Written by Chris Perver
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The Gaza Community Mental Health Programme has called on Javier Solana, the High Representative for the European Common, Foreign and Security Policy, to lift the "siege" on the Palestinians and restore international aid to the new Palestinian unity government. A letter was sent by the Gaza Community to Solana stating that the Mecca deal does not meet the Quartet's (EU, US, UN, Russia) requirements that the government recognize Israel's right to exist nor renounce violence, but still appealed to the European minister to restore the aid to end the deterioration in the Palestinian way of life. The Gaza Community praised Solana for his efforts, and had a "great impact on enhancing the political, economical, and health situation of Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territories".

Quote: *""For all that Palestinians every where with their friends and supporters of the just cause were happy for the conclusions of the Mecca meeting. We look forward with anticipation to the formation of the new government and restoration of law and order, and resumption of peace talks." The programme said that it sincerely hopes that Solana's position will help the US to reach a wiser position and different from its current violent attitude towards peace, democracy and justice. "Your 'old' experience is called in today* ***in such challenging moment of history*** *."*

The EU has cautiously welcomed the formation of the unity government, but has adopted a "wait and see" policy concerning the resumption of aid. Meanwhile, it seems the US is more pro-Israel than Israel itself. Apparently the US government has informed Palestinian President Abbas that it will boycott the whole PA unity government, unless they agree to abide by the three principles stipulated by the Quartet. On the other hand, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert has stated he will not sever ties with Abbas, even if Hamas does not agree to recognize Israel. Olmert's softly, softly approach, which it is believed he took due to the Quartet's resolve to stick by their principles, will result in confusion. The dyke is only as good as its weakest point. If the Quartet holds its ground but Israel doesn't, the Quartet will have to water down its principles and that is what I fear will eventually happen if Olmert continues this line of reasoning. In the Scriptures the Israelites were told by God never to seek the peace of their enemies. They did over and over again, and we are told of the results.

Numbers 33:55

But if ye will not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you; then it shall come to pass, that those which ye let remain of them shall be pricks in your eyes, and thorns in your sides, and shall vex you in the land wherein ye dwell.

Source WAFA , Jerusalem Post , Jerusalem Post