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**From:** Huma Abedin  
**Sent:** 2/18/2011 11:23:18 AM +00:00  
**To:** H <HDR22@clintonemail.com>  
**Subject:** Abbas

RELEASE IN PART  
B1,1.4(D)

Points from Daniel Rubenstein:

President Abbas will hold a joint meeting of the PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Committee (the two principal leadership structures) at 1100am EST in Ramallah to take a decision on whether to press ahead with the UNSC resolution.

Last night after the President's call, Abbas met with senior aides for several hours to review the situation; meetings are continuing this morning in advance of the Secretary's call. According to several who were present in the meetings, there are some indications that Abbas moved from his position of outright rejection of the package two days ago to a slightly less categorical stance, but the overall tenor of reports is still clearly negative from our perspective. Three senior Abbas advisors with whom we've reinforced our message in the last hours were unequivocal in their statements that the Palestinians would not accept the alternative package.

According to these and other contacts, the two primary concerns expressed in internal meetings are:

[Redacted]

1.4(D)  
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(2) to a lesser extent, concern about the consequences to US-Palestinian relations if the UNSCR goes ahead, and what options he would be left with in such a scenario.

Several Abbas aides say his confidence has been shaken by regional events, and they speculate he will enter today's leadership meeting by seeking opinions and allowing a consensus to develop, rather than attempting to shape the decision himself.

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Several additional dynamics have emerged as well:

[REDACTED]

1.4(D)  
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---We have also heard from several contacts that the Europeans are sending mixed messages, and the Palestinians are privately spinning even Lady Ashton's support for the package as lukewarm.

---Palestinian advisors [REDACTED] are among the most strident opponents of accepting the package. [REDACTED] have all made clear since the President's call that they are against the deal. Other contacts confirm this is the [REDACTED] vehemently denied rumors that Fayyad had expressed support for the deal via a Twitter feed late yesterday, blaming a pro-Dahlan blogger who has been sending poison-pill messages from a fake account.

---The one silver lining is that [REDACTED] particularly with regard to the UNSC mission and the prospect of the Quartet adopting language on the 1967 borders. That said, nearly all say strong concerns remain over both the text of the draft PRST and the utility of such a "nonbinding" statement.

Regardless, [REDACTED] Fears that yesterday's opposition demonstration in Ramallah's main square might turn against the PA led the Fatah leadership to flood the demonstration with loyalists to dilute the public optic. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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