



## MOFA – China Progress Report

### 1. Report Summary

<b>Title of the project</b>	<b>Construction of the Office Building and Equipping of the Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs - MoFA</b> Award Number : 00051015 Project Number: 00063303
<b>Date of the approval</b>	<b>Original agreement: 04 October 2008, Amended on 05 September 2010</b>
<b>Project Budget:</b>	<b>\$ 11,050,273.68</b>
<b>Period covered by the report</b>	16 January 2011–31 May 2011.
<b>Names of UNDP Officer in charge, and Engineering Officer with their contact address</b>	<b>Programme Analyst:</b> Ivan Carmi, E-mail: <a href="mailto:ivan.carmi@undp.org">ivan.carmi@undp.org</a> , Mobile: 054-817-4144 <b>Engineering Analyst:</b> Johny Theodory, E-mail: <a href="mailto:johny.theodoy@undp.org">johny.theodoy@undp.org</a> , Mobile: 054-817-4035 <b>Project Manager:</b> Rami Yazbak, E-mail: <a href="mailto:rami.yazbak@undp.org">rami.yazbak@undp.org</a> , Mobile: 054-817-67476
<b>PA Counterpart:</b>	<b>Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs</b>

### 2. Contents

#### (1) Summary of the project

*The project aims to construct and equip the new building of the Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) in Ramallah for a total space of 9,842 Square Meters -housing some 400 MoFA staff, with a total grant value of USD 11 Million generously donated by the People's Republic of China. UNDP/PAPP is also complementing the physical component, through its Capacity Development Initiative (CDI) Programme, to assist in the developing the MoFA capacities, to result in developing a capacity development strategy for MoFA. Under this cost-sharing agreement, UNDP/PAPP has committed to support the project through covering, from its own resources, the cost of the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) for a period of 18 months.*

(2) Project component

Component	Budget	Project site
Construction and finishing works for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs building	<b>\$ 11,050,273.68</b>	Ramallah, oPt

(3) Narrative Report:

The Original Third-Party Cost Sharing Agreement was signed between Chinese Ministry of Commerce "Donor" and UNDP/PAPP, on 04 October 2008 for a total grant value of USD Four Million. Another Tripartite Agreement was also signed on the same day in Ramallah by the Palestinian Minister of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) Dr. Riyad Al Malki, Ambassador Yang Weiguo representing the Government of China, and UNDP/PAPP as the executing/implementing Agency.

Following the signing of the original agreement, and based on a request from MoFA, discussions took place between the Chinese Government and MOFA to expand the grant allocation to include a larger building with more floors. As the negotiations were concluded, on September 05 2010, the Cost-Sharing and Tripartite agreements were amended between the three parties to reach 11 Million USD, with a total space of 9,842 M2.

Moreover, the design and technical drawing had to be amended to fulfill the new MoFA needs. As a result, the technical Bill of Quantities was modified and approved by MoFA, in addition to the review being cleared by the Chinese Technical delegation that had visited the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) for this purpose.

As outlined in the Tripartite Agreement and discussion, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs proceeded to recruit an Engineer representing its interest as a beneficiary of the project. As it was not possible to recruit an engineer from MoFA, UNDP/PAPP and MoFA agreed to a third party site engineer from the "Palestinian Economic Council for Reconstruction – PECDAR" to act as a Technical Representative on the beneficiary's "Owner's Representative". (attachment 1)

UNDP/PAPP, during the first three months completed all excavation works, and embarked on the construction of the main building. So far, all works have been completed for the foundations and the first two levels of the building, which will be used as car parking and services of utilities. End May 2011, works will start on the ground floor.

### 3. Project timeframe, schedule status, progress of activities, and tasks & measures

Indicated output	Activities	Timeframe								Schedule Status	Activities done in the reporting period	Remaining Work	Tasks & Measures
		2010				2011							
		1 Q	2 Q	3 Q	4 Q	1 Q	2 Q	3 Q	4 Q				
Output 1:	Package 1: Skeleton works				X	X	X	X	X	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Civil works contract was awarded on the 24 November 2010.</li> <li>The site was officially handed over on the 16 December 2010.</li> <li>Mobilization activities- completed.</li> <li>Excavation works - completed.</li> <li>Concrete works started and the activity is currently underway.</li> <li><b>Overall progress 18%</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>70% of the concrete works</li> <li>100% of the stone works – collecting samples by contractor</li> <li>100% of the steel structure works</li> <li>100% of the Insulation, Roofing and Expansion and/or Seismic Joints.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Skeleton works are ongoing and underway as scheduled. No obstacles have been encountered during the reporting period.</li> <li>Time extension is expected for the skeleton works package due to the modification of the type of footing.</li> <li>Follow up and coordination efforts from all concerned parties with Ramallah Municipality to be provided for solving the issue of the construction permit for the building.</li> <li>Communications with the electrical company to remove the high voltage electrical pole</li> </ul>
	Package					X	X	X	X	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tender</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Starting the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New arrangements have</li> </ul>

	2:Finishing and Electro-Mechanical works										documents have been reviewed and under evaluation.	pre qualification for tendering process. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contract awarding</li> <li>• Commencing the finishing and electro-mechanical works.</li> </ul>	been recommended to combine the finishing and electro-mechanical works under one package. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These arrangements will be communicated and discussed with the counterpart representatives and donor.</li> </ul>
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**Project Completion Date:**  
*It's expected to complete all project activities in June 2013.*

#### 4. Financial report

##### Chinese Grant Cumulative Disbursements for period ending 30 April 2011

<b>Budget items (according to the agreement)</b>	<b>Disbursement in USD</b>
<b>Design Works</b>	\$49,460.00
<b>Construction</b>	\$1,124,853.12
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$3,094.51
<b>Sub-total</b>	\$1,177,407.63
<b>GMS (7 %)</b>	\$82,418.53
<b>Total</b>	\$1,259,826.16

\*It is important to highlight that the financial figures in this report are temporary figures, and may be corrected at a later stage due to exchange rate fluctuations, realized gain/loss or any other possible corrections. UNDP/PAPP's financial system operates in such a manner that the financial system closes in early December of each year and that final expenditure reports reflecting the disbursements and GMS of the previous year are only published in March of the following year.

##### UNDP Cumulative Contribution for period ending 30 April 2011

<b>Budget items (according to the agreement)</b>	<b>Disbursement in USD</b>
<b>Design Works</b>	\$25,000.00
<b>Project Implementation Cost</b>	\$60,641.67
<b>Total</b>	\$85,641.67

#### 5. Challenges

- MoFA has to fulfill its obligations for the Project by finalizing the Building Licensing fees with the Ramallah Municipality. There has been initial approval of construction by Ramallah Municipality, but still awaiting for Final Payment of Fees for the license to be issued officially.
- MoFA's responsibility also extends to the removal of the High Voltage tower, which is located within the construction site. For the upcoming stage this will pose a major obstacle since it will not be able to allow for the Tower Crane to be planted on site for

the higher levels. MoFA has already communicated the issue with the Palestinian Energy Authority. (Attachment 2).

Planned Ongoing Works:

1. Removing of High Voltage tower from the site to underground.
2. Resolving the issue of Financial Fees for Building Licensing with Ramallah Municipality, and Jerusalem Distract Electricity Company.
3. Placing the Tower Crane for upper levels.
4. Installing the temporary power supply, and communication lines for the construction site.
5. Finalizing the Stone issue, type, colors, dimensions, and installment method form the designer with detailed drawings.

**6. Pictures of project indicating before the project and progress of the project**



**7. Report authorization by UNDP/PAPP**

Reporting person, title and belongings: Ivan Carmi, Programme Analyst
Date of submission: 16 June 2011
Supervisor staff with his signature: Walid Hasna, Team Leader