



AUGUST 26, 2008

FOREIGN POLICY

King Abdullah meets with Palestinian president

King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz met with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in Jeddah Tuesday. The two leaders discussed the Palestinian situation and cooperation between the two countries. Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal and Palestinian Ambassador to the Kingdom Jamal Alshoobaki also attended the meeting.

During its weekly meeting August 25, the Cabinet called on the Palestinian people to set aside their difference in the interest of the Palestinian nation and to work together for the success of Egyptian efforts to launch dialogue among the Palestinian factions.

TERRORISM

Kingdom, OIC condemn terrorist attacks

On August 25, Saudi Arabia denounced the terrorist bombings which occurred in many sisterly countries and targeted the innocent. The Kingdom stressed that suppressing and confronting these acts and their perpetrators requires a unified, collective international effort.

Also this week, Secretary-General of the Jeddah-based Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) Professor Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu strongly condemned the terrorist attack in Bouira, Algeria.

In an August 20 press statement issued in Jeddah, Secretary-General Ihsanoglu lashed out at whoever stands behind these crimes and said that these acts are incompatible with the sacred values and teachings of Islam. He also called for a determined response against these blood-shedding and barbarous acts and for bringing the perpetrators to justice.

WATER

King Abdullah calls for implementation of water plan, conservation

King Abdullah ordered speedy implementation of proposed solutions to the Kingdom's water shortages and stressed the need to conserve and preserve this "precious resource."



The plan includes the construction of new dams, drilling of new wells, relocating floating desalination plants close to affected regions and employing a fleet of water tanker trucks.

