

## INVITATION

(Salutation)

Momentum for peace has been building for several months. Efforts to engage in dialogue on the part of every party have shown that determination to achieve a final agreement is genuine. The Annapolis Conference is an important stage in this process.

The international community must fully support ongoing negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians. It must also give a more concrete dimension to its political support to contribute to the efforts for peace and to easing the suffering of the peoples involved in this conflict. This political will is an essential condition for creating an independent Palestinian State. But only our economic and financial operational support will help create a politically and economically viable Palestinian State. Resolution of this conflict will simultaneously pave the way for economic and social development in the entire Middle East.

With this in mind and in response to the request of the Palestinian Authority leaders, especially its President Mahmoud Abbas, France has offered to hold an International Donors Conference for the Palestinian State. This Conference will provide the opportunity for the international community, bilateral donors and regional and international institutions to affirm their determination to back the reform and development plan for 2008-2010 drawn up by Prime Minister Salam Fayyad.

We therefore have the honour to invite you to take part in the International Donors Conference for the Palestinian State, which will be held in Paris on 17 December 2007 and chaired by France alongside the Special Representative of the Quartet, Norway and the European Commission.

Our mobilisation is crucial. As members of the international community we have a huge responsibility and we will be able to shoulder it.

(Complimentary closing)

Bernard KOUCHNER