

From: Gershon Baskin [peace@netvision.net.il]

Sent: Wednesday, July 23, 2008 2:45 PM

To: 'Terry Spragg'

Subject: my meeting with Head of PWA

Dear Terry

Today I had a very successful meeting with Dr. Shaddad Atilli, the Head of the Palestinian Water Authority. We are old friends so it was good to see him. He had already reviewed the materials on the shipping of water from Turkey. I provided him with some more background about my talks with the Turkish government. He had seen the DVD. We discussed some of the economics and the strategy to take to convince the skeptics about the idea. He agreed that we did not have to link the bringing of water from Turkey to Gaza to the political negotiations on water with Israel. He did think, however that it would be advantageous to the Palestinians to discuss the possible off-loading of the water in Israel and then having Israel transfer the quantity of water brought in to Gaza through the Israeli system. This would require no infrastructure development in Gaza for which there are great difficulties.

He was quite enthusiastic about the idea. He says that the water crisis in Gaza is beyond imagination and that they need more water urgently. He will speak with his colleagues in the Ministry of Planning who met with Representatives of the Turkish Government. I will also clarify with the Turkish Ambassador in Tel Aviv how to move forward now in getting the Turkish commitment firmed up. The Turkish Ambassador is on holiday in Turkey so I will try to speak with his Deputy in the coming days.

I think that we made great progress today. It was definitely the best meeting that I have held on this issue since I have been involved.

Best wishes

Gershon

Gershon Baskin - Co-CEO, IPCRI
Israel/Palestine Center for Research and Information

P.O. Box 9321, Jerusalem 91092

Tel: +972-2-676-9460 Fax: +972-2-676-8011

Cellphone: +972-(0)52-238-1715

gershon@ipcri.org

<http://www.ipcri.org>

Contribute to Peace – Contribute to IPCRI

Make your contribution online

It's fast, it's easy ----IT HELPS

All contributions accepted – large and small

\$10 a month is easy and everyone can afford it

(more if you can as well!)

<http://www.ipcri.org/donate.html>