



**M A S**

**Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute**

**Final Report  
Round Table Discussion (7)**

**The 35% Anti-Dumping Tariff: Is It Useful?  
Is it implementable?**

**July 2013**



## **Executive Summary**

### **The 35% Anti-Dumping Tariff: Is It Useful? Is it implementable?**

#### **Background and Justification**

In mid-March last year, the Palestinian government took a decision for collecting additional customs duties, not exceeding 35% of the assessed real value, on completely manufactured imported goods and commodities in the event of "dumping."

This decision - before and after its issuance – raised a wave of various reactions, some of which were in favor and some opposed such decision. Furthermore, chaos and conflict in information prevailed in the media and political arena, especially since this issue was initially put forward as particularly directed against the exports of the People's Republic of China and specifically to protect leather and shoes industries.

The round table discussion aims at gathering all the concerned parties to discuss the government decision in question: How was it drafted? What are the foundations on which it was built? What are the possible benefits and caveats that will accompany it? What are the possibilities for its application and the preparations done for that?

#### **Presenters:**

Dr. Samir Abdullah: Chairman

Ibrahim Barham: Chairman of the Board of Directors of PalTrade

Salah Al-Odeh: Director General of the Chamber of Commerce / Ramallah

Salah Haniyeh: Head of the Consumer Protection Association

Azmi Abdul Rahman: Ministry of Economy

#### **Background Paper**

The following key questions were identified to be discussed at the roundtable discussion:

- ✧ What is the rationale behind issuing the decision and what are the signs for having "dumping" in the Palestinian market?
- ✧ What are the expected results of such decision on the various parties: producers; importers; consumers; and government? Aren't the results of the decision inconsistent with seeking to control prices and ease the burdens of the rising cost of living?
- ✧ What are the practical possibilities for the application of the decision?
- ✧ Does this government decision reflect a development strategy that is based on protectionism and on imports compensation approach and competition on the ground of cheap labor? Doesn't such decision impede the structural transformation that is necessary and, in best cases, forms a short-term residence and impact at the expense of long-term interests?

#### **Summary of Background Paper**

MAS Institute prepared a background paper, which was presented by Dr. Samir Abdullah, the Director General of MAS and Chairman of the round table discussion. The paper provides the most prominent issues and topics related to decision adopted by the Palestinian government in the middle of last March to collect additional customs duties of no more than 35% of the assessed real value on completely manufactured imported goods and commodities in the event of dumping them. The following is a summary of the background paper contents:

In its meeting held in Ramallah on (12/03/2013) regarding customs duties on finished (completely manufactured) imported goods and commodities, the Council of Ministers decided the following:

Article I: Collecting additional customs duties after the real assessment for no more than 35% on finished (completely manufactured) imported goods and commodities in the event of dumping, including direct and indirect importing.

Article II: The staff of Customs and Excise Department shall continue subsequent auditing (checking the values that are declared in the customs declarations and clearing bills, and do what is necessary pursuant to the provisions of the law from re-assessing values and collecting customs duties on differences in values). This also includes direct and indirect importation.

Article III: The Minister of Finance and the Minister of National Economy shall undertake to adopt and disseminate goods that are subject to what is stipulated in this decision.

Article IV: The competent authorities must implement the provisions of this decision, each in his own jurisdiction, and shall become in force from the date of 01/05/2013 and shall be published in the Official Gazette.

### **Background on the Anti-Dumping Agreement in World Trade Organization (WTO)**

The World Trade Organization (or the earlier GATT agreement) aims at organizing and facilitating the flow of trade between nations. This endeavour is based on two basic foundations, which are: linking the customs tariff and applying the principle of "most favored nation". However, the free trade agreements between countries; the possibility of raising the tariff; stop importing entirely in cases of emergency or serious threat to local the activities; and the possibility of imposing customs tariff on certain goods of a certain country certain shall all be excluded from the above foundations if it is proved that the said country grants aids to its companies or practices dumping.

### **Anti-Dumping Agreement in the World Trade Organization**

"Dumping" means that the exporter sells a commodity in the importing country at a price lower than its selling price in the local market. The rules of the World Trade Organization allow countries to apply anti-dumping measures. This requires the relevant country to prove that there is a real dumping, calculate the amount of such dumping, document and demonstrate that this dumping is serious and adversely affect the domestic industry.

The additional tariff against dumping should aim at making the price of the imported commodity as close as possible to the "normal value" that can be estimated from its price in the domestic market of the exporter, or from the price demanded by the exporter in other markets, or from calculating the cost of production of commodity (including the normal profit margin).

### **Paris Protocol stipulates that:**

- ✧ **The National Authority** has the right to impose its own tariffs and specifications on imports of specific amounts of certain items and from specific sources: Lists A1 and A2.
- ✧ The authority must apply the Israeli trade policy (tariff, specifications, purchase taxes and charges) on its imports of all goods not specified in lists A1 and A2 minimum. Paragraph 5 of Article 3 of the agreement states that "the Israeli rates of customs, purchase tax, levies, excises and other charges, prevailing at the date of signing of the Agreement, as changed from time to time, shall serve as the minimum basis for the Palestinian Authority".

However, this is futile and useless in the existence of a "Customs Union" between Israel and the Palestinian territories, because of the Customs Union requires free flow of goods between the two regions. Therefore, raising customs duties on goods imported to the Palestinian territories more than they are in Israel will lead to shifting imports towards Israel first and then forwarding them freely to the West Bank. There is still one profound problem. That is, as long as Israel still

considers the Palestinian territories as a "customs envelope" inside the Israeli "customs area", it will be responsible in the end in front of the World Trade Organization to justify the imposition of anti-dumping tariffs within a "single customs territory".

In other words, if Israel accepts to let the Palestinian Authority impose its own tariffs, this implies that it agrees that the Palestinian territories are "separate customs territory". But if it insists that the Palestinian territories are just "customs envelope", which it repeatedly stressed on, then imposing an independent anti-dumping tariff by the Palestinian Authority may conflict with Israel's commitments within the World Trade Organization.

### **Potential Profit and Loss**

There are many parties that could benefit or lose from the application of anti-dumping decision:

- ✧ **Producers:** the potential gain for this group depends on two factors. First: their ability to produce goods of quality that matches the imported goods in the position of "dumping". Second: selling these goods at a price lower than the competitive imports plus tariffs.
- ✧ **Importers:** their case is opposite to the case of producers.
- ✧ **Consumers:** they will suffer from loss due to higher prices. Also, their loss, due to the tariff, will be much more than the profits of the producers and the additional income from customs gained by the government.
- ✧ **National Economy:** the potential gains on the national economy (such as increasing employment, domestic demand, tax revenues, improvement in the balance of trade ... etc.) depend on the ability of local production to compete under the new pricing structure and on the proportion of imported inputs.
- ✧ **Government:** the impact on customs revenues is also uncertain because increasing the customs duties more than they are in Israel could lead to an increase in indirect import, which will negatively impact on customs revenues (and income tax revenues as well). On the other hand, it is difficult to expect that the Israeli customs authorities apply a Palestinian customs book on goods imported to the Palestinian territories. This means that the Palestinian Authority itself will be responsible for the collection of anti-dumping taxes. This is associated with costs and great technical and administrative difficulties.

The most important question here is:

What economy the government looks forward to build in the Palestinian territories? It is clear that the government's decision aims at protection with respect to simple consumer products with low-technical content, which mainly depend on the competitiveness stemming from cheap labor.

Is there really a horizon for the development of the Palestinian economy on this basis? Is returning to simple and cheap production the only outlet rather than developing capacity to specialize in high-value-added products and high quality goods for distinctive markets?

### **Summary of Speakers Presentations**

#### **Mr. Azmi Abdul Rahman Presentation: Ministry of Economy**

Mr. Abdul Rahman began his presentation by describing the Palestinian economy as the economy of small or individual enterprises since more than 99% of the enterprises employ fewer than 19 workers, and 89% - 90% of the enterprises employ less than ten workers and thus, the reality by which the economic sector will be protected and supported must be examined. He added that the issue of dumping could be workable or not workable in the Palestinian markets because it is difficult to apply the terms and conditions of the World Trade Organization to ensure that there is an economic dumping in the Palestinian reality, but the problem of accumulation of goods on the Palestinian side will certainly have a negative impact on national production.

This decision aims mainly to support the national product, increase its market share and increase its competitive advantage both in the domestic or foreign markets, and it may increase treasury revenues of the Authority.

Mr. Abdul Rahman also pointed out that the rationale for this decision is attributed to the erosion of the value of the national industry from the value of gross domestic product (GDP) as well as the disparity of market share of the Palestinian products between sectors, as some of them are not satisfactory at all, while others are relatively satisfactory. Mr. Abdul Rahman also mentioned the financial distress of the Palestinian National Authority due to the Palestinian economy continued adoption of the economy of the donors and the Israeli occupation which has control over more than 62% of the Palestinian lands, 85% of water resources and 75% of the volume of trade. This led to give justification for considering the decision to support the national industry and strengthen the national production base.

In addition to the aforementioned, the Palestinian economy is based on import, as the volume of imports is much larger than the volume of exports, and the estimated size of the deficit in the trade balance is about US\$ 4.4 billion in 2012.

It is worth mentioning that this decision was not aimed at intermediate goods or production inputs. Therefore, the decision would not affect the productive sectors. It also did not include all imports, but was limited to some of the goods within four major sectors that have a competitive advantage for the national product in the Palestinian market, namely, (aluminum industry, furniture, shoes and clothing).

The Ministry interest in this topic was not of the moment, but was preceded before a year and a half by entrusting MAS Institute to prepare a study on ways to increase the market share of the national product to be used as an introduction to this decision. The Ministry has also worked on the preparation of some analytical studies to take a decision in favor of the national product.

This was not an individual decision from the Ministry of Economy, but rather in coordination with partners from the Ministry of Finance - Customs Administration, private sector institutions and industry associations of the four sectors. The mechanism of action for this decision was by forming a technical national committee consisting of the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Finance. 200 items that have competitive advantages were selected from the four sectors and which, in the event of imposing the duties on them, can replace the imports. The implementation of this decision started from the first of May 2013 and the Customs Administration has become the first and last responsible for the implementation of this decision.

This decision raised different reactions by economists, civil society, organizations and trade unions and some caveats to this decision were presented, some of which are justified and others are not. Those caveats are, First: It is possible that the price of these items goes up, but the implementation of this decision started since the beginning of May of the current year but no real rising in prices has been witnessed on these commodities. On the other hand, when applying any economic goal, it may conflict with another goal. It is expected that the produced quantity will increase in future and thus costs will decrease and prices will go down in the future. Second: orienting towards the Israeli market and thus the Authority will lose financial resources, but this decision will be applied on direct and indirect imported goods (through Israeli agents).

#### **Mr. Ibrahim Barham Presentation: Chairman of PalTrade**

Mr. Barham began his speech by saying that the decision is part of a pressing action system by some private sector organizations such as the Federation of Industries and the national industries in general and other relevant industries. He pointed out that the damage suffered by the industrial

sector in particular in Palestine is due to some specific policies from opening the market and the dumping it causes as well as the arrival of goods that do not comply with the required specifications.

In his presentation, Mr. Barham focused on the macro level, because for the first time the government takes a decision to directly intervene in importing, which has had a significant role in provoking the aspects related to weakness suffered by the Palestinian industry.

There were issues with a more strategic dimension that occurred in the same period but not referred to, such as the decision to fight fraud and the decision to support the national product toward government procurement rate of 15% since this decision is not implemented yet and we hope to activate it for its role in industry.

Mr. Barham states that there is no direct impact on the four mentioned sectors as it is possible that longer time is needed until the practical results of the decision are measured.

Mr. Barham recommends examining the imported and produced goods in terms of specifications when they are exported or imported so as to help supporting the local product and consumer protection. He also recommends measuring the results of the decision on the national product and examining its impact on GDP and investment, and increasing control as well over the real cost of imported goods, which may help reduce tax evasion. He also indicated that the relationship with Israel is significantly associated with tax evasion and this leads to damage in the national product directly and hopes there will be mechanisms to better adjust this issue in order to reduce tax evasion.

The decision was important in raising some of the problems facing the Palestinian product not only in terms of increased costs, but also because some goods and services require high skills that Palestine does not possess, and thus it is difficult to compete with other main competitive countries.

Finally, Mr. Barham mentioned that there is no Palestinian-Chinese economic agreement for importing and exporting, which led to impose 80% tax on Palestinian imported goods and to the emersion of Palestinian goods as Israeli goods in the Chinese markets to get red of these customs duties since the Israeli goods are exempted in China.

#### **Salah Al-Odeh Presentation: Director General of the Chamber of Commerce**

At the beginning of his presentation, Mr. Salah discussed that the imposition of customs duties on imported goods is one of the financial policies carried out by some countries to protect their national industries.

According to WTO rules, countries can take actions to protect their national products in the event of dumping, where the importing country has the right to impose additional taxes on the dumping imports if it is proved that they damage the local products through a significant increase in the value of these imports and their prices become lower than the prices of the similar local products or because they led to decreasing prices or not increasing them.

In the Palestinian case, this decision was based on previous claims by representatives of Palestinians manufacturers such as the Palestinian Federation of Industries on the ground that such commodities cause dumping, especially in the Chinese commodities. The statement of the President of the Federation of Leather Industries confirms that this decision was based on calls and claims launched by the Federation.

Opinions varied about this decision. Some of them were in favor and some opposed it. The majority of supporters were industrialists who take benefit from such decision and indicated in an earlier meeting with the Minister of National Economy that the decision will enable them to re-open their Industrial facilities, which were closed as a result of dumping. They also considered that this decision is important as it will stimulate the development and rehabilitation of the Palestinian industry and thus create more job opportunities and regarded it a national decision that will have positive impacts, such as protecting the national product, in addition to supplying the State treasury through additional customs duties.

On the other hand, the affected industrialists opposed the decision and demonstrated their fear that the benefit of the Palestinian industry will be very limited due to its small size, and that such decision will lead to increased reliance on Israeli importers. In addition, the decision will raise the cost of imported goods and thus their prices will increase for consumers. Moreover, it is possible that the decision may affect The Palestinian-Chinese international relations. It is also worth mentioning that it is difficult to apply the resolution because of lack of control by the Palestinian National Authority over the crossings.

This decision included four sets of imported goods and set the value of the increase in customs duties for these goods, which ranged between 6% and 15%. It is worth noting that the increase in customs duties did not exceed 27% for any commodity.

Mr. Al-Odeh offered an integrated plan to preserve the national product. The plan is based on several topics, the most important of which are: identifying the mechanisms for the development of the industrial sector and the rehabilitation of infrastructure; Working on reducing the prices of industrial electricity and reducing the fees and taxes on production inputs; providing tax exemptions and export subsidies. In addition, he confirmed the importance of awareness-raising campaigns to support the local product continuously, activate the economic agreements with the Arab countries and other states and tighten the procedures on the imported goods' specifications and standards. On the other hand, Mr. Al-Odeh cited the importance of recognizing the national commodity in government tenders; thinking about constructing new Palestinian factories; being fair in re-evaluating imported goods; activating the departments that are responsible for the industry in ministries; and increasing the capacities and capabilities of the Customs Department.

#### **Salah Haniyeh Presentation: Chairman of the Consumer Protection Association**

Mr. Haniyeh presentation focused on the fact that the decision to fight dumping is not in the interest of the consumer but is rather biased in favor of a certain class of producers because the difference in price between the imported Chinese product and the Palestinian product is too big. When applying the decision, the imports prices will go higher for the Palestinian consumer, while the prices of Palestinian products will not go down.

Mr. Haniyeh also showed that there is a theoretical misunderstanding in the concept of "dumping" and that such decision will give false suggestion that the Palestinian economy is only a shoe economy on the expense of other productive sectors. In addition, Mr. Haniyeh showed that this decision led to competition between provinces. Moreover, the views of some economists and financial experts demonstrated that such decision will not achieve an increase in revenues due to the inability of the Palestinian National Authority to control the crossings and will not be able to solve the problem of tax evasion.

Mr. Haniyeh added that the sole beneficiary of this decision is the Israeli economy, which will benefit from the historic successful Palestinian-Chinese relationship. In addition, the economy of China is huge and it is difficult for other global economies to control dealing with it. Then, how is it possible for our small Palestinian economy to do that?

He also calls for fighting tax evasion and the use of non-tariff policies to protect the national product as well as developing the Specifications Department and activating the regulations of granting preference to the Palestinian producer in procurement and bidding.

## **Summary of the Discussions**

### **Maher Al-Masri: Chairman – Palestinian Capital Market Authority**

Mr. Maher al-Masri said that the problem lies in the structure of the Palestinian economy and its ability to compete. He added that this decision will certainly increase the capacity of the Palestinian product in the industrial sector to contribute to the GDP, and that it is possible that the government revenues will increase. However, he fears that the producer may increase his production of some goods and so the final consumer will bear the raise in prices. Mr. Masri added that taxes come as a kind of protection to the national industry as they increase its competitiveness in the presence of imports, but he fears that its competitiveness and productivity may decrease in the long term. Therefore, he believes that the industrial sector needs other policies to change its structure.

### **Ma'en Ed'eis: Independent Commission for Human Rights**

Mr. Ed'eis believes that the decision system is integral to achieve the goal of the decision, which is to support the national product, but this will result in many consequences, such as higher prices to the consumer. In addition, Mr. Ed'eis wonders how it is possible not to increase prices to consumers. As for the second goal of the decision, which is raising the budget revenues, he hopes that these funds will be used to support the national product (not physically) by enabling its ability to compete and having high quality. Furthermore, Mr. Ed'eis raised a question about the possibility to identify and publicize the prices of goods and how to apply the decision.

### **Tawfiq Nassar: President of the Federation of Metal Industries**

Mr. Tawfiq Nassar said the decision was not practically thought out as it has been altered more than once, according to public opinion. He added that we do not have the ability to measure dumping. Furthermore, he believes that the decision presented dumping in a wrong way.

Mr. Nassar also said that no matter how we raised customs on imports, the prices of the Palestinian goods will remain higher than the imports' prices. In addition, protecting the national industry will not be achieved and the competitiveness of the Palestinian product will not increase in this way. It is worth mentioning that it is possible that the size of revenues or gross production may not increase as a result of this decision and thus the said decision will not achieve its desired objectives.

Mr. Nassar discussed that the local product must be supported indirectly through the development of mandatory specifications to limit the flow of harmful goods.

He indicates that the decision was not well thought out and that developing the Palestinian product was neglected. He then gave details about the four sectors in concern. Clothing sector, for example, suffers from many challenges, as it is not considered a productive sector for the Palestinian consumption, but rather depends mainly on subcontracting with Israel, which is now using other sources. In addition, this sector suffers from closure of some of Palestinian workshops by the Palestinian Authority, which left this sector undeveloped due to the decision.

As for furniture sector, the Palestinian product with its limited abilities will not be able to compete with the furniture imported from China with the most advanced technology. Finally, He regards the aluminum sector not a real sector but rather one factory.

The results of this decision will not solve the problem of tax evasion but increase it, because some of the affected traders will open Israeli tax files and import through them and then pay taxes to Israel. Finally, they will smuggle goods into the Palestinian territories. Ultimately, Israel will be the beneficiary and the Palestinian consumer will bear the cost. In addition, the national industry will not be protected since it will not be able to compete.

Mr. Nassar hopes that the Ministry of Economy can provide the concerned authorities with studies on this decision and develop a detailed plan for Palestinian goods to qualify and export them.

**Faisal Abu Steif:**

Mr. Abu Steif began by talking about the lack of a study that link the tax rate on imported goods with its impact on the national and its competitiveness ability. He also pointed out to the importance of reducing the cost of production, especially the price of oil, and stressed the negative impact of the decision on the poorer classes.

Mr. Abu Steif recommended restructuring the government budget and reactivating the body of the Palestinian National Authority. He also emphasized the importance of reviewing the investment environment in terms of industrial laws, incentives, adventure Fund and others.

**Nasser Tahboub: Ministry of Economy**

Mr. Tahboub commented on Article (I) of the decision, especially the part on "collecting additional customs duties" instead of "imposing additional customs duties". He discussed that this part showed that the purpose of this decision is not applying it. He added that the definition of "dumping" is to sell the imported item at a price less than the direct cost in the manufacturing place.

As for Article (II) concerning: "the Customs and Excise staff shall continue subsequent checks ...", this article could adjust the situation if applied. In addition, Mr. Tahboub pointed out to the need to rearrange the priorities of the Palestinian economy.

**Dr. Adnan Abul-Hummus: Financial Advisor - PADICO**

Dr. Abul-Hummus pointed out that the decision is not of any benefit to any of the concerned parties as importers and industry owners did not benefit from it. He also confirmed the reality of importing from "C" areas by the Palestinian traders through an Israeli tax and then smuggle goods into the Palestinian territories. In addition, Dr. Abul-Hummus described this decision as "ink on paper."

**Advocate Ibrahim Al-Fares: AL-Husseini Law Firm**

Mr. Al-Fares commented on the legal form of the decision by saying that there is no clear formulation of the decision. He added that when adopting anti-dumping decision, it should not be limited to only four sectors, but must extend to the other sectors. Mr. Al-Fares also said that the main objective of taxation is to provide a service and not to close deficit and achieve self-sufficiency.

**Mr. Musayaf Musayaf: Ministry of Finance - Customs Department**

Mr. Musayaf indicated that the decision did not display how it should be implemented, but it was well thought out in terms of figures and statistics. He added that this decision addresses only 5% of the imports of Palestine and its objective was evaluation the goods. It is worth mentioning that Israel stopped the liberalization of trade and imposed customs duties on clothing and shoes two weeks after the issuance of this decision.

**Dr. Akel Abu Qare': Academic**

Mr. Abu Qare' showed that regardless the decision will have a positive impact or not, the Palestinian consumer will be affected. He wondered whether there are steps for resisting this decision by the Consumer Rights Association. In addition, he wondered about its effect on the volume of imports and the opinion of the Department of Specifications about this decision.

**Mr. Odeh Shehadeh: General Manager - General Union of Palestinian Industries**

Mr. Shehadeh sees that there was great flexibility during the preparation of the decision because many notes were taken into account. He added that the Federation of Industries was a partner with the two ministries during the preparation of the decision. Mr. Shehadeh also pointed out that the decision has been approved by the Consumer Protection Association. He sees this decision as an achievement for the Palestinian Industries and agrees with the views saying that it is inadequate for the advancement of the national product.

Mr. Shehadeh proposes that MAS Institute should hold another meeting to assess the results of this decision after some period and to propose an economic strategy plan.

**D. Muhannad Abu Rujeileh: Academic - Birzeit University**

Dr. Abu Rujeileh said that he has fears from fraud processes by importing semi-finished goods and regarding them as intermediary goods, which are exempted from the decision.

**Recommendations:**

The meeting came out with a set of proposals by speakers as well as attendees; participations. These proposals focused on the following points:

1. Study the effect of applying the decision of raising the rate of customs duties on the local products' competitiveness and prices, and on the cost of living and other indicators, and then review decision in the light of the study results.
2. Reduce the price of electric power and fuel with various types for industrial purposes, and reduce the prices of other basic services such as water, telecommunications, fees and charges.
3. Activate the government's decision to grant preferential treatment to domestic products by 15% in the government tenders and procurement so as to promote local enterprises' benefit from this decision.
4. Use mandatory technical specifications on imports as a basic tool and help in supporting the national product.
5. Build the human and physical capacities of the General Administration of Customs in the Ministry of Finance to carry out the tasks required of them in the implementation of the decision.
6. Launch awareness campaigns to emphasize the importance of supporting the local product and its impacts on the local economy and citizens alike.
7. Adopt a financial policy to support local products based on reducing taxes and charges on domestic production inputs so as to reduce the cost.
8. Strengthen cooperation and coordination between the various authorities involved in implementing the decision, such as the Ministry of Finance and its various departments (General Administration of Customs, income tax and VAT) and the Ministry of the Economy through the Institution for Standards and Metrology and security authorities through the customs controllers.
9. Take advantage of economic and trade agreements concluded by the Authority with countries and regional economic groupings to improve the chances of Palestinian products in the access to the markets of these countries.
10. Study the list of the 200 products covered by the decision within the four sectors, develop and update them from time to time according to new studies and data in a way that may contribute to the support and protect the similar local products.
11. Conduct a dimensionality survey to scientifically and thoughtfully examine the impact of the decision on various economic indicators and on various groups affected by the decision.

### Attendance Record for the Round Table (7)

Name	Name of institution
Fathi Serugi	Birzeit University
Aml Daraghmeh	Ugarit group
Anwar Kabbajh	The Ministry of Planning
Salah Odih	Director of the Chamber of Commerce / Ramallah
Dahook Daoudi	Ugarit group
Salah Haniyeh	Consumer Protection Association
Azmi Abdul Rahman	The Palestinian Ministry of Economy
Ismail Alamqi	Arab Relations Department / m. T.. P
Mohamed El Sayed	Palestinian Standards and Specifications
Msif Msif	Ministry of Finance
Habib Hinn	MAS
Jamil Tahir	PIF
Odih Shehadeh	Palestinian Federation of Industries
Aqel Aboukra	Consultont
Maaz Qar'an	PMA
Ibrahim Fares	Husseini Office
Jihad Harb	PLC
Nasser Tahboub	Ministry of National Economy
Mohammad Abdullah	Turkish News Agency
Raddad Idris	President of the General Union of Workers of Palestine
Maan Adeis	ICHR
Ali Nazzal	Office of the President
Faisal Awartani	Alpha Research
Ibrahim Barham	Paltrade
Muhannad Abu Rojeila	Birzeit University
Ibrahim Abu Kamsh	Alhayah News Paper
Zulfa Hawash	Wafa News Agency
Adnan Abu Alhommos	PADICO
Ali Mhanna	Federation of Chambers of Commerce
Maher Masri	PCMA