



United States Agency for International Development
West Bank and Gaza Mission

January 27, 2004

2004-WBG-03

TO: See attached list of Contractors & Grantees

SUBJECT: Security Considerations and Operations under Current Conditions

REF: Announcement at the meeting in Tel Aviv on October 24, 2003

Dear Chief of Party:

As a follow-up to the October 24 Contractor/Grantee meeting, this letter provides all contractors and grantees with updated operational guidance for implementing activities in the West Bank & Gaza.

- Expatriate staff of USAID contractors and grantees should defer all but *essential* travel to Gaza until further guidelines are issued by the American Embassy in Tel Aviv.
- To the extent that Gaza travel is deemed essential, expatriate staff of USAID contractors and grantees should seek information from their local staff as a barometer of the security situation on any given day and should travel in unmarked vehicles.
- It is highly recommended that travel in the West Bank be limited to daytime hours and, to the extent possible, times and routes of travel should be varied. Travel from the West Bank through Beit El should commence early enough to ensure egress before dark, allowing sufficient time for delays at checkpoints.
- Before traveling to the West Bank, contractors/grantees should consult with OSAC and their local staff regarding the security situation on that given day. The RSO will inform the OSAC Secretariat every morning by 8:00 a.m. of any threat information.

Tel Aviv: American Embassy
71 Hayarkon St.
Tel. 972-3-5114848
Fax. 972-3-5114888

Jerusalem: American Consulate General
P.O. Box 290
Tel. 972-2-6227230
Fax. 972-2-6259484

- Any identifying marking linking the contractor/grantee vehicles to USAID or the USG should be removed at once. The contractor/grantee's marking can remain on the vehicle.
- All security incidents should be immediately reported to the contractor/grantee's Cognizant Technical Officer (CTO), and as appropriate, to the Regional Security Office (RSO) in Jerusalem or Tel Aviv.

For purposes of this letter, the terms "grants" and "grantees" also include cooperative agreements and recipients of cooperative agreements.

Sincerely,

Signature on file
Leo Pizarro
Contracting & Agreement Officer
Officer

Signature on file
Erin Elizabeth McKee
Contracting & Agreement

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