

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 31 December 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for the month of December 2008, and upon instructions from the Council of Ministers of the League of Arab States at its extraordinary session held today, 31 December 2008, in Cairo, I have the pleasure to request the convening today of an emergency session of the Security Council to consider the continued Israeli military aggression against the occupied Palestinian territory in the Gaza Strip, and to adopt an enforceable and binding resolution that would ensure an immediate ceasefire, cessation of the Israeli military aggression, lifting of the blockade, opening of border-crossing points, end of the Israeli policy of collective punishment, providing international protection to the Palestinian people and ensuring calm.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter made available to the members of the Security Council and to have it distributed as a document of the Council under the agenda item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".

(Signed) Maged **Abdelaziz**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

