



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

<b>Speaking event:</b>	Inauguration ceremony, Birzeit University
<b>Date and time:</b>	Wednesday, 21.02.2007; 12:00 – 1:45
<b>Venue:</b>	Birzeit University
<b>Participants/audience:</b>	President of Birzeit University Head of the German Representative Office Representatives of KfW Project Managers, Contracting Company, Faculty and Communication staff at the university, German Representative Office, and UNDP
<b>Length of speech:</b>	5 minutes
<b>Context of speech:</b>	opening remarks, no question and answer session
<b>Draft prepared by:</b>	Communications Unit

Honorable guests, colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,

It is indeed a great pleasure for me to be here today on behalf of UNDP's Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People to welcome all of you who have chosen to join us this day in the life of this great university to inaugurate what maybe a small project but an important one for the university's students and faculty.

We are all aware of Birzeit's influence in the Palestinian society. Be it either in the private or public sector. The university represents a unique resource for this country, as an educator of the Palestinian workforce and a source of cultural enrichment.

The construction of the cafeteria and promenade is a unique project in itself. While most of the projects funded under the Employment Generation Project deal with small scale infrastructure works in small communities throughout the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, this particular project has an added revenue generating element to it.

The project is part of the third phase of the EGP programme, funded by the Government of Germany through its development Bank, KfW. During this phase, a 16 million Euro grant funded some 161 projects throughout the West Bank, generating to date an estimated 150,000 working days.

In total, the Government of Germany and KfW have funded, through UNDP, 445 projects through 5 phases of the EGP programme, generating over 600,000 workdays.



This particular project generated approximately 2000 workdays.

So whether you are craving a full fledged meal or simply a steaming hot coffee, the newly established cafeteria will offer you that and much more. This outlet complements the only other cafeteria on campus. This new student hangout that safely seats 90 customers will cater to over 2000 students and faculty members on weekly basis.

In addition to the cafeteria, the new beautiful promenade will be a place for students and faculty to enjoy the spring and summer bliss outdoors.

While this project is UNDP's first infrastructure project at Birzeit University, PAPP and the University have had a long successful working relationship that has resulted in the implementation of many projects starting with the establishment of the law centre in 1998.

In addition, PAPP has also funded the virtual gallery, labs, a women development project, the Centre for Development Studies, as well as providing capacity building initiatives through TOKTEN's, UNV's , and others.

Before concluding my speech, I would like to express my gratitude to the President of Birzeit University, the Head of German Representative office, our partners KfW, the contracting company, all the laborers who worked on the project, as well as our staff at UNDP who have contributed to the construction of this new cafeteria and promenade.

I wish you all the best and present my best regards