Moving the Israeli-Palestinian Track Forward Options and Challenges and the Role of the Quartet

November 7 – 8, 2007

Draft Programme

Conference Venue & Accommodation: Ljubljana Hotel Dunajska cesta 154 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia phone: +386 1 588 2500 fax: +386 1 588 2699

Conference language: English



Institute for Strategic Studies

Bertelsmann Stiftung

WEDNESDAY, November 7, 2007 Arrival of participants

19:00 – 21:00 Opening Address and Welcome Dinner room 'Cassiopea'

Christian-Peter Hanelt, Senior Expert, Director, Project "Europe and the Middle East", International Relations Program, Bertelsmann Stiftung, Guetersloh

Prof. Dr. Anton Bebler, Professor of Political Science & of Defense Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana; President, Euro-Atlantic Council of Slovenia, Ljubljana

THURSDAY, November 8, 2007 Expert Workshop 'Moving the Israeli-Palestinian Track Forward - Options and Challenges and the Role of the Quartet' (*Chatham House Rules Apply*) conference room 'Horus'

09:00 – 11:00 Session I Conflicts and Challenges in the Middle East – Prospects for Conflict Management, Conflict Resolution and Peace Making from a European Point of View

Chair: **Christian-Peter Hanelt**, Senior Expert, Director, Project "Europe and the Middle East", International Relations Program, Bertelsmann Stiftung, Guetersloh

Presenting paper:

Almut Moeller, Research Fellow, Bertelsmann Group for Policy Research, Center for Applied Policy Research, Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich

Discussion Introduced by

Gwenda Jeffreys-Jones, Desk Officer for the Middle East Peace Process, Directorate-General External Relations, European Commission, Brussels

Simon Chamberlin, Senior Research Analyst for the Middle East Peace Process, Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, London

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 – 13:30 Session II Israel-Arab Peace: Israel and the Regional Approach

> Presenting paper: **Yossi Alpher**, Co-Editor, The Bitterlemons Family of Internet Publications; Former Director, Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, Tel Aviv University

The Arab Peace Initiative as a Vision for Peace with the State of Israel: Steps towards Realisation

Presenting paper:

Ghassan Khatib, Co-Editor, The Bitterlemons Family of Internet Publications; Vice President, Birzeit University; Former Minister of Planning, Palestinian National Authority, Ramallah

Discussion Introduced by Andreas Michaelis, Director General for Near and Middle Eastern Affairs and the Maghreb, Federal Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany, Berlin

Discussion

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch Restaurant

14:30 – 16:30 Session III: Shaping a Common Agenda for the Middle East conference room 'Horus'

> Presenting paper: **Dr. Michele Dunne**, Senior Associate, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington, DC

Discussion Introduced by **Dr. Ibrahim Saif**, Director, Center for Strategic Studies, Jordan University, Amman

Khalil Alanani, Political Analyst, Al-Siyassa Al-Dawliya Magazine, Al-Ahram Foundation, Cairo

Prof. Ghassan Atiyyah, Professor of Politics, Executive Director, Iraq Foundation for Development and Democracy (IFDD), London

Tomaz Mencin, Minister Plenipotentiary, Head, Division for Asia, Africa and the Pacific, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, Ljubljana

Discussion

16:30 – 16:45 Coffee Break

16:45 – 18:45 Session IV:

Syria's Role in the Arab-Israeli Conflict: Spoiler or Stabilizer?

Presenting paper: **Prof. Dr. Murhaf Jouejati**, Professor of Middle East Studies, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, National Defense University, Washington, DC

Discussion Introduced by **Dr. Reza Molavi,** Senior Research Fellow, School of Government and International Affairs, Durham University

NN, Lebanese Expert

Peter Tejler, Ambassador, Deputy Director General, Head, Middle East and North Africa Department, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Sweden, Stockholm

Discussion