



# Press Release

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## **PRESS STATEMENT ON MIDDLE EAST BY SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

Following is today's press statement on the Middle East by the Security Council President, Sergey Lavrov (Russian Federation):

The members of the Council expressed serious concern for the safety of Chairman Arafat. They emphasized that there must be no harm to him or others in the compound. The siege must be lifted and Chairman Arafat must have full freedom of movement to fully carry out his functions.

Members of the Council reiterated [Security Council resolution 1405 \(2002\)](#). They fully supported the Secretary-General's efforts to implement this resolution. They expect its expeditious implementation and full cooperation of Israel with the Secretary-General and with the fact-finding team.

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