



President Bush's Statement Regarding the Annapolis Conference

(November 25, 2007)

I am pleased to welcome Prime Minister [Olmert](#), President [Abbas](#), and representatives of more than forty countries to the United States for the November 27 [Annapolis Conference](#). The broad attendance at this conference by regional states and other key international participants demonstrates the international resolve to seize this important opportunity to advance freedom and peace in the Middle East.

This conference will signal international support for the Israelis' and [Palestinians'](#) intention to commence negotiations on the establishment of a Palestinian state and the realization of peace between these two peoples.

It will also provide an opportunity for the Israelis, the [Palestinians](#), and their neighbors to recommit to implementing the [Roadmap](#), with the U.S. monitoring their progress by the parties' agreement. Finally, the conference will review Palestinian plans to build the institutions of a democratic state and their preparations for next month's donors' conference in Paris.

I remain personally committed to implementing my vision of two democratic states, [Israel](#) and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security.

The Israelis and [Palestinians](#) have waited a long time for this vision to be realized, and I call upon all those gathering in [Annapolis](#) this week to redouble their efforts to turn dreams of peace into reality. I look forward to my discussions with Prime Minister [Olmert](#) and President [Abbas](#) this week, as well as to addressing the conference along with them on Tuesday.

Source: [The White House, Office of the Press Secretary](#)

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