

RELEASE IN
FULL

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2011 9:45 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Palestinians to push heritage agenda at UNESCO (Reuters)

From: OpsNewsTicker
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2011 05:29 AM
To: NEWS-Mahogany; NEWS-NEA
Subject: Palestinians to push heritage agenda at UNESCO (Reuters)

RAMALLAH (Reuters) - The Palestinians will seek World Heritage status for the birthplace of Jesus once the U.N. cultural agency admits them as a full member, and will then nominate other sites on Israeli-occupied land for the same standing, an official said.

Hamdan Taha, a Palestinian Authority minister who deals with antiquities and culture, said UNESCO membership was the Palestinians' natural right. He described as "regrettable" the objections of some governments including the United States.

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