

RELEASE IN FULL

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**From:** Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 12, 2010 8:40 AM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** Fw: (Reuters) Israel said to reject Palestinian formula for talks

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**From:** Moore, Anna W  
**To:** NEWS-EUR; NEWS-Mahogany; SES\_DutyDeputies  
**Cc:** Shaker, Joan P  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 12 08:06:19 2010  
**Subject:** (Reuters) Israel said to reject Palestinian formula for talks

JERUSALEM (Reuters) – Israel has rejected a Palestinian proposal to begin face-to-face peace talks on the basis of a statement by major powers that would set their terms of reference. Reports in the left-wing dailies Haaretz and Maariv said Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told U.S. envoy George Mitchell that he wants direct talks to start immediately but will not accept any preconditions. Netanyahu spokesman Mark Regev had no direct comment on the reports, which said Mitchell's mission had "failed." Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas refuses to engage in direct talks before Netanyahu agrees to a clear agenda.