

Jerusalem, 9 May 2010

PM Netanyahu welcomes beginning of proximity talks

(Communicated by the Prime Minister's Media Adviser)

At the beginning of the weekly Cabinet meeting today (Sunday), 9 May 2010, PM Netanyahu said:

I would like to welcome the Palestinian Authority's decision to begin proximity talks. At this opportunity, I would like to say two things. One, these talks are developing and are taking place without preconditions, as we requested and as we insisted upon during the past year. The second thing is that the proximity talks must quickly lead to direct talks. Peace cannot be made from a distance or by remote control, especially given that we and the Palestinians are neighbors. Over time, it is inconceivable that we will make decisions and agreements on critical issues such as security and our national interests, and theirs as well, without sitting together in the same room. Therefore, as soon as possible, the proximity talks will need to lead to direct talks in which we will continue the effort to reach the peace and security that will enable us to live alongside the Palestinians for generations.