



Brazil's Statement to the UN Security Council

New York, 14 October 2003

Statement by Ambassador Ronaldo Mota Sardenberg

Mr. President,

Brazil has had many opportunities to express its condemnation of all acts of violence and all forms of terrorism. We have voiced our dismay at the spiral of brutality founded on retaliation and revenge that characterizes daily life in parts of the Middle East. Too many innocent lives have already been claimed.

Peace will not be achieved by merely forcing the other's hand to a final capitulation. Only the resumption of negotiations that result in a just and comprehensive agreement can pave the way for a lasting peace to all the peoples in the region.

In this regard, the construction of a separation wall, as well as the announcement by the Israeli Government of new settlement activities in the occupied territories, further discourages the trust and confidence that are indispensable at this moment.

We call upon the parties to return to the negotiating table and, through resolute, bold steps, to begin the implementation of the 'roadmap'. The parties must do their best in order to make the 'roadmap' work.

The creation of a Palestinian State, according to the legitimate aspirations of its people, and a State of Israel, living within internationally recognized borders, is the only prospect capable of ensuring peace and stability to the Middle East. The Government of Brazil reiterates its willingness to contribute to any initiative, under the aegis of the United Nations, which may lead to this end.

Thank you.

Brazilian Palestinian National Interest Committee