



July 27, 2009

Mr. David Cockroft
General Secretary of ITF
London

Dear David,

Re: The Histadrut-PGFTU Seminar "Vocational Training for Israeli and Palestinian Transport Unions"

We are delighted to send you the outline of the joint seminar: "Vocational Training for Israeli and Palestinian Transport Unions" the Histadrut and the Israeli Transport Workers Union, which is affiliated with the Histadrut and PGFTU and the Palestinian Transport Workers Union which is affiliated with PGFTU.

It is our pleasure to express our endorsement and commitment for this important and high priority venture between our organizations, which with no doubt will enhance the relationship between the Histadrut and PGFTU, strengthen the status of the Palestinian and Israeli employees and strongly support the peace process and co-existence in our region.

The PGFTU is committed to publish this venture among the Palestinian employees and recruit candidates for this venture. The Histadrut is also committed to carry out the venture with the PGFTU and recruit candidates for this venture.

We greatly appreciate the efforts of ITF for taking again the auspice in this particular venture and the strengthening of international solidarity. We are convinced that the cooperation between our organizations will be a role model for the trade unions movement and the political leaders in our region.

With our best regards.

Fraternally yours,


Avi Edri

**Chairman of the Israeli Transport
Workers Union, Histadrut**


Nasser Yunes

**President of the Palestinian
Transport Workers Union, PGFTU**



Vocational Training Seminar for Palestinian and Israeli Transport Workers Unions – Histadrut, PGFTU

Introduction

The Oslo Agreement in 1993, which paved the peace process between the Israeli and Palestinian people, enabled joint meetings and cooperation between the Histadrut and the Palestinian trade union (PGFTU) and their affiliated unions. In the framework of these meetings, an agreement was signed between the two parties under the auspice of ITUC.

The two federations are committed to strengthen their relationship in order to protect the rights of the Palestinian and Israeli employees and to implement the peace between the two people in order to achieve co-existence, prosperity tranquility and normality in the region.

For the past two years there has been a relationship between the Union of Israeli Transport Employees and the Palestinian Transport Workers Union as part of the larger relationship between the Histadrut and PGFTU.

The relationship began with the initiation of the "Hotline" project in which the Histadrut took the responsibility for establishing contacts between the Palestinian Union and the Israeli Defense Forces in order to assist the Palestinian drivers who are being delayed at the security checkpoints.

The two sides are asking to deepen the working connections according to needs of the unions, and in order to improve the conditions and rights of the workers in the transport department, as part of the policy of the ITF.

In the framework of deepening the relationship, the two unions are requesting to arrange a joint vocational training seminar for 11 truck drivers from each union. The framework of this seminar will include different lectures for the participants on the topics of health and safety, transport union structure, the rights of the union members in this branch, and more (enclosed the detailed program).

Furthermore, this seminar will assist to us deepen the relationship between both the Federations (PGFTU-Histadrut) and their affiliated unions and will deepen and strengthen the trust and the co-existence between the Palestinian and Israeli people.

Both sides request to hold the first joint seminar between the two unions whose goals are:

1. The acquisition of professional knowledge via brainstorming sessions;
2. Strengthening the cooperation between the Federations and the affiliated unions;
3. Deepening of the relationship between the Histadrut, the PGFTU, and the ITF and its affiliated unions;
4. To be an example and model for other professional Unions affiliated with the PGFTU and the Histadrut.

The seminar will be held in Hebrew and Arabic in order to enable the participants to articulate themselves freely understand the important material completely without facing and any language barriers.



Timetable for the Vocational Training for the Palestinian and Israeli Transport Unions Employees

Day 1

12:00 -15:00 Receiving hotel rooms and getting organized

17:00-18:30 Becoming acquainted with panel members and coordinating the expectations from the continuing education

19:30-21:30 Dinner

Day 2

07:30-08:45 Breakfast

09:00 -10:30

Part One:

A lecture on the structure of Israeli and Palestinian Transport Workers Unions

Speakers: Mr. Avi Edri, Chairman of the Israeli Transport Workers Union
Mr. Nasser Yunes, President of the Palestinian Transport Workers Union

Part Two:

Questions and answers from the participants in the discussion

10:30-10:45 Coffee break

10:45-12:15

Part One:

A lecture on the difficulties of the Palestinian driver who is driving in Areas "B" and "C"

Speaker: Mr. Nahum Gabbay

Part Two:

Nasser Yunes' lecture will or another lecturer who will speak on behalf of the PGFTU

Questions and answers from the participants in the discussion

12:15-14:30 Lunch Break and break



14:30-16:00 A lecture on: the Methods and the Strategy for recruiting new members to the Transport Workers Unions

Speakers: Mr. Avi Edri, Chairman of the Israeli Transport Workers Union
Mr. Nasser Yunes, President of the Palestinian Transport Union

19:30-20:30 Dinner

21:00 -00:00 Social Integration Evening – Coexistence between the Israeli and Palestinian peoples

Day 3:

08:00-09:30 Breakfast

10:00 Lecture on Health and Safety for Truck Drivers

11:30 Coffee Break

12:00-13:30 Continuation of the lecture

13:30-14:30 Lunch and break

14:30-15:30 Continuation of the lecture

15:30 Receiving the seminar certificates and dispersal

Budget

Accommodation: 31 hotel rooms X \$US250 per room x 3 days divided as follows: Avi Edri, Nasser Yunes+3 Palestinians, 2 translators, 1 ITF representatives 1 representative from the donor organization, 11 representatives of the Palestinian Transport Union, 11 representatives of the Israeli Transport Union \$US 23,250

Simultaneous translation: from Hebrew-Arabic and Arabic- Hebrew during the seminar 3 days x \$2000 \$US 6,000

Transportation from the West Bank to Tel Aviv and from Tel Aviv to the West Bank \$US 700

A professional lecturer on Health and Safety \$US 100

Social Integration Evening \$US 1,200

Certificates for the participants \$US 350

Total Budget \$US 31,600