

Saudi king urges Obama to 'impose ME solution'

US president wraps up landmark Mideast, Europe trip

AFP, Riyadh/Paris

Saudi King Abdullah said Arabs were losing patience with the Middle East peace stalemate and called on US President Barack Obama to "impose a solution," a leading Arab newspaper said yesterday.

"We want from you a serious engagement to solve the Palestinian question and impose a solution if necessary," Abdullah reportedly told Obama during their talks on Wednesday, according to "informed sources" quoted in Al-Hayat.

A solution to the Palestinian issue would be "the magic key" to resolving all other conflicts in the region, Abdullah told Obama at their meeting in Riyadh.

"Arab patience is running out," the king warned, saying Arabs would rather devote their time to "forming a new generation that can face the future with knowledge and (the ability to) work."

The Saudi monarch is behind a 2002 peace initiative which offers Israel normal relations with Arab states in return for its withdrawal from land occupied in 1967.

The Arab initiative was not "a result of weakness," Abdullah said, but came about because "Arabs want peace and they have a real, sincere desire to achieve peace and live in peace."

Obama met the Saudi monarch on the eve of a landmark speech in Cairo aimed at healing deep rifts with the world's Muslims.

In an interview published Saturday in Newsweek magazine, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faisal said Washington could use its aid as a lever to push Israel into a two-state settlement with the Palestinians.

Meanwhile, Obama on Sunday wrapped up a Middle East and Europe tour steeped in history and intense diplomacy, confident he has cleared the "debris" thwarting US relations with the Muslim world.

Obama, who visited Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Germany and France also believes he has made clear what he expects from all leaders in the strife-torn Middle East as he cranks up a regional peace drive, aides said.

Ousted Blairite ministers plotted to topple Brown

ANI, London

Cabinet ministers supposedly loyal to former British Prime Minister Tony Blair, reportedly coordinated a plot to force incumbent Premier Gordon Brown to step down.

Cabinet Ministers Hazel Blears, James Purnell, John Hutton and Caroline Flint all claimed that they were work-

ing alone when they handed in their resignations to Number 10, but The Sunday Telegraph discloses they were part of a group of Blairites that met secretly for months and tried to co-ordinate last week's resignations.

Their intention was to force Brown to stand down in favour of Alan Johnson, the then Health Secretary.

Brown faced fresh embarrassment last night after a leaked email showed that Lord Mandelson said the Prime Minister was "self conscious", "insecure" and "angry".

The Prime Minister faces another damaging poll defeat on Sunday with the announcement of the result of the European Parliament elections.

Iraq detains 5 Americans

AP, Baghdad

Officials say Iraqi authorities have detained five US citizens in connection with the death of an American contractor in Baghdad.

The case is the first test of Americans facing local justice under a joint security pact that took effect this year.

Interior Ministry official Maj Gen Hussein Ali Kamal says the detained Americans are from the same company as the slain contractor.

Europe leans right as voters choose EU Parliament

AP, Brussels

Europe was leaning to the right Sunday as tens of millions of people voted in European Parliament elections, with conservative parties favoured in many countries against a backdrop of economic crisis.

Opinion polling showed right-leaning governments with edges over their opposition in Germany, Italy, France, Belgium and elsewhere. Conservative opposition parties were tied or ahead in Britain, Spain and some smaller countries.

"It is a paradox, really. It shows how divided the centre-left forces are at the moment. Normally sitting governments are punished at European elections," said Jackie Davis, an analyst at the European Policy Centre in Brussels.

The EU parliament has evolved over five decades from a consultative legislature to one with the power to vote on or amend two-thirds of all EU laws. It has 736 seats and lawmakers serve for five-year terms.

Britain, Ireland, the Netherlands and five other EU nations cast ballots in the last three days, while the rest of the 27-nation bloc voted Sunday. Results for most countries were expected Sunday night.

For many, the Europe-wide elections were most important as a snapshot of national political sentiment.

High unemployment across Europe has increased voter dissatisfaction with mainstream national parties, and scepticism over the EU's power to help spur economic recovery.



French President's wife Carla Bruni-Sarkozy casts her ballot for the European parliamentary election yesterday in Paris.

Israel to lay out ME policies next week

AFP, Jerusalem

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday he will make a key speech next week laying out his government's policies on the Middle East peace process.

"Next week I will make a key diplomatic speech where I will present before the citizens of Israel our principles for reaching peace and security," Netanyahu said at the weekly cabinet meeting.

The hawkish premier did not specify

when he would deliver his address, but a senior government official told AFP it would probably be next Sunday.

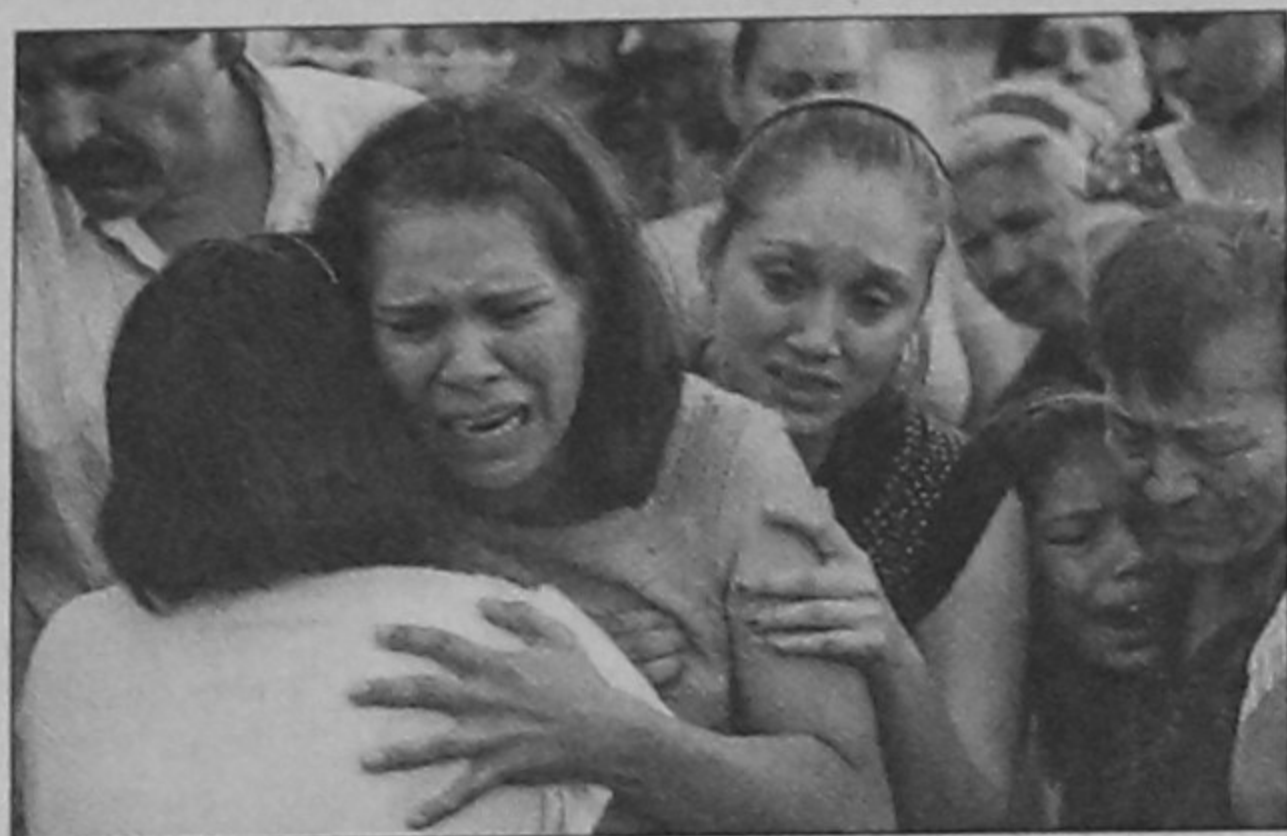
Netanyahu's comments were his first since US President Barack Obama's speech to the Muslim world on Thursday, in which he reiterated Washington's "unbreakable" bond with Israel, but vowed not to turn his back on Palestinian aspirations and repeated his call for a halt to Jewish settlements.

"I would like to make it clear -- we would like to reach peace with the

Palestinians and with the Arab states with the maximum understanding of the United States," Netanyahu said.

"My goal is to reach a stable peace that is based on a solid principle of security for Israel and its citizens."

Over the past few months tensions between the United States and its staunchest ally have risen to levels not seen in 20 years as Washington pressed Netanyahu to publicly back the principle of a Palestinian state and freeze all settlement activity on occupied land.



Relatives of victims cry at the cemetery during the funeral of one of the 38 children who died in a fire at a daycare centre in Hermosillo, Sonora state, Mexico on Saturday.

Bodies found as Air France probe studies speed monitors

AFP, Paris

Salvage crews found bodies and a wing section from an Air France jet, which plunged into the Atlantic, as investigators probed Sunday a possible link between false speed measurements and the crash.

Six days after AF 447 from Rio to Paris disappeared while flying through violent storms

in the middle of the night with 228 passengers and crew on board, speculation is focusing on its airspeed monitors.

Brazilian naval and air force crews found two bodies on Saturday and were continuing to come across wreckage, including part of the twin-engine Airbus A330's wing as well as floating luggage, on Sunday.

INVITATION FOR TENDER (WORKS)

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| 1 | Ministry/Division | Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. |
| 2 | Agency | ICDDR,B |
| 3 | Procuring Entity Name | Executive Director, ICDDR,B |
| 4 | Procuring Entity District | Mohakhali, Dhaka. |
| 5 | Invitation for | Works |
| 6 | Invitation Ref No & Date | Memo No. ICDDR,B/ Mohakhali/ Service Building/ 08/14 Date: 01.09.2008 |
| 7 | Procurement Method | Open Tendering Method (OTM) |
| 8 | Budget and Source of Funds | IDA - GoB |
| 9 | Development Partners | IDA |
| 10 | Project / Program Name | Construction of Basement, Level 1, Mezzanine Level and Level 2 of 12-Storey Service Building of ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka. |
| 11 | Tender Package No. | Package No. 14 |
| 12 | Tender Package Name | Construction of Basement, Level 1, Mezzanine Level and Level 2 of 12-Storey Service Building of ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka. |
| 13 | Tender Publication Date | June 08, 2009 |
| 14 | Tender Last Selling Date | July 08, 2009 |
| 15 | Tender Closing Date and Time | July 09, 2009. Time: 11:30 Hours |
| 16 | Tender Opening Date and Time | July 09, 2009. Time: 12:00 Hours |
| 17 | Name & Address of the office(s) | Address |
| | - Selling Tender Document | Treasury Unit, Cash Counter-2, Ground Floor, IPH Building, ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka during 10.00 A.M. to 03.30 P.M. |
| | - Receiving Tender Document | Procurement & Materials Office, ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka. |
| | - Opening Tender Document | Procurement & Materials Office, ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka. |
| 18 | Eligibility of Tenderer | Reputed construction firms enlisted in Govt./Semi Govt./Autonomous organization having requirements are: (i) The Tenderer shall have minimum 10 (ten) years of general experience on building construction works including civil, sanitary, electrical & electro-mechanical works (ii) Tenderers having experience in successful completion of at least 1 (one) number building works including pile foundation and basement floor(s) of Tk. 8 (eight) crore in single work order comprising of civil, sanitary, electrical & electro-mechanical works within the last 5 (five) years. Evidence regarding successful completion of works in the form of Work order/award and Completion Certificate must be submitted signed by the appropriate authority. (iii) Minimum tender capacity Tk. 15 (fifteen) crore. (iv) The tenderers shall have a minimum average annual turn over during last 5 (five) years at least Tk. 12.00 (twelve) crore. (v) The tenderer shall have sanctioned credit line facilities/liquid asset at least Tk. 2 (two) crore. (vi) Tenderer must have qualified & experienced Technical Personnel Civil, Electrical & Mechanical and essential equipment as stipulated in the Tender Data Sheet (TDS) in the Tender Documents. (vii) Tenderers are required to submit price quotation correspond to 100% of the required items and quantities. |
| 19 | Price of Tender Document | Tk. 3,000.00 (Taka three thousand) only |
| 20 | Lot No | Identification of Lot |
| | | Location |
| | | Tender Security Amount (Tk) |
| | | Completion Time in Months |
| | 20 | Construction of Basement, Level 1, Mezzanine Level and Level 2 of 12-Storey Service Building of ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka. |
| | | ICDDR,B, 68, Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Sarani, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212. |
| | | Tk. 20 (twenty) lacs in the form of Pay Order, Bank Draft or Bank Guarantee in favour of ICDDR,B, Dhaka from any scheduled Bank of Bangladesh. |
| | | 15 (fifteen) months |
| 21 | Name of Official Inviting Tender | Md. Abu Masum |
| 22 | Designation of Official Inviting Tender | Manager, Procurement |
| 23 | Address of Official Inviting Tender | Gyanaloy Project, Finance Department, ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka. |
| 24 | Contact details of Official Inviting Tender | Tel: 8860523-32, Ext: 3735 Fax: 9860620 e-mail: masum@icddr.org |
| 25 | The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders. | |
| 26 | Special Instruction: (a) All activities in connection with the said procurement of Works will be guided as per rule of "The Public Procurement Rules 2008". (b) If it is not possible to receive & open the tender on the schedule date for any unavoidable circumstances, the same will be received and opened on the following working date at same time and same place. | |

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

RFP for Price Monitoring Database of Ministry of Commerce



UNDP Bangladesh seeks proposals from interested and well qualified organizations for the RFP for Price Monitoring Database of Ministry of Commerce.

To collect detail bidding documents please contact at mohammad.naim@undp.org

Submission of Bid: The envelope should state "RFP for Price Monitoring Database of Ministry of Commerce" and should be marked as 'Confidential' and addressed to the **Procurement Unit, UNDP Bangladesh**, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Begum Rokeya Sharani, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.

The deadline for submission of Proposal will be **22 June 2009, 14:00.**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

RFP for Online monitoring of distribution of widow allowance



UNDP Bangladesh seeks proposals from interested and well qualified organizations for the RFP for Online monitoring of distribution of widow allowance for the Department of Women Affairs under Ministry of Women and Children Affairs.

To collect detail bidding documents please contact at mohammad.naim@undp.org

Submission of Bid: The envelope should state "RFP for Online monitoring of distribution of widow allowance" and should be marked as 'Confidential' and addressed to the **Procurement Unit, UNDP Bangladesh**, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Begum Rokeya Sharani, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.

The deadline for submission of Proposal will be **21 June 2009, 14:00.**

Request For Quotation (RFQ)

Laptop Batteries for PERP



Sealed Bids are invited for "Laptop Batteries (Laptop Model: Dell D630) - 1,000 units from manufacturer/ authorized agents/ Dealers & Distributors with the detailed specification and price.

Submission of Bid: The envelope should state "Bid for Laptop Batteries for PERP" and should be marked as 'Confidential'. The selection of Bids will be done based on the UNDP procurement rules and regulations and only the successful bidder(s) will be contacted. However, UNDP, Dhaka reserves the right to accept or reject any bid(s) without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

The detailed bid documents are available: parvin.akther@undp.org. Bid must be dropped to the Procurement Cluster of UNDP, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka. Bids must be submitted **before 12.30 hrs on 14 June 2009.**