First Invitation, Washington
Given the recent escalation between Hamas and Israel and fragile ceasefire between them, President Barack Obama invites all parties to an urgent meeting of the Gaza working group, on November 28, at 11:00 PM, US EST.

The President requests that Jerusalem submit a six-point document to which Russia, the Arab countries, the Palestinians and the European Union will respond as the negotiations begin.

Second Invitation, New York
UN secretary general Ban Ki-moon invites all UN members to an emergency UN working group meeting in New York on November 28, at 11:00 PM, US EST.

The parties will discuss the Palestinian request for full UN membership and their quest for independence.

Secretary Ban asks the representative of Jordan to prepare a six clause draft that will guide the session.

Third Invitation, Cairo
In light of the deadly terror attacks in Lebanon, Arab League Secretary General Nabil Elaraby calls for an emergency meeting of the Lebanon and Syria working group in Cairo on November 28, at 11:00 PM, US EST.

In the two massive explosions in Beirut yesterday, ten American tourists, an unknown number of Russian citizens and a senior Syrian intelligence officer were killed. The Arab League sends condolences to the US, Russia and Syria. The secretary general rejects the Israeli and European allegations that Hezbollah and Iran were behind the attacks.

The meeting, to which the Quartet members are also invited, will deal with terror-driven escalations in Lebanon and Syria. Elaraby requests the Quartet and Lebanon, each separately, to submit six-point proposals on ways to stabilize the tense situation.

fig. 6.3. Scenario format: Multilateral negotiation invitations

The form of an official Israeli news release and deliberately highlighted the Israeli point of view. This opening scenario, illustrated in figure 6.4, confronted all actors with the possibility of an impending agreement that overlooked some core interests of the adversaries and could lead to countermeasures, even violence and war. It described an opportunity to settle the long-standing nuclear issue that involved high stress for all actors who were uncertain of Iranian credibility. The conditional Israeli willingness to join the negotiations, a fiction element at the time of the scenario, was designed to make the rivals aware that, if a viable accord is the aim, regional actors who were left outside the negotiation process must also be taken into account. In reaction to this opening scenario, all teams addressed major dilemmas real leaders face when they need to coordinate conflicting interests between multiple actors. It made participants realize that risk-taking, openness, and compromise are essential to prevent radicalization of foes and at the same time to preserve good relations between allies.

When you design a simulation with several rounds of world politics, an opening scenario for each one of them is necessary, with an introduction of new developments. Just like the first opening scenario, each additional scenario builds upon events from the previous round with some step-level change, a new challenge, threats, time pressure, and uncertainty for all actors. For example, if the first round ended with stalemate, you may introduce a dramatic mediation proposal to foster communications. Conversely, if teams reached an agreement in the first round, you may add a mass-casualty terror attack, which challenges the agreement and calls upon the teams to confirm their mutual commitments.

The opening scenario can be presented shortly before world politics interactions begin or immediately as they start. To publicize the opening scenario, in cyber and face-

Israel is determined to clarify its positions on the Iranian nuclear program, in light of the forthcoming talks scheduled for next week in Geneva and the uncertainties regarding the French position.

Israel disagrees with US President Barak Obama, who sees the Iranian initiative as a promising turning point to solve the nuclear issue without use of military force.

Israel rejects the idea that all military intervention would be postponed as long as negotiations take place. It warns that it will act independently if necessary.

Israel promises to come to the negotiation table if it receives serious indications from the European Union or the US regarding an Iranian willingness to compromise.

Israeli diplomats called on Russian President Vladimir Putin to intervene immediately and convince Iran to accept international observers to monitor its nuclear sites.

Israel threatens to disclose intelligence information on Iranian military facilities to the media if the diplomatic negotiations end in deadlock.

fig. 6.4. Scenario format: Second Israeli news release