



MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS OF FINLAND

Mohamed Ahmed Ismail

Chairman of Senior Official Committee

League of Arab States

Helsinki, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Excellency,

Thank you for your letter addressed to me on January 20<sup>th</sup> 2015, i.a. informing me that the Senior Officials Committee of the League of Arab States was not able to participate the proposed meeting in Geneva January 25-26<sup>th</sup>, and requesting that dates for any further meetings be consulted with the Committee before being set.

To accommodate your request, I seek your advice on alternative dates for the meeting in Geneva, as proposed by myself and the co-conveners of the Helsinki Conference, to address the outstanding issues and facilitate the necessary agreement among the states of the region on the modalities for the Conference. Should the Senior Officials Committee find it helpful, I stand ready to hold further consultations in Cairo on the timing of the proposed meeting.

In view of progress made to date, the co-conveners and I rest confident that the remaining key issues can be resolved, and the Conference convened in the near future, once the agreement among the states of the region on the arrangements of the Conference has been reached. The co-conveners remain committed to convening the Conference as soon as the regional states have reached this agreement. With this view, we very much encourage continuation of informal meetings as soon as possible.

Excellency, I wish to thank the Senior Officials Committee of the League of Arab States for its constructive efforts and expressed readiness to continue our good cooperation.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Jaakko Laajava  
Under Secretary of State  
Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland