Source: Israel 11 April 2006

At the Cabinet meeting 11.04.06

3. The Cabinet discussed policy regarding the Palestinian Authority following the swearing-in of the Hamas government. Defense Mnister Shaul Mofaz, Foreign Mnister Tzipi Livni, IDF Chief-of-Staff Lt-Gen. Dan Halutz and GOC Intelligence Maj.-Gen. Amos Yedlin were among those who presented their views on the issue and on the problems facing the PA and the Hamas government. The Cabinet decided as follows:

Following the Palestinian Authority elections and the subsequent 25.3.06 swearing-in of the Hamas government, a government which recognizes neither the existence of the State of Israel nor the agreements that have been signed with it and which has not disavowed the path of terrorism:

A The Palestinian Authority is a terrorist authority that is hostile to Israel;

B. The State of Israel, and all of its official representatives, will not hold ties with the Palestinian Authority and its elements.

C. The Palestinian Authority is one authority, therefore, neither the Palestinian Authority Chairman nor his office will be treated any differently. However, there will be no personal disavowal of the Palestinian Authority Chairman.

D. Foreign officials who are visiting the region and who meet with Hamas elements will not be received, during the same visit, for meetings with Israeli officials.

E. Israel will coordinate with the international community regarding humanitarian assistance for the needs of the Palestinian population, not via the Palestinian Authority establishment.

F. Subject to security considerations, the Gaza Strip crossings will be open in order to allow the entry of humanitarian assistance into the Gaza Strip.

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