come under "pressure" from the Palestinian leadership to delay the start of negotiations in protest of the expansion of the east Jerusalem neighbourhood, which Israelis call Har Homa.

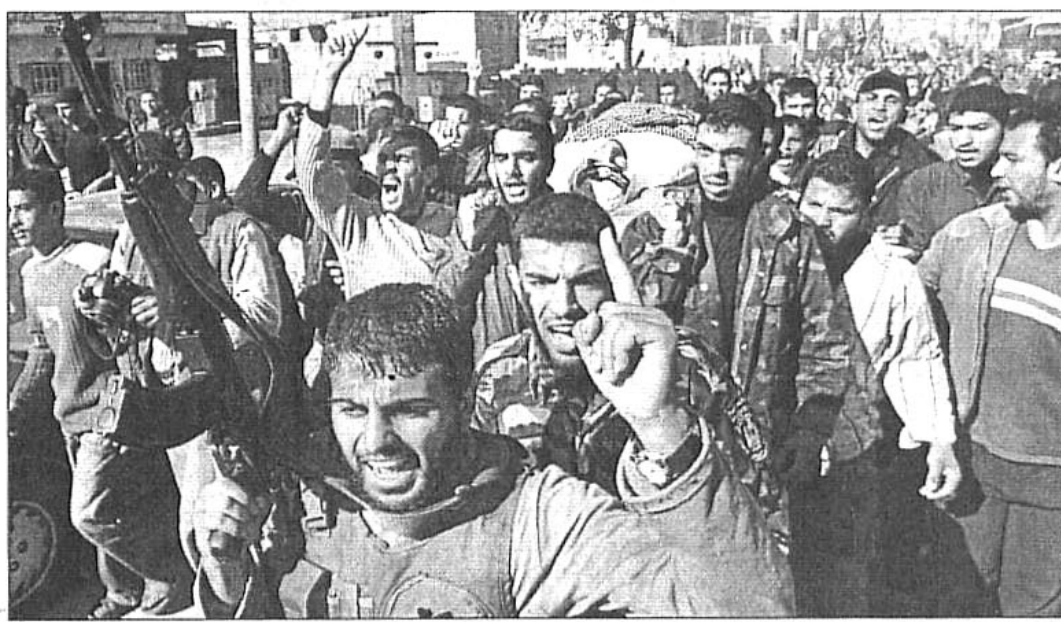
"We should promote a positive, not a negative attitude. We expect an Israeli response tomorrow. If it is negative, we will study what steps to take," he said.

Livni has warned that another public bid to expand settlements risked sinking the fragile peace talks.

"Another advert in the papers for a construction tender could ruin the negotiations with the Palestinians," the liberal Haaretz quoted her as telling an interministerial committee on Tuesday.

The Palestinians have likewise blasted an Israeli incursion in Gaza on Tuesday that killed six militants, in one of the largest military operations in months in the Hamas-run territory.

"The Israeli policy of escalation on all fronts is aimed at sabotaging and placing hurdles in the path of negotiations even before they start," charged Palestinian presidency spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeina.



AFP PHOTO

Palestinians carry the body of Omar Khalil, a militant from the Palestinian Popular Resistance Committees, during his funeral in Rafah, southern Gaza Strip, yesterday. Israel's security cabinet met yesterday to discuss its response to the ongoing rocket fire from Gaza, officials said, a day after an army incursion killed six militants in the Hamas-run territory.



AFP PHOTO

Former Malaysian deputy prime minister Anwar Ibrahim (C), flanked by opposition party figures Mustafa Ali (L) of the Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party (PAS) and Lim Guan Eng (R) of the Democratic Action Party (DAP), addresses journalists during a joint press conference by opposition parties in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

## Malaysia's opposition demands crisis talks with PM

AFP, Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia's opposition parties yesterday demanded crisis talks with Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi over a crackdown on dissent triggered by mass protests.

Dozens of protesters, including opposition figures, have been arrested and slapped with charges including attempted murder and sedition after a series of banned street rallies that have infuriated the government.

Anwar Ibrahim, a former deputy premier who was sacked and jailed in 1998, said Abdullah must face issues including mounting racial tensions in the multicultural country dominated by Muslim Malays.

"The main issues we want to raise are the racial and religious tensions affecting this country, protesting the high-handedness of breaking up protests and public assemblies, and the need for free and fair elections," he said.

"These are legitimate grievances of the people regardless of whether they are Hindus or Muslims."

Two major rallies last month, which police broke up with tear gas, water cannons and baton charges, have sent shockwaves through the nation which is home to large ethnic Chinese and Indian minorities.

An electoral reform protest drew at least 30,000 people, and a week later some 8,000 people protested against discrimination towards Indians.

In a joint press conference, four opposition parties including Anwar's Keadilan and the Chinese-based Democratic Action Party (DAP) deplored the arrests and insisted Abdullah discuss the national crisis.

"We are seeking an immediate appointment with the prime minister to discuss these pressing matters of state and urge him to honour his promise of being willing to listen to the concerns of all Malaysians," they said in a statement.

## Boy killed in India school shooting

AFP, New Delhi

A teenage pupil was shot dead in a school in an affluent town near the Indian capital Tuesday in the country's first reported school shooting, police said.

"One student was shot at by two classmates," senior police official Mahendra Lal told AFP, adding that the two boys had been detained.

"The boys said he used to harass them," he said, adding that the victim and his classmates had a dispute previously.

The teenagers fired five bullets, of which three hit the 14-year-old student, killing him immediately.

The weapon belonged to the father of one of the boys.

The shooting took place at a public school in the satellite town of Gurgaon.



AFP PHOTO

Afghan policemen try to remove the destroyed suicide bomber's car at the site of attack in Kandahar yesterday. A suicide attacker blew up a bomb-filled car near an Afghan army convoy in the southern city, killing a civilian, a police chief said.

# Over 50 Taliban killed in Afghan clashes

AFP, Kabul

Afghanistan's defence ministry said yesterday that more than 50 Taliban were killed in two days of "intense clashes" near the southern town of Musa Qala, which was taken from the militants this week.

The fighting in southern Helmand province's Sangin district which neighbours Musa Qala erupted after the Taliban were forced out of the town, the ministry said in a statement.

"The terrorists, after being defeated in Musa Qala, attempted to put pressure on Sangin district. During 48 hours of intense clashes around Sangin, over 50 terrorists have been killed," it said.

It said three of the dead were

foreign nationals. al-Qaeda-linked foreign fighters are said to be helping the Taliban in their insurgency against the government and its Western allies.

Three Taliban commanders were also killed in the fighting, which was supported by the Nato-led air force, the statement said, adding that no civilians or friendly forces were killed.

Afghan troops backed by their Nato allies were meanwhile searching for remnants of the Taliban around Musa Qala yesterday and conducting a "clean-up operation", the defence ministry said in a separate statement.

"The Afghan National Army and Nato troops are trying to secure the surrounding areas of the district,"

it said.

The Taliban stormed Musa Qala 10 months ago, breaking a controversial deal in which British forces pulled out on the request of elders who said they would handle security after months of intense fighting.

The town then became a base for the fighters, whose insurgency is at its bloodiest this year with around 6,000 people dead. The town was recaptured on Monday.

Helmand province is Afghanistan's main opium-growing area and a stronghold for the Taliban militia, who were toppled from government in 2001 for harbouring al-Qaeda leaders after the September 11 attacks.

# Rich countries should commit to slash carbon pollution

AFP, Bali

Talks on halting the juggernaut of climate change swung into top gear here yesterday with a blunt warning from UN chief Ban Ki-moon that the world was counting on a breakthrough.

Amid beefed-up security at the conference venue following devastating twin bombings in Algiers, representatives from more than 180 countries faced what sources described as deadlock on several key issues.

Meeting on the Indonesian resort island of Bali, environment ministers have until Friday to agree a framework for tackling global warming past 2012, when pledges under the Kyoto Protocol expire.

"If we leave Bali without such a breakthrough, we will not only have failed our leaders but also those who look to us to find solutions, namely the peoples of this world," Ban said.

"This is the moral challenge of our generation. Not only are the eyes of the world upon us. More important, succeeding generations depend on us. We cannot rob them of their future."

Ban urged ministers to set a deadline of the end of 2009 for wrapping up a deal that curbed greenhouse-gas emissions and helped those who are least to blame for global warming yet most at risk.

But he admitted that the Bali talks would not meet the expectations of those clamouring for immediate targeted commitments to slash carbon pollution.

He led a minute's silence for victims of Tuesday's attacks in the Algerian capital, one of which devastated the offices of the UN refugee agency and UN development programme, killing at least 11

UN staffers.

Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono echoed Ban's warning. "We are embarking on the greatest project in the history of human civilization."

"And the worst thing that can happen here is to end our conference with no consensus, no breakthrough, and it's all business as usual."

In a video message from Oslo, where he received the Nobel peace prize on behalf of the UN's top

climate change panel, Rajendra Pachauri spelt out key points on global warming.

The unbridled burning of fossil fuels is stoking a greenhouse effect that is warming Earth's surface with potentially calamitous consequences, he said.

By century's end, millions of people -- many in poor tropical countries -- face the risk of drought, floods, storms and rising sea levels.

## Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Project Director  
Textile Engineering College  
Jorarganj, Mirsarai, Chittagong

No. Bastra/Tex/Engg. Coll./Jorari/Chitta/Ten. Adv./18/2006/883

Date: 04/12/2007

## Invitation for Tenders

Sealed tender are invited from publisher/suppliers/workshop and firm in accordance with the 'Public Procurement Regulation-2003' for the undermentioned supply of Books, Instruments & Chemicals and Repairing Bus & Jeep as per terms & conditions stated below.

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Textiles & Jute.
2.	Agency	Department of Textiles.
3.	Procuring entity name	Project Director "Upgradation of Jorarganj Textile Institute to Textile Engineering College" project Textile Engineering College, Jorarganj, Mirsarai, Chittagong.
4.	Project name (if applicable)	Upgradation of Jorarganj Textile Institute to Textile Engineering College.
5.	Source of funds	GOB.
6.	Tender Package No	01/2007.
7.	Tender name	Procurement of A) Books, B) Instruments & Chemicals C) Repairing Bus & Jeep.
8.	Time for completion of delivery	60 days.
9.	Eligibility of tenderers	The tenderers should submit renewed trade licence, income tax certificate, VAT certificate & bank solvency certificate.
10.	Price of tender document	Tk. 500/- each group.
11.	Amount of tender security	For Group (A) 50,000/-, (B) 10,000/- & (C) 6,000/-.
12.	Name and address of the office(s) selling tender document	(i) Principal & Project Director, Textile Engineering College, Jorarganj, Chittagong. (ii) Director, Department of Textiles, BTMC Bhaban (5th floor), 7-9, Kawan Bazar, Dhaka. (iii) Deputy Chief, Ministry of Textile & Jute, Bldg. No-6, Room No-1105, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.
13.	Name and address of the office(s) receiving tenders	(i) Director, Department of Textiles, BTMC Bhaban (5th floor), 7-9, Kawan Bazar, Dhaka. (ii) Deputy Chief, Ministry of Textile & Jute, Bldg. No-6, Room No-1105, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.
14.	Last date and time for selling tender document	Date: 30/12/2007. Time: 2:00PM.
15.	Last date and time for submission of tenders	Date: 31/12/2007 Time: 2:00PM
16.	Name and address of the office opening tenders with date & time	i. Department of Textiles, BTMC Bhaban (5th floor), 7-9 Kawan Bazar, Dhaka-1215. ii. Date: 31/12/2007 Time: 2:30PM
17.	Special instructions	i. The tenderers should submit sealed closed offer. ii. Rates must be quoted both in figures & in words for each item iii. Each pages of submitted offer should be signed by tenderer iv. The tenderers should submit earnest money as Bank Draft/Pay Order in any schedule bank in favour of Project Director. v. The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.
18.	Brief description of goods & services	Details in the tender schedule.

Principal & Project Director  
Textile Engineering College  
Jorarganj, Mirsarai, Chittagong

C-2979

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Bangladesh Road Transport Authority  
Old Airport Road  
Allenbary, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215  
Website: <http://www.brta.gov.bd>

Memo No. BRTA/9T-4/91(Part-3)-3329

Date: 04-12-2007

## Invitation for Tenders

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Communication.
2.	Agency	Bangladesh Road Transport Authority.
3.	Procuring entity name	Chairman, Bangladesh Road Transport Authority.
4.	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.
5.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.
6.	Invitation for	Supply of different types of printed official forms to be used in BRTA computer system.
7.	Invitation Ref. No.	BRTA/9T-4/91 (Part-3)-
8.	Date	

KEY INFORMATION	
9.	Procurement method
10.	Restricted tendering method (RTM).

FUNDING INFORMATION	
10.	Budget and source of funds
11.	Development partners (if applicable)
12.	GoB funds.
13.	Not applicable.

PARTICULAR INFORMATION	
12.	Project/programme code (if applicable)
13.	Project/programme name (if applicable)
14.	Not applicable.
15.	Not applicable.

14.	Tender package No.	
15.	Tender package name	Supply of different types of printed official forms to be used in BRTA computer system.

16.	Tender publication date	05/12/2007
17.	Tender last selling date	01/01/2008
18.	Tender closing date and time	up to 04:00pm
19.	Tender opening date and time	12:00hrs
20.	Tender opening date and time	14:00 hrs

20.	Name & address of the office(s)	Address
21.	Selling tender document (principal)	BRTA HQ (Accounts Section).
22.	Receiving tender document	Chamber of Director (Admn), BRTA HQ, Allenbary, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215.
23.	Opening tender document	Chamber of Director (Admn), BRTA HQ, Allenbary, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215.

21.	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (optional)	Not applicable.
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INFORMATION FOR TENDERER	
22.	Eligibility of tenderer
23.	Brief description of goods or works
24.	Brief description of related services
25.	Price of tender document (Tk)

22.	Eligibility of tenderer	Enlisted presses to the Department of Printing, Stationary, Forms and Publications, Government of Bangladesh and having at least five years experience of printing and supplying of similar goods.
23.	Brief description of goods or works	Supply of different types of printed official forms to be used in BRTA computer systems.
24.	Brief description of related services	Not applicable.
25.	Price of tender document (Tk)	Non-refundable Tk. 300.00 (three hundred) only to be paid through Treasury Challan in Bangladesh Bank to the Account Code No. 1/5043/0000/2366

26.	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount (Tk)	Completion time in weeks/months
27.	1	Supply of different types of printed official forms to be used in BRTA computer systems. Names of the forms are given below: 1. Tax Certificate Form 2. Certificate of Receipt Permit Form 3. Index Card Form	BRTA HQ, Allenbary, Tejgaon, Dhaka	20,000.00 (twenty thousand) only	4 (four) weeks

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS	
27.	Name of official inviting tender
28.	Designation of official inviting tender
29.	Address of official inviting tender
30.	Contact details of official inviting tender
31.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.

27.	Name of official inviting tender	Chairman, BRTA.
28.	Designation of official inviting tender	Chairman.
29.	Address of official inviting tender	BRTA HQ, Allenbary, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215.
30.	Contact details of official inviting tender	Phone # 8111400 Fax # 9116163
31.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.	

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GD-4487	Director (Administration) BRTA
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