



**SPEECH**  
**For UNDP/PAPP Special Representative**  
**Mr. Jens Toyberg-Frandzen**

<b>Speaking event:</b>	Inauguration ceremony, Qalandia Road
<b>Date and time:</b>	Tuesday, 17.07.2007; 16:00 – 19:00
<b>Venue:</b>	Qalandia Refugee Camp
<b>Participants/audience:</b>	PA Prime Minister or his representative Ministers of Planning, Youth and Sports, and Local Governance Governors of Ramallah and Jerusalem President of PECDAR Head of German Representative Office Representatives of KfW Project Managers, Contracting company UNDP
<b>Length of speech:</b>	3-4 minutes
<b>Context of speech:</b>	opening remarks, no question and answer session
<b>Draft prepared by:</b>	Communications Unit

My respected ladies and gentlemen:

I am always happy whenever UNDP finishes a project, but today I am doubly happy.

This is the first time that I personally benefit from a UNDP project. Once this road is finished, my back will not have to suffer every time I travel from Jerusalem to Ramallah.

The Jerusalem-Ramallah road has a great economic importance, but above all it is a symbol. It is a symbol of the unbreakable social fabric between Palestinians. I always felt for and admired the people who travel on this road. Nothing stops them, not rain, scorching sun or even checkpoints. The least we can do is make this uneasy trip between the two major cities in the West Bank smoother.

I am also proud of this unique stadium. People, especially children, suffer so much in this part of the world, and they deserve such a stadium to play in and watch football games. I hope that one day we will be able to watch the Palestinian national team playing against some of the well-known teams in the world, especially Brazil and Germany. I would be very proud to see my national Danish team playing here although it would then be a problem for me not knowing which team to cheer.



Who knows? Maybe one day the Palestinian Zidan will come from Qalandia and become a role model for all Palestinian children.

The road and stadium will look nice, but I think that the most important part of this project remains underground. The water network will hopefully benefit every house in Qalandia. It is unacceptable that in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, there are families in the occupied Palestinian territory who have no running water in the summer.

I would like to thank the local community, especially the camp committee, for its cooperation with us. I also want to express my appreciation for our donor, the German Development Bank (KfW) and the government of Germany, that made this project possible as well as for our Palestinian partners, PEC DAR and the Jerusalem Water Undertaking.

Thank you all