

U.S. President Barack Obama Calls Israeli Prime Minister on Iran



Washington, November 26 (RHC)-- U.S. President Barack Obama phoned Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu after reaching an interim nuclear deal with Iran, promising to consult with him on a comprehensive solution, the White House said.

Obama told Netanyahu that he wanted to begin consultations "immediately," after the U.S. and five other world powers reached a deal in Geneva on Iran's nuclear energy program.

Netanyahu has warned Washington that a diplomatic deal with Tehran would be "a historic blunder." The hawkish premier responded angrily after the accord was struck, calling it a "horrible mistake." He added that Israel would not be bound by it.

The deal was announced on Sunday morning following four days of intensive talks between Iran and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council -- the US, Britain, China, France, Russia -- plus Germany.

Obama reassured Netanyahu that the United States "will remain firm in our commitment to Israel, which -- he said -- has good reason to be skeptical about Iran's intentions." The two agreed to stay in close contact

over the next six months as nuclear talks progressed.

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