

- Secretary Rice asked me to meet with you to discuss how we can move forward together.
- Washington is considering how we can make progress in restoring a political process between you and the Israelis. In order to do this, we need to understand your plans regarding a new PA government.
- As you heard in New York, President Bush wants to support you.
- As you saw in Secretary Rice's speech to the American Task Force on Palestine, the Administration genuinely wants to find a way to move forward via the Roadmap toward our shared goal of a Palestinian state. We have just had a Quartet meeting in London and the EU takes the same position.
- But our ability to help depends to a great extent on you. We can do much more if there is a PA government in place that fully and clearly accepts the Quartet principles.
- Key Arab states are also prepared to help you along this path.
- You told Secretary Rice you would be prepared to move ahead within two to four weeks of your meeting. We believe that the time has come for you to move forward quickly and decisively to resolve the governmental crisis.
- We also believe that you need to communicate your plans clearly to the Palestinian people in order to build their support.
- We know you are evaluating the various options. We see three vital elements that should be part of whatever strategy you adopt:

1) Reach out to the public: Make your intentions to form a new government public and outline what such a government can achieve for the Palestinian people;

2) Hamas should be given a clear choice, with a clear deadline: Hamas should be given a defined period of time in which to respond - they either accept a new government that meets the Quartet principles, or they reject it;

3) The consequences of Hamas' decision should also be clear: If Hamas does not agree within the prescribed time, you should make clear your intention to declare a state of emergency and form an emergency government explicitly committed to that platform.

- As you heard in Amman, we also believe that you need to immediately strengthen your team. We believe this should include credible figures of strong standing in the international community, as was suggested there.
- We are already working on projects to support the Presidential Guard and the NSF, and for the crossing at Karni/Al-Mintar. If you act along these lines, we will support you both materially and politically by lifting our financial restrictions, coordinating with the Gulf states to ensure prompt delivery of promised aid, and working with the Israeli government towards a resumption of revenue transfers.
- If you agree to this strategy, we will be there to support you. We hope you will act now to put these ideas into motion.