

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 1:34 PM
To: H
Subject: FW: PA Update 3- March 11

FYI

From: Miller, Andrew P (Cairo)
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 1:29 PM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: Fw: PA Update 3- March 11

FYSA

From: Abdelsayed, Manal Alfred
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 07:14 PM
To: Cairo ECPO Internal POL; ECPOFSNDistribution; ECPODistribution
Subject: Re: PA Update 3- March 11

Al yom saba reports that there is a strong possibility that the Cabinet would submit its resignation to SCAF very soon after today's aggressive attack on the Ministers at the PA session.

Al Yom Saba
 Message sent via BlackBerry. Thx

From: Abdelsayed, Manal Alfred
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 04:08 PM
To: Cairo ECPO Internal POL; ECPOFSNDistribution; ECPODistribution
Subject: RE: PA Update 3- March 11

According to the PA Channel, after a hot session that was just concluded, the majority of MPs agreed on the following:

- To move forward with procedures to withdraw confidence from the Ganzoury's Cabinet
- To move forward with procedures to reject USAID
- To request the release of Omar Abdel Rahman and other Egyptian prisoners from the American prisons

(Will keep following the local press for more details on the above)

(TV PA Channel)

From: Abdelsayed, Manal Alfred
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 3:29 PM
To: Cairo ECPO Internal POL

Cc: Walter, Sara (Cairo/Program)

Subject: RE: PA Update 2- March 11

The Ministers of Justice, International Cooperation have just finished their speeches to the PA. Hearing their speeches, there was nothing new to what they previously stated to the press and at the Shura Council. Here are few points that I would like to highlight in their speeches:

- The Minister of Justice repeated that he has no authority over the Judiciary system and that he had no role to play in this whole issue confirming the independency of Judiciary. He also said that both the Prosecutor General and Chiefs of the Supreme Constitutional Court have the authority to question the judiciary.
- Fayza Abounaga repeated what she said at the Shura Council regarding the history of USAID, the decline in assistance starting in 2007 to reach \$250 million annually, the direct assistance to NGOs against the will of the government, the huge amount of money that were provided to the NGOs right after the revolution, etc.... She also said that some of the American NGOs were involved in political activities in violation to the law. She said that she asked the U.S. that Egypt graduates from the U.S. economic assistance in 2007 but that the U.S. refused and thus no new agreements were signed for a couple of years until President Obama came on board and his administration promised to inform the government of any direct funding to NGOs.
- *Please note that when she was talking about the reduction in USAID in 2008, many MPs shouted "WE DO NOT WANT ASSISTANCE".*
- Finally, she was just confirming that she was right to feel suspicious and to support referring the case to the investigating judges.
- *She seemed very self-contained, her tone was strong and assertive. So in short, she did not add anything new, but just justified her own position towards the case confirming that she was right and that the activities of the NGOs after the revolution raised many questions.*

(PA Channel)

From: Abdelsayed, Manal Alfred
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 2:11 PM
To: Cairo ECPO Internal POL; ECPOFSNDistribution; ECPODistribution
Subject: PA Update - March 11
Importance: High

The PA Speaker El Katatny said the following in his opening remarks of today's session re the foreign funding case (still going on up till this moment, PM Ganzoury is not there, Abounaga is representing the government):-

The Egyptian people were shocked by what happened in the foreign funding case and by the sudden lifting of the travel ban of the defendants and their travel. This case has caused lots of anger among the people and it is the responsibility of the PA to investigate this issue and to confront the government and seek explanation to what happened. The government has allowed these organizations to work without registration in violation to the law. The PA has denounced the travel of the Americans and I confirm that the PA refuses any threats to the Egypt's national security and we fully reject and refuse this bold interference in Egypt's internal affairs. We fully refuse any threats against Egypt and we refuse the use of USAID as a political pressure. The U.S. should realize that Egypt will never accept this after the revolution. Those who interfere in our internal affairs and threaten our National Security should realize that the Egyptian people will never accept this again at any cost. It

is the responsibility of the Egyptian Parliament to interrogate whoever was responsible for these law violations. We announced our refusal to this interference and threats that the Congress is still practicing up till this moment, as they are now requesting to drop the charges completely. We urge American to stop its double standards and we ask what is the real meaning of democracy and human rights in the light of what is happening in Palestine and at el Aksa. I urge the whole world to refer to human rights laws and to the U.N. resolutions and to refuse that any country interfere in the internal affairs of any other country in the world.

Few observations:

- *The PA Speaker was using very strong tone when addressing the U.S. and refusing threats and interference*
- *He indicated more than once that these NGOs represent a threat to Egypt's national security*
- *He referred to the most recent Congressional statements describing them again as "interference"*

(PA Channel)