

Israel-PLO Statement on the Cairo Talks, 23 February 1994.

Another round in the Israel-PLO negotiations took place in Cairo from 21-23 February. Some progress was achieved in various areas. This would be the last meeting until April. The talks were suspended by Arafat following the Hebron massacre that took place on 25 February. Text:

The Israeli and Palestinian delegations, headed by Major General Amnon Shahak

and Dr. Nabil Sha'ath respectively, met in Cairo from 21-23.02.94 to continue their negotiations.

The delegations discussed three main topics in three working groups: security, the transfer of civilian authority, and confidence-building measures.

The discussions were fruitful and were characterized by a constructive and businesslike atmosphere which contributed to further enhancing mutual respect and confidence.

With regard to security, the two sides concentrated on security arrangements for the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area, zoning, the deployment and size of the Palestinian police, and other related issues.

In the civilian group, the main issues were archaeology, telecommunications, land registration and the population registry.

The heads of the delegations expressed their satisfaction with the progress achieved in this round of negotiations and their hope that further progress will be made next week when they meet again in Cairo.

The heads of the delegations also expressed their gratitude to President Hosni Mubarak, his government, and the Egyptian people for the hospitality and support they continued to give to these negotiations.