

Palestinian transfer of power

In the absence of a clear line of succession, Palestinian leaders have agreed a plan to prevent a power struggle following the death of Yasser Arafat, who held the Palestinian political factions together as head of the Palestinian Authority, the PLO and the Fatah movement

Palestinian Authority

Palestinian governing body in West Bank and Gaza, established under interim peace accords with Israel

Rawhi Fattouh

Little known until six months ago, Parliamentary speaker becomes acting president for 60 days, when election is held



Ahmed Qurei

Prime Minister remains head of Cabinet, running Authority's day-to-day affairs. He will also take over chairmanship of **National Security Council**, including most important security forces



Palestine Liberation Organisation

PLO represents Palestinians at home and worldwide, and is responsible for peace talks with Israel

Mahmoud Abbas

PLO No. 2 and former prime minister, takes most powerful of Arafat's titles as PLO chairman until internal election is held



Fatah: *Mainstream nationalist movement co-founded by Arafat, 1958*

Farouk Kaddoumi

Fatah No. 2 takes control. Rejected 1994 interim peace deals with Israel and remains in exile in Damascus. Not known if he will return to Palestinian territories

