
**PRESS ENCOUNTER WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
FOLLOWING SECURITY COUNCIL OPEN DEBATE ON CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICT**

New York, 12 July 2011 —
SG: Ladies and Gentlemen,
I am pleased to see you.
Yesterday I travelled to Washington to participate in a meeting of the Quartet Principals.

We discussed the urgent need to bring the parties into resumed negotiations in the aftermath of [President Obama's speech of May 19](#), which all Members of the Quartet supported.

It was a detailed and very useful discussion.

I hope it will still be possible to help the parties return to talks on a clear basis, which is a common objective of all Quartet members.

Quartet envoys are continuing consultations today.

I believe the Quartet and the international community, together with the parties, need to make all efforts to find a way forward to re-start negotiations to finally bring an end to the occupation and an end to the conflict, and lead to the establishment of two states, an independent Palestine and a secure Israel.

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