

**FAX MESSAGE**

To : Principal Information Officer, PID, Dhaka  
From : Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the UN, New York  
No. : PMBNY-Press Release/2007-1377  
Date : 29 August 2007

I forward herewith the following with a request for arranging appropriate coverage.

Tareq Md. Ariful Islam  
Counsellor

**PRESS RELEASE**

New York, 29 August 2007

Speaking at the debate in the UN Security Council on the situation in the Middle East and the occupied Palestinian territories today (29 August 2007), Ambassador Ismat Jahan, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations reiterated Bangladesh's full support for the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to a sovereign and independent State, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

Ambassador Jahan expressed deep concern at the continued killing, arrest and detention of defenseless Palestinian civilians by the Israeli forces. She also expressed dismay at the worsening humanitarian situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, particularly following the planned Israeli blockade on the Gaza strip. She underscored the need for urgent UN actions to bring to an immediate end Israel's illegal construction works around the Holy Al-Aqsa Compound and ongoing building of the separation wall.

Ambassador Jahan mentioned that the factional infighting and divisions among the Palestinians themselves are also negating the prospects of genuine and lasting peace in the region. On a positive note, she referred to ongoing initiatives and mediation efforts of the international community to consolidate national unity and reconciliation in the Palestinian territories and also to provide fresh impetus to the peace process. She also urged the international community particularly, the developed countries to come forward with economic development projects to resuscitate the war-ravaged Palestinian economy.

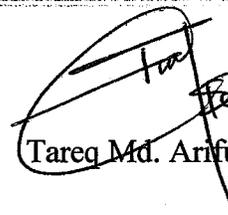
Bangladesh Permanent Representative called upon the international community to seize every opportunity to bring the stalled Middle East peace process back on track.

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**Copy to:**

1. Director General (EP), M/O. Foreign Affairs, Dhaka.
2. Director (UN), M/O. Foreign Affairs, Dhaka.

*Respectful regards.*

  
Tareq Md. Ariful Islam  
29-08-07