



CONGRESSIONAL ACTION: BY FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE AT THE LOWER HOUSE OF CONGRESS

OCTOBER 2007

According to Representative Nilson Mourão, president of the Brazil-Arab Countries Parliamentary Group, there will be a forum for parliament members and social movements to discuss the conference for peace in the Middle East, to take place in Washington, United States, in November 2007. The idea is to promote, in the sidelines of the conference, a meeting between parliament members and delegates from the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), to press for the problems in the region to be definitely solved.

According to Representative Vieira da Cunha, president of the Foreign Relations Committee at the Lower House, out of several decisions supporting the Palestinians, one of them was the formulation of a document asking for the conference in Washington to result in concrete advances for peace in Palestine. Signatures will be collected on the document, which will later be sent to the leaders of the countries involved, to international organizations and also promoted among the Brazilian society.

President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva is going to participate in the conference. Lula was invited to the conference by the president of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA), Mahmoud Abbas, and also by the president of the United States, George W. Bush, during the 62nd General Assembly of the United Nations, in New York.

President Lula will participate Wednesday (17th), in the 2nd Summit of the India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Dialogue Forum, in South Africa, along with the South African president, Thabo Mbeki, and the Indian prime minister, Manmohan Singh. During the summit, the question of Palestine should be discussed.

The IBSA was established in 2003, with the objective of seeking closer ties between Brazil, India, and South Africa. The 1st Summit of the Dialogue Forum, occurred in September last year, in the Brazilian capital Brasília.