

## **Press Statement by the Middle East Quartet Envoys**

**Cairo, 1 July 2015**

On 29 and 30 June, Envoys of the Middle East Quartet met in Cairo as the first step in their regular and direct outreach to Arab states.

Over the two days, the Envoys from the EU, Russia, US and UN met with Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shukri, Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, Nabil el-Araby, and National Security Advisor Fayza Abou el-Naga.

Discussions focused on ways to advance the two-state solution, and on how to create the conditions for the return to meaningful negotiations.

The Quartet Envoys underlined the pivotal role Egypt plays in achieving a sustainable and just Israeli-Palestinian peace and noted the importance of the Arab Peace Initiative for a comprehensive resolution of the conflict.

Consultations also included constructive exchanges on the current situation on the ground.

The Envoys strongly condemned the cowardly assassination of the Public Prosecutor Hisham Barakat and expressed their sincere condolences to the Egyptian Government and people.

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