Sign Letter Thanking Countries Who Voted Against UN Recognition of Palestinian State

From: The Committee on Foreign Affairs

Sent By:

Date: 12/5/2012

Dear Colleague:

Please join me in signing letters thanking the seven foreign governments who joined the United States and Israel in opposing the United Nations General Assembly's recent decision to recognize a non-existent Palestinian state.

These seven governments (Canada, Czech Republic, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, and Panama) acted courageously in opposing the Palestinian leadership's anti-Israel, anti-peace, unilateral statehood scheme—even as the majority of UN member countries failed to do the right thing. I would like to express the gratitude that these seven governments deserve.

To join me in signing these letters, or for more information, please contact <u>Alan</u> <u>Goldsmith</u> or <u>Gabriella Ra'anan</u> with the House Foreign Affairs Committee's Majority Staff.

Sincerely,

ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN Chairman Committee on Foreign Affairs

Dear [Head of Government]:

We write to thank your government for joining the United States and Israel in voting against the recent United Nations General Assembly resolution to upgrade the status of the "Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine" (i.e., the Palestine Liberation Organization's mission) at the UN to "Non-Member Observer State."

We strongly support the achievement of a negotiated, true, and lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians. For that reason, we opposed the Palestinian leadership's decision to reject direct negotiations with Israel and, instead, unilaterally seek recognition of a non-existent Palestinian state by international organizations and foreign governments. We appreciate your courageous opposition to the UN General Assembly's irresponsible decision to support this reckless unilateral Palestinian statehood scheme—and we regret that more nations did not follow your example. Unfortunately, because of the UN General Assembly's actions, lasting peace and security between Israel and the Palestinians is even further away from becoming reality.

Thank you again for opposing the UN's decision to back the unilateral Palestinian statehood scheme. By voting "No," you did the right thing for peace, for Israel, and for the Palestinian people. Please know that we will always support your efforts to do the right thing at the UN.