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## **AIPAC Welcomes President Obama's Support for Direct Israeli-Palestinian Peace Talks**

*Obama calls Palestinian bid for U.N. statehood a "shortcut" that  
cannot bring peace*

In his speech at the United Nations today, President Obama rightly stated that genuine peace can only come about as a result of direct negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians and "not through statements and resolutions at the U.N."

The President and Israel agree on the need for an immediate resumption of direct negotiations. As President Obama said today, peace will only succeed "if we can encourage the parties to sit down together, to listen to each other and to understand each other's hopes and fears."

AIPAC appreciates the President's "unshakeable" commitment to Israel's security and his clear statements outlining the daily dangers and strategic threats facing Israel. President Obama demonstrated his understanding of Israel's legitimate requirements when he stated that the Jewish people – in their historic homeland – deserve recognition and normal relations with their neighbors.

AIPAC also applauds the President for condemning the murderous Iranian and Syrian tyrannies and denouncing Tehran's repeated calls to eradicate Israel and its "refusal to recognize the rights of its own people."