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Dr Saeb Erakat - Minister and Chief Negotiator of the Palestinian Authority -

July 17, 1997

Folder ID: 30488321

Series: Meeting and event briefing materials

Dates: 06/30/1997 - 07/17/1997

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THE WORLD BANK Washington, D.C.

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The World Bank 1818 H Street NW Washington DC 20433 Telephone: 202-473-1000

Internet: www.worldbank.org

Meeting: Dr. Sa'eb Erakat, Minister and Chief Negotiator of the Palestinian **Authority**

> Thursday, July 17, 1997 5:30 p.m. - 5:50 p.m. Room MC11-123

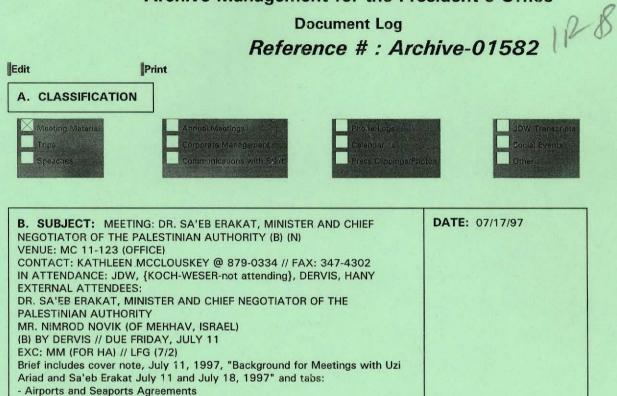
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President Wolfensohn - Briefings Books for Presidents Meetings - Meeting Materia
Dr Saeb Erakat - Minister and Chief Negotiator of the Palestinian Authority - July

Archive Management for the President's Office





- Lending Portfolio

- Minutes of meeting









D. EXTERNAL PARTNER

- West Bank and Gaza Trust Fund

- West Bank & Gaza At-a-Glance





E. COMMENTS:

File Location EXC ISC Archives	Cleared By Marisela Montoliu	Date: 07/21/97
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||View Update History

MINUTES OF MEETING BETWEEN MR. WOLFENSOHN AND MR. ERAKAT ON JULY 17, 1997 DECLASSIFIED

JUN 17 2025

Mr. Sae'b Erakat, Palestinian Peace Negotiator

Mr. Nimrod Novik, Ex-Chief Foreign Policy Advisor to the Ex-Prime Minister Per BG ARCHIVES

Mr. A. Hassan, Palestinian Authority Representative in Washington, D.C.

Mr. James D. Wolfensohn

Mr. Kemal Dervis

Mr. Hany Assaad

Dr. Erakat explained the reason for his visit to the U.S. is to meet with Jewish organizations and their leaders, members of the U.S. Congress, and the U.S. Administration. Dr. Erakat briefly described the tough meeting that Mr. Novik and he had with AIPAC members and its leadership, stating that they had little understanding of the Palestinian position. He concluded by stating that a lot more work needed to be done by the Palestinians with AIPAC, the Congress, the press and other influential people. Mr. Wolfensohn offered to arrange a meeting with Bill Saphire of the New York Times.

Dr. Erakat explained that in his view the stalled peace process may kill the idea of peace in the Middle East. In his words, *an explosion is imminent*. A new thinking and a new strategy must be developed to advance the cause of peace.

Dr. Erakat stressed that the message of peace has to be strengthened and the personal contribution of President Clinton to make this message clear is vital at this point in time. Dr. Erakat asked Mr. Wolfensohn for his personal effort in passing the message to President Clinton, in order for him to re-iterate the position of the United States in a clear and forceful way. Dr. Erakat stated that strengthening the existing position is all that is needed. No new initiative or a change of position of the US is needed. Everything had already been agreed to and there is no need to take new risks in changing the agreements that had been reached. He believes that a statement by President Clinton showing his strong commitment to peace will preempt an "explosion", by restoring hope for the people in the streets, and encourage them to continue their effort for peace. Mr. Wolfensohn stated that he will do what he can to pass on the message to the White House and the Administration, and explained that he will be seeing the President next week and will broach the subject with him then.

Mr. Wolfensohn stated that he is going to the West bank and Gaza to give Chairman Arafat a lot of support, and to push some of the outstanding issues further, specifically addressing the situation of the airport, the port and the road between the two territories.

Mr. Wolfensohn gave a summary overview of his meeting with President Hafez El Asad of Syria stating that *Hafez doesn't trust Bibi*, that he had expressed a strong desire for peace, and wants to

get back to the peace process, which was well underway under the leadership of Rabin and Peres. What stopped the peace process were the Israeli elections. Netanyahu had not set plans before the elections which caught him by surprise. *They were totally unprepared* for the election victory and for the peace process. Mr. Wolfensohn stated that there is a feeling of mistrust about PM Netanyahu from all the other leaders in the Middle East which he had met with.

Mr. Hassan added that the Arab leaders are all ready to make peace with Israel if Netanyahu is willing to go forward.

Dr. Erakat proceeded to discuss issues related to Bank's involvement with the economic development of the West Bank and Gaza. He described the recently completed five year development plan prepared by the Palestinian Authority, and solicited the Bank's support for rural development, stating that more than 40% of the Palestinian population live in rural areas. The focus on rural development is now crucial given that the infrastructure is not there. The Palestinian Authority has reconfirmed its commitment to a three to four year \$250 million community development program. The EU has also recently funded a rural development program. Mr. Wolfensohn proposed that the Bank pursue the concept of a social fund for the West bank and Gaza along the lines of the Egyptian social fund project. Mr. Dervis stated that there are funds available for a pilot project along the social fund concept, and committed to pursue this idea further.

Prepared by: Hany Assaad

July 20, 1997

THE WORLD BANK GROUP

ROUTING SLIP	DATE: July 11,	1997
NAME		ROOM. NO.
Mr. James D. Wolfensohn		
an Mr. Vank Waren EVC		
cc: Mr. Koch-Weser, EXC		
✓ URGENT	PER YOUR REQUEST	
FOR COMMENT	PER OUR CONVERSATION	NC
FOR ACTION	NOTE AND FILE	
FOR APPROVAL/CLEARANCE	FOR INFORMATION	
FOR SIGNATURE	PREPARE REPLY	
NOTE AND CIRCULATE	NOTE AND RETURN	
*		
RE: West Bank and Gaza - Brief for your M	Meetings with Uzi Ariad and S	Sa'eb Erakat.
REMARKS:		
Please find attached the briefing note for your	meetings with Uzi Ariad and Sa	a'eb Erakat on
July 11 and July 18, 1997.		
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FROM	ROOM NO.	EXTENSION
Kemal Derviş, MNAVP	H7-065	32776

FROM : Panasonic TRD/FAX

PHONE NO. : 02921248

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Palestinian National Authority

Ministry of Local Government



السلطة الوطنية الفلسطينية وزارة الحكم الحلي

Date .30/4/199 1000

No.

Biographical sketch of Dr. Erakat

Born

- 1955 in Jerusalem .

Education

- Phd in Peace Studies, Bradford University 1982
- BA, MA, University of San Francisco 1972-1979

Work Experience

- 1980-1992 Member of the Editorial staff at AL-Quds Newspaper, East - Jerusalem
- Secretary General of the Arab Studies Society

Positions

- Vice-Chairman of the Palestinian Negotiating Delegation 1991-1993
 - Chairman of the Palestinian Negotiating Delegation 1994 Elections .

Activities .

- Took part in numerous meeting with foreign government officials and dignitaries.
- Head of the Palestinian Election Commission, Nov. 1993-1996
- Author of eight books, in addition to numerous research on foreign policy. Oil and conflict resolution.
- Minister of Local Government Palestinian National -Authority - June 1994 - present .



Record Removal Notice



File Title President Wolfensohn - Briefing Boo	ok for President's Meetings and Eve	ents - Dr Saeh Erakat - Mir	Barcode No.	т
and Chief Negotiator of the Palestinia	an Authority - July 17, 1997	ons by suco Branch Ivan	2,000 - 2,000 - 20,000	38321
Document Date	Document Type			
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Correspondents / Participants				
Subject / Title CV - Dr. Nimrod Novik				
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Additional Comments				
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			Withdrawn by	Date
			Diego Hernández	June 18, 2025

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JUN 17 2025

July 11, 1997 CONFIDENTIAL

WBG ARCHIVES

Background for Meetings with Uzi Ariad and Sa'eb Erakat July 11 and July 18, 1997

You are meeting one-on-one with Uzi Ariad, Netanyahu's political advisor, on July 11 and with Sa'eb Erakat, Palestinian peace negotiator on Friday, July 18.

Political Situation

- Your meeting with Uzi Ariad (Dore Gold's replacement) is an excellent opportunity to probe for indications of where the peace process may be heading. The Egyptians have been quietly spearheading negotiations between the Israelis and Palestinians for the past few weeks. According to Joe Saba, this is a high stakes proposition for the Egyptians -- without some evidence of progress, they risk being seen as the hapless lapdog of the Americans. If concrete progress is made, however, it is believed that it will bring the Americans back into the process at a high level.
- Evidence of the Egyptian role has now emerged in public. According to recent press (two articles from the Jerusalem Post are attached), a meeting between Nabil Sha'ath, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation (a major World Bank counterpart) and Defense Minister Mordechai was brokered by the Egyptians with the active involvement of Martin Indyk. The meeting reportedly led to a tentative agreement on expediting operations at the Gaza airport and on making progress on construction of the Gaza port. Discussions covered, as well, safe passage between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. There are some expectations that meetings such as this one may be paving the way for a tripartite meeting between Arafat, Netanyahu and Mubarak.
- Your meeting with Ariad may give you an indication of how these developments may coincide with your trip to the West Bank and Gaza. In addition, our colleagues in the Resident Mission have not yet pinned down a precise appointment time for you with Prime Minister Netanyahu and you may wish to raise this directly with Ariad.
- It also appears that there is a change among the major interlocutors in the peace negotiations. Uzi Ariad has stepped in for Dore Gold on the Israeli side and Minister Mordechai is playing a prominent role. On the Palestinian side, it is understood that Sa'eb Erakat, who you have agreed to meet at the end of next week, may be playing a less prominent role. This change on the Palestinian side is evidenced by Nabil Sha'ath's meeting with Mordechai. In seeking a meeting with you next week, Erakat may be looking for an avenue to put himself back into the picture. We understand from your

office that Yosi Beilin was responsible for bringing Erakat's request for a meeting to your attention.

World Bank Portfolio

- As you know from the presentation at the Board of the Palestinian NGO Project, our program continues to progress well. We are finalizing an Annual Report on the Status of the Trust Fund for Gaza and the West Bank that we will provide to you with your briefing materials for your trip to the West Bank and Gaza next week. Attached to this note are tables on the status of the portfolio as of the end of the fiscal year.
- \$63.5 million of the \$90 million replenishment approved by the Governors in February 1997 has now been allocated, and the remaining \$26.5 million is earmarked for two projects which we hope to bring to the Board for approval in the next several months -- the *Gaza Industrial Estate Project* and the *Electricity Sector Investment and Management Project*. We are envisioning bringing a strategy paper, and a request for a further replenishment of the Trust Fund for Gaza and the West Bank, to the Executive Directors in November.

Josie Bassinette July 10, 1997

Attached:

- Articles from the Jerusalem Post
- World Bank Portfolio Tables
- West Bank and Gaza At-a-Glance

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To Josie Cassinette	From Kate Hade
Co./Dept.	Co. Joseph Jaba
Phone #	Phone N 36949
Fax# 77511	Fax# 522-3480

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NEWS

Mordechai, Shaath agree on Gaza air, sea ports

By JAY BUSHINSKY

JERUSALEM (July 10) - Israeli and Palestinian officials, with US and Egyptian officials looking on, came to a tentative agreement late last night on expediting airport operations at Dahaniya in the Gaza Strip, and on further construction of the Gaza seaport.

Differences were also resolved regarding the establishment of "safe passage" between the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, according to a communique issued by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Mordechai and Palestinian Authority Planning Minister Nabil Shaath met under an American-tailored cloak of secrecy that was lifted first by the Palestinians and then by the Israelis.

The venue was Egyptian Ambassador Mohammed Bassiouny's Herzliya Pituah residence, with US Ambassador Martin Indyk an active participant.

Foreign Minister David Levy conferred with Mordechai shortly before the meeting and briefed him on the current negotiating strategy and objectives.

At the NATO summit in Madrid, US President Bill Clinton said he was very concerned about the deadlock in the Middle East peace process and was working on new ideas jump-start it.

"It is obvious that we're going to have to see some new specific actions taken in order to get this thing going again," Clinton told a news conference. "I'm very concerned about what's happening in the peace process."

"I'm very concerned about the growing tensions between the Palestinians and the Israelis."

Sources close to the PA leadership said the idea of a Mordechai-Shaath meeting provoked furious debate and angry recriminations before it took place.

The meeting was aimed at finding "common ground and a way to return negotiations to their correct path," said a spokesman for PA Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Earlier, Levy held separate discussions with cabinet secretary Danny Naveh, Israel's coordinator of the ongoing contacts with Palestinian representatives, and with Netanyahu's personal legal adviser, Yitzhak Molcho, who has been one of Naveh's













Netanyahu's personal legal adviser, Yitzhak Molcho, who has been one of Naveh's regular partners in the sessions with the Palestinians.

The foreign minister's media adviser, Freddy Eytan, said Levy's objective was to "solidify the team" dealing with the Palestinians.

He has also asked the ministry's research unit to formulate concepts and possible trade-offs (such as the Gaza port or Dahaniya airport) in anticipation of the prospective final-status talks with PA delegates. The contents would then be submitted to the cabinet and the defense establishment for their consideration.

One of Levy's principal concerns, Eytan said, is Israel's opening position when the full range of negotiations spelled out in the Oslo Accords is resumed.

The current spate of diplomatic activity involving Israeli and Palestinian personnel was described by him as evidence that the Egyptian mediation effort undertaken by top adviser Osama el-Baz was having a positive impact, while the American involvement was being intensified and upgraded.

Senior officials in the Foreign Ministry and the Prime Minister's Office have been awaiting the return from the US of Netanyahu's political adviser, Uzi Arad, who met peace envoy Dennis Ross in Washington.

"Arad will give us a more up-to-date picture," Eytan said.

In any case, he contended, the Israeli-Palestinian negotiating process was "getting back on track" and he attributed the latest upsurge of diplomatic activity to the impending UN General Assembly session at which the Arab states hope to elicit a massive condemnation of Israel because of the Har Homa housing project.

On the other hand, informed sources said the US has been discreetly advising the resolution's sponsors that "hard-line" treatment of Israel could be counterproductive.

- Angry Sharon cuts s	agree on Gaza air, sea ports short meeting with Netanyahu nen wounded by bomb near Nablus
 State comptroller we 	on't probe Barak over Tze'elim-2 n monastery violated Oslo Accords
New laser technique	e improves fertilization chances
SEARCH	● Today's
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Mordechai, Shaath meet

Agreement reached on Gaza airport, seaport

By JAY BUSHINSKY

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(Israel Sun)

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(Israel Sum)

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See MORDECHAL Page 2

MORDECHAI

Continued from Page 1

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Trust Fund for Gaza and the West Bank

(Allocated Amounts)

Fiscal Year Authorized	Project Name	Effectiveness Date	Allocated Amount	Joint and Parallel Cofinancing
199	4 Emergency Rehabilitation Project	9-Sep-94	30	81
199	5 Education and Health Rehabilitaion Project	15-Sep-95	20	43.4
199	6 Municipal Infrastructure Development Project	24-Jul-96	40	20
199	6 Second Emergency Rehabilitation Project	30-May-96	20	3.5
199	7 Water and Sanitation Services in Gaza	8-Jul-96	25	50.2
199	7 Microenterprises Project	n/a	5	16
199	7 Community Development Project	15-May-97	10	0
199	7 Housing Project	n/a	25	0
199	7 MIGA Investment Guarantee Fund	n/a	10	0
199	7 Legal Development Project	n/a	5.5	0
199	7 Palestinian Expatriate Professionals Project	n/a	3	3
TOTAL			193.5	217.1
Planned FY98-FY99			Proposed Amount	Potential/Indicated Cofinancing
199	98 Palestinian NGO Project	11-Jul-97	10	4.8
199	8 Gaza Industrial Estates Project		10	52
199	8 Electricity Sector Investment and Management Project		10	60
199	98 Financial Sector Development Project	N .	20	
199	8 Agricultural Rehabilitation Project		15	
19	Water and Sanitation Services in the West Bank		20	7-
19	99 Informatics Project		20	
	99 Second Municipal Infrastructure Development Project		15	
TOTAL			313.5	116.8

June 30, 1997 m:\wbg\disb.xl2

West Bank and Gaza Lending Portfolio Disbursements as June 30, 1997

Project	Allocated A	mount	Disbursements	FY 94	Disburseme	ents FY95	Disburseme	ents FY96	Disburseme	ents FY97	Tot. Disbu	r. (to date)
	TFGWB	Joint Cofin.	TFGWB	Joint Cofin.	TFGWB	Joint Cofin	TFGWB	JointCofin.	TFGWB	Joint Cofin.	TFGWB	Joint Cofin
94 ERP I	30	66	0	0	5.84	13.8	21.95	19.32	0.64	20.5	28.43	53.62
95 EHRP	20	23.4			0	0	1.7		8.97	0	10.67	0.2
96 MIDP	40	0					0		13.26		13.26	
96 ERPII	20	3.5					2	<u></u>	12.76	0	14.76	0
97 Wat/San	25	0							4.03		4.03	
97 Microent.	5	*0							0	- F	0	
97 CDP	10	0										
97 Housing	25	0							0		0	
97 Inv.Fund	10	0	-						0		0	
97 Legal	5.5	0							0		0	
97 PEPP	3	3							0		0	0
TOTAL	193.5	95.9	0	0	5.84	13.8	25.65	19.32	39.66	20.5	71.15	53.82

Trust Fund Portfolio

Project	Allocated Amount Donor Financed					Disb. FY97 (to 6/30) Donor Financed	Total disbursed (as of June 30)
Holst	259.5		8	110.5	67.77	49.92	236.19
TATF	23		1	1.96	5.14	3.46	11.56
TOTAL	282.5		9	112.46	72.91	53.38	247.75

Note: "Joint cofinancing" indicates only amounts directly administered by the Bank.

June 30, 1997 m:\wbg\disb.xl1

^{*} Microenterprise project includes \$7.5 million in financing from IFC.

	2.2 1,887 4.2	272 1,780 484	1,153 1,670 1,930	Development diamond* Life expectancy
	1,887	1,780	1,670	Life expectancy
				,
	4.2	484	1,930	
	5.5	2.7	1.4	GNP Gross
	4.2	3.3	1.7	GNP Gross
e 1989)				capita enrollment
	24	**		~
	50	57	56	
	68	66	67	*
	37	54	41-	A to
				Access to safe water
(lation)				WBG
iauun)				Lower-middle-income group
	***			20110. Illiadic Illicollic group
	* **	31	101	
RENDS				
1975	1985	1994	1995	Face-in-relief
(A.E.)	1.2	3.2	4.0	Economic ratios*
		19.0	10.0	
				Openness of economy
**				×
**	-12.7	-16.4	-29.6	Sautana A
	YX	0.0		Savings
99	4.4	0.1	1.3	
		44	× ×	
	177	×	4.0	
		4.4	++	Indebtedness
1985-95	1994	1995	1996-04	
7.4	14.0	5.5	5.5	Lower-middle-income group
1.1	3.0	-0.3	0.9	Lower-middle-income group
3.5	27.0	37.0	3.9	
1975	1985	1994	1995	
5/5/5/ 5 /	ುದರ್.	,170mp=0180	THE PERSON	Growth rates of output and investment (%)
	20.0	31.0	22.0	60 -
	25.0	24.0	29.0	40 -
			20.0	20
	55.0	45.0	49.0	20 90 91 92 93 94
				-40 -
	103.0	100.0	105.0	-60 -
**	11.0	10.0	21.4	——GDI →—GDP
	64.0	39.0	48.0	
1975-84	1985-95	1994	1995	
				Growth rates of exports and imports (%)
	11.5	21.0	-25.0	40 -
	9.8	11.0	22.0	Na /
	10.3	18.0	25.0	20 -
	10.3	10.0		
	7.5	14.0	20.5	9
**	7.5	14.0		
**	7.5 7.0	14.0 10.0	17.0	90 91 92 93
**	7.5 7.0 19.0	14.0 10.0 10.0	17.0 142.0	89 90 91 92 93
**	7.5 7.0	14.0 10.0	17.0	89 90 91 92 93
	1985-95 1975-84	24 50 68 37 90 40 102 RENDS 1975 1985 1.2 24.0 26.0 11.5 12.7 1985-95 1994 7.4 14.0 1.1 3.0 3.5 27.0 1975 1985 20.0 25.0 17.0 55.0 103.0 11.0 64.0 1975-84 1985-95	24 50 57 68 66 37 54 90 85 40 39 104 91 RENDS 1975 1985 1994 1.2 3.2 24.0 19.0 26.0 10.014.0 -10.0 11.5 2.412.7 -16.4 0.0 0.1	24

Note: 1995 data are preliminary estimates. Figures in italics are for years other than those specified.

^{*} The diamonds show four key indicators in the country (in bold) compared with its income-group average. If data are missing, the diamond will be incomplete.

^{**} GNP per capita 1995 for WBG is MNCWG estimate.

PRICES and GOVERNMENT FINANCE			4000	40	
Domestic prices	1975	1985	1994	1995	Inflation (%)
(% change)					30 -
Consumer prices	44	283.0	13.0	10.0	
Implicit GDP deflator		290.0	14.0	10.0	20
	**				10 2000
Government finance					. ~
(% of GDP)			0.0	40.0	89 90 91 92 93 94 95
Current revenue	100	-	8.0	13.0	09 30 31 32 33 34 33
Current budget balance	-	-	-2.0	-2.0	——GDP def. ——CPI
Overall surplus/deficit	-	-	-3.0	-6.0	
TRADE					
	1975	1985	1994	1995	
(millions US\$)					Export and import levels (mill. US\$)
Total exports (fob)	7	272	227	373	2,000 -
n.a.		4.6	8.5		
n.a.	3.4	**		**	1,500
Manufactures	11	6.6	**	**	III III III
Total imports (cif)	**	668	1,024	1,660	1,000 -
Food	24	**	**	145	500 -
Fuel and energy	72	6			····
Capital goods	**			44	
Export price index (1986=100)		71	200	289	89 90 91 92 93 94 95
Import price index (1986=100)		58	199	130	Exports Imports
Terms of trade (1986=100)	2.00	122	101	222	Exports [Imports
	550				
BALANCE of PAYMENTS					
	1975	1985	1994	1995	
(millions US\$)					Current account balance to GDP ratio (%)
Exports of goods and non-factor services		305	312	473	0
Imports of goods and non-factor services	**	750	1,242	1,908	89 90 91 92 93 94 95
Resource balance	**	-445	-930	-1,435	
Not factor income		227	386	248	-10 -
Net factor income	9.0	70	15	17	
Net current transfers (private)	**	70	13		****
Current account balance,					-20 -
before official transfers	**	-147	-529	-1,171	
Financing items (net)	4.		(4.4	(6.4)	
Changes in net reserves			199	144	-30 -
Memo:					
Reserves including gold (mill. US\$) Conversion rate (local/US\$)	***	1.18	3.01	3.01	
Conversion rate (local/033)	(*,6)	1.10	3.01	0.01	
EXTERNAL DEBT and RESOURCE FLOWS					
	1975	1985	1994	1995	
(millions US\$)					
Total debt outstanding and disbursed		***	2	51	
IBRD	**		0	0	
IDA	**	***	2	51	
Total debt capica					
Total debt service IBRD	**	(5.5)		2.2	
IDA	**	**	*		
	2.00	***	**	.65	
Composition of net resource flows					
Official grants	. *	× ,.	394	489	
Official creditors	3.4	10	**	**	
Private creditors	**		**	**	
Foreign direct investment	**	4.6	**	9/6	
Portfolio equity	**	**	4.4	**	
World Bank program					
Commitments	3.6		30	20	
Disbursements	++		2	49	
Principal repayments	**		0	0	
Net flows			2	49	
Interest payments	8.		0	0	
Net transfers			2	49	