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FULL**

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 11, 2012 6:41 PM
To: H
Subject: FW: Iran agrees to discuss nuclear proposal in Moscow-EU officials (Reuters)

FYI – the outcome of the Ashton-Jalili conversation.

From: OpsNewsTicker@state.gov [mailto:OpsNewsTicker@state.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 11, 2012 6:19 PM
To: NEWS-Iran; NEWS-Mahogany; SES-O; SES-O_OS
Subject: Iran agrees to discuss nuclear proposal in Moscow-EU officials (Reuters)

BRUSSELS (Reuters) - European Union officials said that Iran has agreed to discuss a proposal from six world powers to curb its production of high-grade uranium at a meeting in Moscow next week in an apparent de-escalation of tensions ahead of the talks.

The development follows more than two weeks of wrangling between Iranian diplomats and Western negotiators over preparations for the closely-watched round of nuclear talks which had cast some doubts over what can be achieved in Moscow.

A tense exchange of letters between EU diplomats, who deal with Iran on behalf of the six powers, and Iranian officials had earlier appeared to suggest Tehran may be backtracking on its expressed willingness to discuss their most pressing concern - high-grade uranium enrichment even in broad terms.

Iran's chief nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili agreed to focus on the six powers' demands at the Moscow meeting, during a one-hour phone conversation with EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton.

"The Iranians agreed on the need for Iran to engage on the (six powers') proposals, which address its concerns on the exclusively peaceful nature of the Iranian nuclear programme," a spokesman for Ashton said.

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