

UN Envoy Larsen Meets with US Officials in Washington

10 March 2004 - The UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East, Terje Roed-Larsen, is in Washington today, where he met with US National Security Adviser, Condoleezza Rice. They discussed the situation in the Middle East, including issues related to Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's proposals concerning an Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip.

They discussed ways in which the international community could assist the parties in this regard. They also discussed the other tracks of the peace process, including the Syrian and the Lebanese tracks.

This afternoon, Mr. Roed-Larsen will be representing the United Nations at a working-level meeting of the Quartet, which also includes the United States, Russia and the European Union, which is intended to push forward the Middle East peace process. The meeting will discuss recent developments, including the withdrawal proposals on Gaza.

On the Secretary-General's instructions, Mr. Roed-Larsen will travel tomorrow to London to have discussions on these issues with UK Foreign Secretary Jack Straw.

Source: Daily Press Briefing by the Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General
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