

Montevideo, 22 July 2014

## **Progressive Alliance Statement on Middle East**

The Progressive Alliance meeting in Montevideo, Uruguay, on July 22 - 23, 2014 expresses its distress at the tragic events taking place in Palestine and Israel. It adds its voice to all others who appealed for an immediate cease-fire and reiterates its condemnation of violence targeting civilians.

In what was until 1948 Mandatory Palestine, it is Israel that occupies Palestine, not Palestine that occupies Israel. 60 years after the end of the process of decolonization on the world stage, in the Palestinian occupied territories, we are witnessing today in 2014 an accelerated process of illegal settlement building.

The Progressive Alliance calls for the end of occupation, supports the two-state solution along the 1967 boundaries.

The Progressive Alliance considers that the way the search for peace has been handled so far needs to be revisited. So far it is the process that became durable instead of peace itself becoming permanent and final. The international community should find ways to be more assertive in guiding the parties towards this desirable goal.