

From: [REDACTED – British Embassy Tel Aviv]
Sent: 06 January 2016 15:13
To: [REDACTED – British Embassy Tel Aviv]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Action: UK/Israel Strategic Dialogue - replies by 13 January
Importance: High

All

We have a new date for the **UK-Israel Strategic Dialogue!**

Dore Gold, MFA Director General, will travel to the UK for the next Dialogue on 22 February, hosted by Tel Aviv alumnus, FCO PUS Simon McDonald. Senior officials from the FCO and the Israeli MFA, both Ambassadors and key officials from other Ministries will get together for a day to discuss strategic policy challenges and opportunities facing both countries. The last Dialogue was in November 2013 (2014 and 2015 were delayed for various reasons).

See attached the list of commitments from 2013. [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and David have asked me to get the ball rolling on commitments for 2016. The good news is that we went through this for a previously postponed Dialogue. Therefore could you, by Wednesday 13 January:

1. Check any outstanding areas of follow up in the November 2013 agreed takeaways.
2. Update the draft commitments for 2016. This draft covers where we got to last time so needs a very close scrub. There are lots of good ideas but please:
 - a. Delete out of date ideas;
 - b. Refine/improve ideas that could be more specific;
 - c. Think of new creative and ambitious commitments where government cooperation could push things forward. The commitments can capture existing work or push forward new ideas for 2016.

Please send [REDACTED] your input by Wednesday 13 January because we'll need to agree them internally and then clear through the UK and Israeli systems in time for the dialogue.

Thanks for your help!

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED – FCO Near East Department]
Sent: 19 January 2016 07:45
To: [REDACTED – British Embassy Tel Aviv]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Agenda for Strategic Dialogue

[REDACTED],

The commitments look good. The only one I don't know that we can confirm as FCO is [REDACTED]. Of course references to 2015 need updating.

Ahead of Netanyahu's visit there was talk of [REDACTED]

On the agenda, take out [REDACTED]'s name - not confirmed. And we have more flexibility on the end time than we did last year when that first arrived. So if ISR have more to add, we can run a bit longer rather than cutting.

Sorry for the delay in replying; I've been in and out of the office more than expected.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED – British Embassy Tel Aviv]
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2016 07:14 AM
To: [REDACTED – FCO Near East Department]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Agenda for Strategic Dialogue

[REDACTED],

Thanks for this – I have to head off to Jerusalem around 0900 UK time this morning, and would like to bring a copy of the agenda and commitments to hand over to Dore Gold.

If there are agenda items or commitments which need to be changed, we need to know pretty urgently.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED – FCO Near East Department]
Sent: 12 January 2016 16:29
To: [REDACTED – British Embassy Tel Aviv]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Agenda for Strategic Dialogue

Thanks for this, [REDACTED].

I have spoken to [REDACTED], and we will be in touch with views ahead of Monday 17 Jan. We like the commitments as set out just now, and think that it looks strong – but we will seek views across Whitehall. We will most likely be the lead officers on most of these (for the sake of easy admin) but will corral responses from OGD colleagues and the correct FCO people. Happy to discuss if you have any further questions on any of this work.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED – British Embassy Tel Aviv]
Sent: 12 January 2016 13:31
To: [REDACTED – FCO Near East Department]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Agenda for Strategic Dialogue

[REDACTED],

It's great we've got the date pinned down for the strategic dialogue.

We're keen now to quickly work up an agenda and set of commitments. The draft agenda is below. I also attach a list of draft commitments, including the lead officer on each issue in Tel Aviv. It would be good to check that (i) you're happy with these draft commitments and (ii) you can appoint a lead officer for each of the commitments in London.

David is seeing Dore Gold at the MFA next Tuesday, 18 January. We'd like to discuss both the agenda and the commitments at this meeting, so would appreciate any views you have by Monday 17 January, in order to send these over to the MFA in advance.

UK-Israel Strategic Dialogue, 22 February 2016, Draft Agenda

09.45 Participants Arrive
10.00-10.10 Opening remarks 10.10-11.00 Global trends 11.00-12.00 Regional issues:
[REDACTED]
12.00-12.30 European Union issues (12.30-14.00 Lunch discussion: Bilateral Partnership
[REDACTED]
14.00-15.00 Gaza and the future of the MEPP

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED – FCO Near East Department]
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 03:46 PM
To: [REDACTED – Government Hospitality]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: 22 February - PUS hosting UK/Israeli Strategic Dialogue
Dear Government Hospitality,

On 22 February the FCO will host the UK/Israeli Strategic Dialogue. We would ideally like to use Lancaster House or Carlton Gardens for the event.

The PUS will host. Also attending from the UK side is Simon Gas (Political Director), David Quarrey (HMA Tel Aviv) and Neil Crompton (MENAD Director). The Israeli participants will be equivalent in grade, but we are still waiting for names to be confirmed.

We will require refreshment (tea, coffee etc) during the course of the day and a **fully Kosher lunch**. We are expecting approximately 15 people to attend.

The strategic dialogue is a demonstration of the strong partnership between the UK and Israel and a chance to discuss areas of shared concern and cooperation. The UK last hosted the event in 2012 (see link) <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-hosts-fourth-uk-israel-strategic-dialogue>

Many thanks in advance and please let me know if you have any questions or require more information.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

UK – ISRAEL STRATEGIC DIALOGUE GUEST LIST

Israel

Ambassador Dore Gold	Director General of the MFA
Mr Eitan Na'eh	Chargé D'Affaires, Israeli Embassy
Mr Shimon Shapira	Head of the Foreign Minister's Cabinet
Mr Gilad Cohen	Deputy Director General MFA
Mr Yiftah Curiel	Spokesperson of the Embassy

(All attending lunch)

(Support staff) [TBC]

UK

Sir Simon McDonald	PUS	(attending lunch)
Sir Simon Gass	Political Director FCO	(attending lunch)
Mr Gwyn Jenkins	Deputy NSA	
Mr Peter Hill	Director Strategy FCO	
Mr Neil Crompton	Director MENAD FCO	(attending lunch)
Mr David Quarrey	HMA Tel Aviv	(attending lunch)
Mr Michael Howells	Head of Near East Dept.	(attending lunch)
OR		
[REDACTED]	<i>Deputy Head NED</i>	<i>(attending lunch)</i>
[REDACTED]	Head of MEPP Team FCO	
[REDACTED]	APS to the PUS	(attending lunch)
[REDACTED]	Israel Desk Officer FCO	(attending lunch)