CONFRONTING WATER IN AN ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN FINAL STATUS AGREEMENT

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PROCESS

• Geneva Accord
  – Water
  – Environment

• Friends of the Earth Middle East
  – David Brooks and Julie Trottier
  – Alon Tal and Mohammad Said Al Hmaidi

• Failure and Success
CONVENTIONAL TRANS-BOUNDARY WATER AGREEMENTS

WATER AS A PIE
- Fixed Shares
  - Absolute
  - Percentage
- « FITFIR »

PROBLEMS
- Changed Hydrology
- Changed Socio-Economics
- Physics of Water
MODERN, DYNAMIC WATER AGREEMENT

WATER AS A FLOW
- De-Secuitize
- De-Nationalize
- Continuous Monitoring
- Ongoing Mediation

PROBLEMS
- New Structures & Staff Needed
- Results Less Predictable
- Need to Build Trust
WHAT WATER IS (NOT) SHARED

• Coastal Aquifer
• Mountain Aquifer (eastern block only)
• Jordan River (prior Treaty)
• Treated Waste Water
KEY PRINCIPALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Search for Equity, not Equality
- Implementable in Practice
- Priority to Demand Management
- Balance Centralized (Israeli) and Decentralized (Palestinian) Systems
- Ongoing Monitoring and Mediation
« It is time to replace the failed mechanism of the Joint Water Committee, established under Oslo, with an institution where Palestinians and Israelis are true partners in both water supply and management responsibilities. »

Nader El Khatib, Palestinian Co-Chair
Friends of the Earth – Middle East
We won’t accomplish this goal until we break outmoded patterns of the past, and accept that water management must be based on scientific analysis but governed by political choice.