

**Security Council**

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**Identical letters dated 9 December 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council**

I write to draw your attention to a series of irresponsible statements made by the President of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas. On 30 November 2014, President Abbas gave an interview to the Egyptian daily *Akhbar al-Yawm* in which he said: “There are six million [Palestinian] refugees who wish to return, and by the way, I am one of them ... we cannot close the door to those who wish to return.”

By demanding that millions of Palestinians flood the Jewish State, President Abbas is calling for the destruction of Israel by demographic means. He is cultivating impossible fantasies, misleading his people and distancing us from peace.

The international community can no longer wave this off as an issue to be resolved in negotiations. Real peace will come only when the Palestinian leadership calls for mutual recognition, tells its people that difficult compromises will be necessary and abandons the anti-Israel incitement.

President Abbas is not speaking like a leader who is committed to peace. Thus it is time for the international community to publicly call upon President Abbas to abandon the claim of return and make it publicly clear that the so-called right of return is the single greatest obstacle to peace.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ron **Prosor**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

