Surveys Show Turks Divided on EU, Down on U.S.
Page Denied
More troubling still is the dramatic drop in U.S. favorability in the Pew Global Attitudes Survey over the last year to 10 percent, which may reflect the impact of world events such as the Free Gaza flotilla last year, the Arab uprisings, and the current election season.
On Israel, he said Japan may abstain on the follow-up resolution on the Gaza Flotilla incident if the resolution overly emphasizes the flawed Fact-Finding Mission and fails to express sufficient support for the Panel of Inquiry set up under the Secretary General.

End Summary.

Statements on Syria and Yemen

LGBT Resolution
Gaza Flotilla Follow-Up Resolution

4. (SBU) Despite Japan's support for the follow-up resolution on the Gaza Flotilla incident at the previous HRC session, Oba said no decision has been made regarding Japan's support for the follow-up resolution at the current session. Noting that both Turkey and Israel demarched MOFA on this issue, he said Japan's decision depends on the resolution's language, and that Japan's Mission in Geneva is actively involved in negotiating the draft. If the text relies too heavily on the flawed Fact-Finding Mission, Japan will most likely abstain, he said. He said Japan seeks language expressing support for the Panel of Inquiry established under the UN Secretary General.

Resolution on Belarus

Signature: ROOS

Drafted By: TOKYO: Whitney, Thomas C
Cleared By: TOKYO/EMB/POL: Holz, Raymond E
TOKYO/EMB/POL: Luke, Robert S
Approved By: TOKYO/EMB/A/EX: Zumwalt, James P
Released By: TOKYO: Whitney, Thomas C
Info: ANKARA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE;
DAMASCUS, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; SANAA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE;
MINSK, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; PRETORIA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE;
GENEVA, USMISSION ROUTINE; USUN NEW YORK, USMISSION ROUTINE;
HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL COLLECTIVE ROUTINE

Attachments: metadata.dat

UNCLASSIFIED
SBU
The Islamic focus is also reflected in Malaysia’s close attention to Israel-Palestine issues, such as the June Gaza flotilla incident, which resonate with the public.
From: Muench, Kaitlin D (Montevideo)  
Sent: 6/14/2011 3:45:16 PM  
To: SMART Core  
Subject: Uruguay and the HRC Priorities  

UNCLASSIFIED  
SBU  

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer  

MRN: 11 MONTEVIDEO 450  
Date/DTG: Jun 14, 2011 / 141943Z JUN 11  
From: AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO  
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE  
E.O.: 13526  
TAGS: PHUM, UNHRC-1, UY, UN, SY, BO, IS  
Captions: SENSITIVE  
Reference: A) 11 STATE 57203  
Pass Line: FOR IO/HR WESLEY REISSER  
FOR DRU/MLGA SARAH JOHNSTON-GARDNER  
FOR DRU/MLGA LYNN SICADE  
FOR WHA/BSG VIRGINIA KENT  
Subject: Uruguay and the HRC Priorities  

1. (SBU) Poloff met with representatives from the MFA’s Human Rights Bureau on June 14 to discuss the five U.S. priorities in the current HRC session.  

- Syria and Yemen Joint Statements  
- Belarus  
- LGBT Resolution  
- Israel: MFA officials have not yet seen a draft resolution of this text. However, given that the resolution is a follow-up to the May 31, 2010 resolution on the Gaza Flotilla incident, MFA representatives indicated...
that Uruguay is not likely to change its vote from the previous year and will likely vote in favor of the resolution.

Signature: LLOYD

Drafted By: MONTEVIDEO Muench, Kaitlin D (Montevideo)
Cleared By: Skillin, Kevin D (Montevideo)
Approved By: Skillin, Kevin D (Montevideo)
Released By: MONTEVIDEO Muench, Kaitlin D (Montevideo)
Info: HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL COLLECTIVE ROUTINE
Attachments: metadata.dat

Action Post: Archive Copy

UNCLASSIFIED
SBU
From: svcsmartmfi
Sent: 6/14/2011 7:39:56 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: HRC 17: Instructions for the Flotilla Resolution

UNCLASSIFIED
SBU

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: svcsmartmfi
Sent: 6/14/2011 7:39:56 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: HRC 17: Instructions for the Flotilla Resolution

UNCLASSIFIED
SBU

On 11 STATE 59316
Date/DTG: Jun 14, 2011 / 142328Z JUN 11
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Action: GENEVA, USMISSION ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, PHUM, UN, KPAL
Captions: SENSITIVE
Pass Line: PASS TO IO/FO
Subject: HRC 17: Instructions for the Flotilla Resolution

UNCLASSIFIED
SBU

E.O. 13526: N/A
TAGS: PREL, PHUM, UN, KPAL
SUBJECT: HRC 17: Instructions for the Flotilla Resolution

1. The Department instructs USDEL to call a vote and vote NO on the resolution on the Gaza Flotilla incident. Mission is requested to notify the Department if the resolution text changes from the wording contained sent to the Department when the resolution was initially tabled.

2. USDEL is further instruction to deliver the following explanation of position:

Thank you, Mr. President.
We deeply regret the tragic loss of life and injuries suffered among those involved in the incident aboard the Gaza-bound ships last spring. We have repeatedly underscored the importance of a credible, impartial, and transparent investigation into the tragic events of May 31, 2010. We are committed to working with partners, including our longstanding friends Israel and Turkey, to ensure a full and appropriate response to the incident and the circumstances that led to it.

The tragic flotilla incident underscores the need to move ahead quickly with negotiations that can lead to a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace, including two states, Israel and Palestine, living side-by-side in peace and security.
The United States remains concerned by conditions in Gaza, but notes that the humanitarian situation has significantly improved over the last year, including a marked increase in the range and scope of goods and materials moving into Gaza, an increase in international project activity, and the gradual expansion of exports. The United States will continue to work with Israel, the Palestinian Authority, donors, and the international community to do more and ensure that the needs of the people of Gaza are being met. Mechanisms are in place to transfer humanitarian assistance to Gaza, and they should be used by those seeking to provide assistance for the benefit of ordinary Gazans. We urge all those wishing to deliver goods to do so through established channels so their cargo can be inspected and transferred via land crossings into Gaza to ensure that Israel's legitimate security needs are addressed even as the Palestinians' humanitarian needs are met. We join the Secretary-General in his call on all Governments concerned to use their influence to discourage future flotillas, which carry the potential for escalation.

We commend the steps taken to expand access to goods in Gaza. We will continue to engage the Government of Israel to expand the scope and type of goods allowed into Gaza to address the full range of the population's needs, and to increase the ability of Gazans to export their produce and products. We will continue to work closely with the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority, along with international NGOs and the UN, to provide adequate access for humanitarian goods, including reconstruction materials, through the border crossings, even as we bear in mind the Government of Israel's legitimate security concerns.

We commend the Secretary General's constructive initiative in convening a panel to receive and review the results of Israel and Turkey's national investigations. The work of the panel is ongoing. The panel proceedings have been conducted in a positive and collegial manner. We continue to regard this panel as the primary method for the international community to review the incident. We note that the Human Rights Council Fact-Finding Mission report referred to these ongoing processes and did not recommend further UN action on this matter. The United States was opposed to Resolution 14/1, which handed this Fact-Finding Mission a flawed mandate—something the Mission itself acknowledged in its report.

The United States opposed Resolution 15/1 and 16/20, and for the same reasons, we oppose the current resolution.

CLINTON

Signature: CLINTON

Drafted By: IO/OF:REISSER, WESLEY -- 06/14/11
Clearing By: IO/OF:REISSER, WESLEY -- 06/14/11
Approved By: IO/BRIMMER, ESTHER D
UNCLASSIFIED
SBU

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior
Reviewer

MRN: 11 USUN NEW YORK 472
Date/DTG: Jun 17, 2011 / 171816Z JUN 11
From: USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, PINS, KPKO, KPAL, UNSC, IS, LE, SY
Captions: SENSITIVE
Subject: UNSC/Middle East: May Monthly Consultations

1. (SBU) Summary: UN Special Envoy Serry’s briefing to the Council on May 19, followed by consultations, took place before President Obama’s speech on the Middle East that same day.

France, the UK, and Nigeria joined the U.S. in calling for efforts to halt a repeat of the Gaza flotilla incident of May 2010.

2. (U)
Regarding the possibility of another Gaza flotilla, he stated that the Secretary-General calls on all Governments concerned to use their influence to discourage such flotillas, which carry the potential for escalation and for act responsibly to avoid any violent incident.

May 15 border incidents

Palestinian Unity

5. (SBU)
Resuming negotiations

Gaza

7. (SBU) The UK said that efforts should be made to dissuade another flotilla from sailing to Gaza as this is not the right way to press for increased Gaza access. Nigeria noted concern over plans for another Gaza flotilla and urged that aid instead be channeled via official crossings to avoid a similar outcome. France said that it is important for Council members to bilaterally tell countries with “influence” over the upcoming flotilla to avoid a repeat of the May 2010 incident.

Middle East trip and upcoming meetings

Syria
From: svcsmartmfi
Sent: 6/22/2011 6:34.48 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: CORRECTED COPY FOR RELEASE : GUIDANCE: UNSC MIDDLE EAST CONSULTATIONS, June 23

UNCLASSIFIED
SBU

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

MRN: 11 STATE 62885
Date/DTG: Jun 22, 2011 / 222221Z JUN 11
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Action: USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, UNSC, KPAL, IS, SY, LE
Captions: SENSITIVE, SIPDIS
Reference: 11 STATE 62819
Correction Reason: FOR RELEASE: GUIDANCE: UNSC MIDDLE EAST CONSULTATIONS, June 23
Subject: CORRECTED COPY FOR RELEASE: GUIDANCE: UNSC MIDDLE EAST CONSULTATIONS, June 23

UNCLASSIFIED 062865

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 13526: N/A
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, UNSC, KPAL, IS, SY, LE
SUBJECT: CORRECTED COPY FOR RELEASE: GUIDANCE: UNSC MIDDLE EAST CONSULTATIONS, June 23

(U) This is a corrected copy of remarks that replaces 11 STATE 62819

(U) This is an action message. USUN is authorized to draw from elements in paragraph two for use in the June 23 closed UNSC consultations on the Middle East.

(SBU) Begin Elements:
Page Denied
We remain concerned about the prospect of another flotilla of ships bound for Gaza.
From: Joiles, Julie M
To: svcSMARTHBTSPOP5
Subject: GOI Approves 20 new UNRWA projects
Attachments: COGAT letter to UNRWA.pdf; Metadata.dat

UNCLASSIFIED
SBU

From AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, ECON, ETRO, KWBG, KPAL, UNRWA, IS
SENSITIVE
Subject: GOI Approves 20 new UNRWA projects

(SBU) In an effort to bolster its image before the planned flotilla, the GOI approved the construction of twenty UNRWA projects on June 21.
From: Jolles, Julie M  
Sent: 6/24/2011 3:03:28 PM  
To: SMART Core  
Subject: Scenesetter for CODEL Mica June 28 - July 1

UNCLASSIFIED

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
Date/DTG: Jun 24, 2011 / 241157Z JUN 11  
From: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE  
E.O.: 13526  
TAGS: OREP, AMGT, ASEC, AFIN  
Captions: CODEL  
Reference: A) 11 TEL AVIV 2158  
Subject: Scenesetter for CODEL Mica June 28 - July 1

1. (U) Your visit to Israel comes at a time of dynamic regional change.
Page Denied
9. (U) Relations with Turkey further deteriorated following the May 2010 IDF interdiction of a flotilla intending to break the Israeli naval blockade of the Gaza Strip. Nine Turkish activists - including a dual American citizen - were killed in the IDF’s intervention of the passenger ship Mavi Marmara. Israel remains concerned by plans to launch another flotilla in the coming months, although the decision by the Turkish NGO IHH to postpone its involvement in this next flotilla may have been prompted by Turkish President Erdogan. PM Netanyahu recently sent Erdogan a congratulatory letter following Erdogan’s re-election. As a result, some Israeli analysts believe that an Israel-Turkey rapprochement is possible, especially given Turkey’s condemnation of Asad’s use of violence in Syria. Nevertheless, press reporting indicates as many as 10 ships - including an U.S. ship named the “Audacity of Hope” - may participate from several European ports in this second flotilla. Israeli officials are exploring all options, and have approached the USG for assistance.
Page Denied
From: Miller, Walter R
To: svcSMARTHBTSPOP6
Subject: IN GAZA: NO REACTION TO FLOTILLA; COOKING GAS SHORTAGE; POWER PLANT THREATENED TO CLOSE
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL

IN GAZA: NO REACTION TO FLOTILLA; COOKING GAS SHORTAGE; POWER PLANT THREATENED TO CLOSE

Gaza-bound flotilla hardly registers in Gaza

1. (C) Palestinians in the Gaza Strip are expressing little interest in the “Freedom Flotilla” reportedly heading to Gaza next week. When asked, few can give the approximate dates of the flotilla’s expected launch. There were no reports of the flotilla mentioned in sermons at mosques on Friday, June 24. There are no known preparations or plans for greeting the flotilla next week; nor are there posters about the flotilla on the streets.

Gaza private sector welcomes COGAT approvals of new UNRWA projects

A cooking gas shortage

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer
Gaza power plant at risk of shutting down.
From: Daniels, Cherie S
To: svcSMARTHBTSPOP6
Subject: Norway's Libya contribution post-August 1 becoming clearer, Govt/Parliament Consultations Progressing
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL
Sensitive
NON-RESPONSIVE PORTIONS REDACTED

Norway's Libya contribution post-August 1 becoming clearer. Govt/Parliament Consultations Progressing
6. (C) Comment:

This political theater came into play during public demonstrations, attended by SV MPs, in favor of the upcoming Gaza Flotilla.
From: Slakey, Monica M
Sent: 6/10/2011 10:35:29 AM
To: svcSMARTHBTSPOP1
Subject: Norway shares many USG priorities for the UNHRC June 2011 session
Attachments: Metadata.dat

Norway shares many USG priorities for the UNHRC June 2011 session
From: Stillman, Douglas A  
To: svcSMARTHBTSPOP8  
Subject: on US-Turkish Cooperation  
Attachments: Metadata.dat  

SECRET

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER  
Name: Doug Silliman, Title: CDA  

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET  
Page 1 of 2  

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05746982 Date: 02/10/2016
From: Levin, Jan X
Sent: 6/10/2011 9:59:03 AM
To: svcSMARTHBTSPOP5
Subject: Israeli MFA Updates on Flotilla Preparations
Attachments: Metadata.dat

SECRET

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

MRN: 11 TEL AVIV 689
Date/DTG: Jun 10, 2011 / 1013592 JUN 11
From: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, KWBG, PARM, PTER, PHSA, IS
Subject: Israeli MFA Updates on Flotilla Preparations

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET
Page 1 of 2
UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05746983 Date: 02/10/2016
From: Kilner, Scott F
To: svcSMARTHTSPPOP6
Subject: Gulenist - Sponsored Interfaith Concert Cancelled Under Pressure from IHH
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL
Sensitive

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad,
Senior Reviewer

1. (C) SUMMARY. On June 9, a concert by an interfaith ensemble that promotes religious tolerance was cancelled under pressure of demonstrations.

2. (SBU) In Istanbul on June 9, a planned concert by the Yuval Ron Ensemble was cancelled due to disruptions by a group of protestors from the Mavi Marmara Volunteers, who reportedly are affiliated with the Humanitarian Aid Association (IHH). The band's front man is a Jewish-American composer who has gathered Muslim, Arab, Armenian, and Christian Arab performers together to fuse dance with spiritual music from the spectrum of Middle Eastern religious traditions. The event, titled "Coexist'istanbul Peace Concert," was organized by the Intercultural Dialogue Platform of the Journalists and Writers Foundation (GYV), with the cooperation of the Israeli Consulate General in Istanbul, and the Istanbul municipal cultural affairs office. (NOTE: GYV is a Gulenist foundation with which the Consulate has had a long-standing and positive relationship. END NOTE.)

Classification EXTENDED on: 10/06/2015 - Class: CONFIDENTIAL - Authority: DSCG 11-1

Declassification on: 6/10/2026
3. (SBU) The free concert was open to the public, and the event was widely promoted, including among our own Consulate staff. In the days preceding the concert, Gulenist news outlets such as Today's Zaman ran several stories promoting the concert, including an interview with Ron, in which he repeatedly emphasized his respect for Islamic culture, his fascination with music produced by Muslims across the world, and his desire to "alleviate national, racial, religious, and cultural divides." The weekly newspaper of Istanbul's Jewish community, Salom, also publicized the event, noting (incorrectly) that invitations could be obtained at the Israeli Consulate.

4. (SBU) Yeni Akit, a confrontational Islamist newspaper, published an article on June 9 that characterized the band as a "Zionist Israeli-origin musical band" whose goal was to "provoke sensitive Muslims." Media reports indicate that the Mavi Marmara Volunteers, a group previously unknown to us, also released a statement on that morning calling the concert an intentional provocation only days after the 31 May anniversary of the Free Gaza Flotilla incidents. GYV disputed the claims of the protestors, noting that the ensemble's goal was to perform music from Jewish, Christian, and Islamic faiths and to promote intercultural dialogue through shared cultural values. Nonetheless, the organizers later cancelled the concert without public notice.

5. (SBU) According to the report of [redacted] who went to the venue to see the concert, not knowing of its cancellation, the venue appeared unprepared, with no stage or sound equipment set up and no audience waiting in the amphitheatre. Instead, [redacted] found an estimated crowd of 150-200 male demonstrators carrying Palestinian flags and placards. [redacted] reported that [redacted] was surrounded by a group of aggressively chanting protestors who seated themselves near [redacted] and then vigorously waved their flags in an attempt to drive away, even striking [redacted] on the head with flag poles more than once. [redacted] observed no security or police officers near the protest.
From: O'Grady, Daniel J
Sent: 6/13/2011 8:31:01 AM
To: svcSMARTHBTSPOP9
Subject: HRC Priorities: Turkey Response,

1. (C) SUMMARY: On June 10 we delivered REFTEL points in reftel regarding the Human Rights Council (HRC) draft statements on Syria and Yemen, and the draft resolution on LGBT issues, to Ali Onaner, the MFA's Human Rights Department Head. Onaner said:
From: Levin, Jan X
To: svcSMARTHTSPOP2
Subject: IHH Reaches out to Israel
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

MRN: 11 TEL AVIV 693
Date/DTG: Jun 13, 2011 / 131344Z JUN 11
From: AMBASSAY TEL AVIV
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE/IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, PARM, PTER, PHSA, KWBG, IS
Reference: A) 11 TEL AVIV 693
Subject: IHH Reaches out to Israel

1.

2.

3.

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
Page 1 of 2
UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05746989 Date: 02/10/2016
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature:</th>
<th>GOLDBERGER</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classified By:</td>
<td>Name: Thomas Goldberger, Title: Charge d’Affaires</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office: Political section, U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agency: Dept of State</td>
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<td>Reason:</td>
<td>1.4 (b), (d)</td>
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<td>Declassify on:</td>
<td>2021/06/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drafted By:</td>
<td>TEL AVIV: Levin, Jan X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approved By:</td>
<td>EXEC: Goldberger, Thomas H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Released By:</td>
<td>TEL AVIV: Levin, Jan X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Info:</td>
<td>NICOSIA, AMBASSADY ROUTINE ; JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL ROUTINE ; ANKARA, AMBASSADY ROUTINE ; CAIRO, AMBASSADY ROUTINE ; USUN NEW YORK, USMISSION ROUTINE ; NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE ; OSD WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE</td>
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<td>Dissemination Rule:</td>
<td>Archive Copy</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

CONFIDENTIAL
The Human Rights Council,
From: Fagin, Steven H
Sent: 6/14/2011 7:54:53 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: Belgium: Response to Demarche on Key U.S. Priorities for the June 2011 UN HRC Session

UNCLASSIFIED
SBU

1. (SBU) Political-Economic Counselor delivered refel demarche on key U.S. priorities for the June 2011 UN HRC session to Belgian MFA on June 10.

2. (SBU) In response, confirmed that Belgium would sign on to both the Syria and the Yemen joint statements.

3. (SBU) indicated that South Africa had significantly redrafted its LGBT resolution and explained that Belgium intended to co-sponsor it. He nevertheless wanted to ensure that the new resolution does not cross our redlines.

4. (SBU) said that the Belgians had told Turkey that the first draft of the Gaza flotilla resolution was not acceptable. Belgium will work toward a common EU position on the resolution, which would probably be an abstention. If Ankara takes on board all EU amendments or shows no flexibility at all, the EU may come out with a different position.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Signature: GUTMAN

Drafted By: BRUSSELS.Fagin, Steven H
Approved By: EMB/POLEC.Fagin, Steven H
Released By: BRUSSELS.Fagin, Steven H
Info: USUN NEW YORK, USMISSION ROUTINE; GENEVA, USMISSION ROUTINE; EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE ROUTINE
Attachments: metadata.dat

Action Post: Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05746994 Date: 02/10/2016
From: Martin, Leah A (Athens)
Sent: 6/16/2011 9:00:27 AM
To: svcSMARTHTBTSPOP3
Subject: (C) AMB Meeting with MFA Secretary General Zepos on Gaza Flotilla

Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

MRN: 11 ATHENS 355
Date/DTG: Jun 16, 2011 / 1613032 JUN 11
From: AMBASSASY ATHENS
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PARM, PGOV, PHSA, PTER, KWBG, IS, TU, GR
Reference: A) 11 ATHENS 235
Pass Line: AMBASSASY ASTANA PASS TO AMCONSUL ALMATY
AMBASSASY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMBASSASY ROME PASS TO AMCONSUL FLORENCE
AMBASSASY PARIS PASS TO AMCONSUL STRASBOURG
AMBASSASY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK
AMBASSASY VILNIUS PASS TO AMBASSASY MINSK
AMBASSASY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMBASSASY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG
AMBASSASY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL LEIPZIG
AMBASSASY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG

Subject: (C) AMB Meeting with MFA Secretary General Zepos on Gaza Flotilla

1. (C) During his June 16 meeting with MFA Secretary General Zepos, the Ambassador inquired about Greek government plans to respond to the upcoming Gaza Anniversary Flotilla.

2. 

RELEASE IN PART 1.4(B), B1, 1.4(D)
1. (C) SUMMARY: The DCM met with Israeli Deputy Chief of Mission Joseph Moustaki June 14 to discuss the upcoming Gaza Anniversary Flotilla and Greek-Israeli relations.

2. 

---

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05747015 Date: 02/10/2016
From: Silliman, Douglas A
To: svcSMARTHBTSPOP6
Subject: MFA—Syria
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL

MRN: 11 ANKARA 881
Date/DTG: Jun 16, 2011 / 160523Z JUN 11
From: AMEMBASSY ANKARA
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, PREF, KPAL, KWBG, XF, TU
Subject: MFA—Syria

1. (C) SUMMARY: During a June 13 meeting with CDA Silliman, MFA

SUMMARY.

4. (C) REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

1.4(B), 1.4(D), NR
From: Behnke, Lynette
To: svcSMARTHBTSPOP2
Subject: HUNGARY ON USG PRIORITIES FOR JUNE 2011 HRC SESSION
Attachments: Metadata.dat

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

UNCLASSIFIED
SBU

[Redacted]

1. (SBU) On June 15, Poloff delivered referral points to the Department of International Organizations and Human Rights at the Hungarian MFA. said

4. (SBU) said the only USG priority where the EU and Hungary differed slightly with the U.S. was the proposed follow-up resolution on the May 31, 2010 Gaza Flotilla incident. He said not all members of the EU were inclined to oppose the resolution. He noted that Hungary had abstained from the initial resolution, but said he did not yet know how Hungary would vote on this session's resolution. He noted the possibility of a compromise stemming from ongoing talks between Turkey and the U.S. However, he noted that the EU preferred the entire issue be withdrawn from the purview of the HRC and instead be discussed by the PermReps in New York.

Signature: KOUNALAKIS

Drafted By: BUDAPEST: Behnke, Lynette
Cleared By: Department of State: Betts, Timothy A
Department of State: O'Friel, Paul C
From: svcsmartmfi
Sent: 6/21/2011 8:16:54 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: DEMARCHE: THE FREE GAZA "ANNIVERSARY FLOTILLA"

SECRET
Sensitive

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

MRN: 11 STATE 62256
Date/DTG: Jun 22, 2011 / 212357Z JUN 11
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Action: KUALA LUMPUR, AMEMBASSY IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PARM, PGOV, PHSA, PTER, KWBG, TU, MY, IS
Captions: SIPDIS
Reference: 11 STATE 36240
11 TEL AVIV 365
11 TEL AVIV 423
11 TEL AVIV 433
Pass Line: AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMEMBASSY LISBON PASS TO AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA,
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG,
AMEMBASSY VILNIUS PASS TO AMEMBASSY MINSK,
AMEMBASSY LONDON PASS TO AMCONSUL EDINBURGH,
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL LEIPZIG,
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG,
AMEMBASSY ROME PASS TO AMCONSUL FLORENCE,
AMEMBASSY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA,
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PASS TO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI,
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK,
AMEMBASSY PARIS PASS TO AMCONSUL STRASBOURG
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMEMBASSY LISBON PASS TO AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA,
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG,
AMEMBASSY VILNIUS PASS TO AMEMBASSY MINSK,
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AMEMBASSY ATHENS PASS TO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI,
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK,

Subject: DEMARCHE: THE FREE GAZA "ANNIVERSARY FLOTILLA"

SECRET STATE 062256
SIPDIS, AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF,
AMEMBASSY LISBON PASS TO AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA,
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG,
AM EMBASSY VILNIUS PASS TO AM EMBASSY MINSK,
AM EMBASSY LONDON PASS TO AM CONSUL EDINBURGH,
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AM EMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AM CONSUL VLADIVOSTOK,
AM EMBASSY PARIS PASS TO AM CONSUL STRASBOURG

E.O. 13526 · DECL: 2021/06/21
TAGS: PARM, PGOV, PHSA, PTER, KWBG, TU, MY, IS
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE: THE FREE GAZA “ANNIVERSARY FLOTILLA”

REF: A) 11 STATE 36240
B) 11 TEL AVIV 366
C) 11 TEL AVIV 423
D) 11 TEL AVIV 433

Classified by: Paul H. Sutphin, Director
Office of Israel and Palestinian Affairs, U.S. Department of State.
Reason(s): 1.4 (b), (d)

1. (U) This is an action request. Embassy Kuala Lumpur is asked to raise USG concerns about a flotilla planned to break the Israeli maritime blockade of Gaza, drawing on points in paragraphs 3 and 4 with Malaysian officials at the highest appropriate level as soon as possible, and particularly in light of recent reported public comments by Prime Minister Najib supportive of the prospective flotilla. These points have already been used for outreach to European capitals.

BACKGROUND

2. (C)

GENERAL TALKING POINTS

3. (SBU) Please draw on the following points to approach host government at the appropriate level.

We all regret the tragic loss of life and injuries in the May 31,
2010 violent confrontation between Israeli forces and activists on board the Turkish ship M/V Mavi Marmara when that vessel, and others, attempted to break Israel's maritime blockade of Gaza. That incident has had serious and long-lasting negative repercussions in the region and beyond.

We are concerned that a number of groups are organizing a flotilla to breach Israel's maritime blockade of Gaza on the one-year anniversary of the Mavi Marmara incident. Possible groups involved in this "anniversary flotilla" effort include the Free Gaza Movement, the European Campaign to End the Siege on Gaza, the U.S. Boat to Gaza organization, and the Turkish Foundation for Human Rights and Freedoms and Humanitarian Relief (IHH). Organizers are gathering up to 15 or more ships with the intention of arriving in Gaza around the fourth week of June.

The Israeli government has offered all ships wishing to deliver humanitarian aid to Gaza the opportunity to unload their cargo at the port of Ashdod for inspection before delivery to Gaza. The M/V Rachel Corrie delivered humanitarian assistance to Gaza through this mechanism in June 2010, resulting in the assistance moving quickly to Gaza.

The United States notes that the humanitarian situation in Gaza has significantly improved over the last year, including through large increases in the range and scope of goods and materials moving in, an increase in international project activity, and the gradual expansion of exports. We will continue to work with Israel, the Palestinian Authority, and others to do more to ensure that the needs of Gazans are being met.

Recent seizures by Israel and Egypt of advanced military systems, weapons, and ammunition bound for terrorist groups in Gaza, as well as ongoing rocket and mortar attacks from Gaza against Israeli civilians, highlight the continuing problem of the smuggling of illicit arms or goods that could be used to produce arms to Gaza. This underscores the need for security inspection of cargo bound for Gaza. We believe there must be appropriate measures to ensure that arms smuggling to terrorist groups is not taking place.

We therefore strongly urge groups seeking to send humanitarian assistance to Gaza to use existing non-provocative and non-confrontational mechanisms to ensure delivery of aid to Gaza and to allow for a security inspection of the goods being transferred. The purpose of the impending flotilla seems to be more about making a political statement than actually improving the lives of Gazans. Attempts by the flotilla to deliver goods directly to Gaza, without allowing security inspections, would be neither appropriate nor responsible.

The United States hopes that your government will do everything legally possible to prevent another flotilla confrontation. Given the tumult in the region, another violent incident poses significant political risk and also a real risk to safety of life at sea.

There are a number of specific steps we ask that you consider:

- We urge you to speak out publicly about the potential safety risks involved in attempting to breach the blockade, the importance of ensuring that goods moving to Gaza are screened for illicit weapons smuggling or dual-use materials, and that any organization seeking to deliver humanitarian assistance to Gaza should use the existing mechanisms for the transfer of such assistance.
We ask that your government reach out privately to flotilla organizers in your country with the same message, stressing that there are existing, non-provocative mechanisms for the delivery of humanitarian goods to Gaza. Humanitarian assistance for Gaza can be delivered via Israel’s Ashdod port, which the government of Israel has indicated will be available for this purpose.

The anniversary flotilla plans, as far as we can determine, are subject to continuous change. We would appreciate any information you may have on these plans, or flotilla participants, that you are able to share.

We are also expressing to Israel the need for careful planning in how it might intercept flotilla vessels, and restraint in dealing with civilians aboard those vessels.

MALAYSIA-SPECIFIC POINTS

4. (C/REL MALAYSIA)

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

5. (SBU) Post should report results by cable to the Department as soon as is practicable. Please contact NEA/IPA Jim Sindle or Nick Jakobson at (202) 647-4386 or via e-mail for any additional information.

CLINTON

Signature:

CLINTON

Name: Paul H. Sutphin, Director Office of Israel and Palestinian Affairs, U.S. Department of State, Title: 2021/06/21

NEA_IPA-SINDLE , JAMES M - 06/21/11

PM PPA:TYSON, PAUL H;UNP:ZURCHER, KENNETH M;LEGAL:JACOBSON, LINDA

USUNW:BASS, WARREN MAIN STATE RM 726;CATALANO, ELISA MAIN STATE RM 7220;SCHREPEL, DAWN M ;KUMAR, PREM G';NEA/FO,WALLES, JACOB

NEA/IPA:SUTPHIN, PAUL R;NEA/IPA:BUZBEE, JOHN R;NEA/ELA:WAGNER, WILLIAM T

NEA/RA:GRIMM, BRIAN M;EUR:SE:SCHEIBNER, ALEXANDER D;MTS: BANGERT,

JAES HST RM 7325;EPING, JEROME N

NEA/FO:SCHLICHER, RONALD L

Info:

ZENA/LEIPZIG; ZENA/EDINBURGH; ZENA/FLORENCE; ZENA/LEIPZIG;

ZENA/MINSK; ............... .
ZEN/PONTA DELGADA; ZEN/ST PETERSBURG; ZEN/STRASBOURG;
ZEN/THESSALONIKI; BRUSSELS, USEUL; ROUTINE; USUN NEW YORK, USMISSION
ROUTINE; ZEN/VLADIVOSTOK; ZEN/YEKATERINBURG; ALL EUROPE COLLECTIVE
ROUTINE; ALL NEAR EAST COLLECTIVE ROUTINE; ZEN/AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF;
ZEN/AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA; ZEN/AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG;
ZEN/AMEMBASSY MINSK; ZEN/AMCONSUL EDINBURGH; ZEN/AMCONSUL LEIPZIG;
ZEN/AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG; ZEN/AMCONSUL FLORENCE;
ZEN/AMCONSUL ADANA; ZEN/AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI;
ZEN/AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK; ZEN/AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

XMT:
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI; REO HILLAH
Attachments: metadata.dat

Action Post: Archive Copy
Dissemination Rule:

SECRET
Sensitive
From: Martin, Leah A (Athens)
To: svcSMARTBTSPOP7
Subject: Greece Urges Its Citizens and Greek-Registered Vessels Not to Participate in Gaza Flotilla
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: Martin, Leah A (Athens)  
To: svcSMARTBTSPOP7  
Subject: Greece Urges Its Citizens and Greek-Registered Vessels Not to Participate in Gaza Flotilla  
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL

1. (C) MFA Secretary General Zepos called the Ambassador June 23 to highlight the MFA’s “Announcement Regarding the Intention of Greek Citizens to Participate in a Flotilla That Will Attempt to Break the Gaza Blockade.” The statement urges Greek citizens and Greek-registered vessels not to participate in the new flotilla bound for Gaza. The MFA published the statement June 22 on the MFA website, and it has been picked up by the local media.

2.
4. (U) The text of the MFA June 22 statement on the Gaza flotilla follows: *On 31 May 2010, Israeli military forces intercepted a flotilla that was attempting to break the Gaza blockade, with the well-known, tragic consequences. In view of the new attempt to break the Gaza naval blockade, the UN Secretary General expressed his conviction that humanitarian aid for Gaza should be supplied through official channels and asked the member states of the UN – and particularly those with access to the Mediterranean – to discourage such operations, which run the risk of escalating the violence. Greece’s positions on the need to lift the Gaza blockade and improve the humanitarian situation in the region are well known. Equally well known is Greece’s position of principle on the need to respect international law and avoid the use of violence. We have made these positions clear to all the interested parties. The Foreign Ministry – bearing in mind the UN Secretary General’s request, the Israeli government’s stated intention not to allow vessels to approach the Gaza coast and the immediate danger to human life entailed in participation in the operation in question, particularly in light of last year’s events – urges Greek citizens as well as Greek-registered vessels not to participate in the new flotilla headed for the Gaza port. The government is responsible for planning and exercising the country’s foreign policy, based on the promotion of Greece’s interests. In this critical state of affairs, everyone needs to show similar responsibility or take full responsibility for their actions. The planned operation does not deal with the substance of the humanitarian problem in Gaza. In the past, Greece and Cyprus have made specific proposals in the direction of meeting the humanitarian needs of Gaza residents. The potential for implementing these proposals was also discussed at the recent meeting of the two countries’ Foreign Ministers in Nicosia. The ultimate objective remains the full lifting of the Gaza blockade. Greece actively supports the reopening of the peace talks as the only path to a comprehensive and viable solution on the Palestinian problem.*
From: Chapman, Gregory D  
Sent: 6/23/2011 8:07:38 PM  
To: svcSMARTHBTSP0P4  
Subject: Malaysia: Demarche on Gaza Flotilla  
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

MRN: 11 KUALA LUMPUR 507
Date/DTG: Jun 24, 2011 / 2400092 JUN 11
From: AMBASSAD KUALA LUMPUR
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PARM, PGOV, PHSA, PTER, KWBG, TU, MY, IS
Reference: A) 11 STATE 62256
B) 10 KUALA LUMPUR 407
Pass Line: DEPT FOR NEA/IPA, EAP/MTS
Subject: Malaysia: Demarche on Gaza Flotilla

1. (C) Acting Political Counselor delivered ref A demarche June 22 to MFA Assistant Secretary for Middle East Peace Process Ferooze Ali. Ali confirmed that a small number of Malaysians would take part in the flotilla, and noted the Prime Minister had publicly acknowledged Malaysia's participation. He had no substantial comments on our demarche, but promised to take our concerns into consideration.

2. (C) Comment: Although Malaysia's participation in the flotilla is not officially sponsored, several political figures (including the Youth Director of the ruling United Malays National Organization political party) will be among the ten Malaysians joining the flotilla. Prime Minister Najib has publicly referred to these ten as "heroes."