

# Annapolis conference aims to revitalise Middle East peace

## ATTENDEES



**Israel:** Prime Minister **Ehud Olmert's** fragile coalition could undermine ability to deliver concessions



**Palestinians:** President **Mahmoud Abbas** could fall without progress on core issues



**U.S.:** President **George W. Bush** will host first fully-fledged talks on Middle East peace in seven years



**Egypt, Jordan:** Foreign Ministers likely to attend

**Syria:** Will only attend if return of Golan Heights is on agenda

**Lebanon:** Political turmoil and fallout of 2006 war weigh against participation

**43 other countries, organisations and financial institutions invited to attend**

## CORE ISSUES

### TERRITORY

Israel in 1948

Seized by Israel in 1967

### Golan Heights

Israeli-Syrian talks in 2000 collapsed over access to **Sea of Galilee**. Lebanon also claims **Shebaa Farms** area

### West Bank

**270,000 Israelis live in 122 settlements.**

With pullout from major settlements – 3-5% of West Bank – politically difficult for Olmert, Abbas has called for land swap with equal area elsewhere

Gaza City

### Gaza Strip

Hamas refusal to deal with Israel leaves Palestinian position divided

## EGYPT

### Sinai Peninsula

Captured in 1967, returned to Egypt in 1979 Peace Treaty, establishing principle of "Land for Peace"

## LEBANON

## SYRIA

Damascus

UN buffer zone

Shebaa Farms

Haifa

Jenin

Ramallah

Tel Aviv

Hebron

Beersheva

Amman

### JERUSALEM

Abbas wants East Jerusalem as capital, while Olmert faces Knesset bill to prevent division of city. Control of holy sites remains highly contentious

### REFUGEES

726,000

372,000

**4.4 million refugees and descendants now living in region.**

Palestinians call for "right of return" – Olmert demands recognition of "Jewish identity" of nation

### SECURITY

Absolute minimum hope for talks is conflict management – to prevent eruption of new cycle of violence

## TALKING SHOP

**1949, Rhodes:** Israel and Arab neighbours agree to UN armistice lines

**1978, Camp David:** U.S. President **Jimmy Carter**, Egypt's President **Anwar Sadat** and Israeli Premier **Menachem Begin** sign first Arab-Israeli peace treaty



**1991, Madrid:** Multilateral talks following first Gulf War finally tackle issue of Palestinians – without PLO

**1993, Oslo:** First official face-to-face meeting between Israel and PLO – framework for creation of Palestinian state set out



**Yitzhak Rabin, Bill Clinton and Yasser Arafat** after signing Oslo Accords

**2000, Camp David:** Marathon talks between **Ehud Barak** and Arafat collapse without agreement. Second intifada erupts



**2001, Taba:** With final status deal close, talks called off as **Ariel Sharon** wins Israeli election and Clinton's term in office comes to an end

ISRAEL

50km

30 miles

Eilat Aqaba

Pictures: Associated Press

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