



DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE PALESTINIAN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

- The Chair -

Mr Javier SOLANA
High Representative for CFSP
Council of the European Union
rue de la Loi 175
B-1048 Brussels

313490 19.09.2006

Dear High Representative,

The delegation for relations with the Palestinian Legislative Council of the European Parliament has asked me to send you a letter concerning the situation at the Rafah crossing point.

As you will be aware, the Rafah crossing point, which is the only open door for Palestinians for entering the Gaza Strip or Egypt, has been effectively closed since 25 June 2006.

The main reason for this closure used by the Israeli Authorities is the fact that the personnel assigned to EU BAM Rafah, (the European Union Board Assistance Mission) for the Rafah crossing point, are resident in Israel, (Kerem Shalom and Ashkelon) and that travelling to Rafah may be a risk for them.

The European Parliament delegation is of the opinion that the EU should do everything to improve the lives of Palestinians living in the Gaza Strip and to ensure that the agreement between the parties is enforced. In order to avoid the long and dangerous journey from Israel to the Rafah border, I should like you to consider the possibility of the EU BAM Rafah personnel being located in either the Gaza Strip or Egypt from where it would be easier for them to monitor security at the crossing point.

Yours sincerely,

Adamos ADAMOU