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MEDIA ADVISORY

Young Palestinian Leaders Kick off U.S. Visit on the Heels of Annapolis Conference Delegates to Study U.S. Political System, Discuss International Issues

WASHINGTON – On Saturday, December 1, 2007, the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) will welcome a delegation of six young, prominent Palestinian political leaders to Washington, D.C. as they kick off a ten day political exchange program funded by the U.S. Department of State which will also take them to Oklahoma and Central New Jersey. The delegation's visit comes on the heels of the Annapolis conference on Middle East peace held on November 27, 2007.

ACYPL began exchanging delegations with the Palestinian Territories following the 1997 Phase I of the Likud-Fatah Dialogue – a political skills training program that brought together rising leaders from Fatah Youth and Young Likud who were interested in engaging their colleagues across the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Who: Political leaders between the ages of twenty five and forty who represent the next generation of Palestinian leaders. Delegation members include:

- **Mr. Thaer Abubaker** - Chief Prosecutor, Office of General Prosecution
- **Mr. Akram Alkhatib** - Prosecutor, Office of General Prosecution
- **Ms. Ola Khuwayrah** - Head, Administrative Affairs Division, Governorate of Ramallah
- **Ms. Rasha Qawas** - Information Department, Palestinian Legislative Council
- **Mr. Nasser Qtami** (Escort) - Assistant Deputy, Ministry of Labor
- **Mr. Majid Sawalha** - Head, Public Relations Department, Agricultural Development Association

What: Program highlights will include:

- Meetings and discussions with members and staff of the U.S. Congress as well as officials from the White House, the U.S. Department of State, the United States Court of Federal Claims, the Office of District of Columbia Mayor Adrian Fenty, the Democratic National Committee (DNC), the National Association of Attorneys General, the P.L.O. Mission to the United States, the American Task Force on Palestine and Americans for Peace Now

When: December 1-5, 2007

Why: The purpose of this exchange program is to:

- Expose the delegates to the American political system at the national, state and local levels;
- Give them a new perspective on American culture; and
- Allow them to engage in dialogue on international issues and forge professional relationships with their American counterparts.

About The American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL)

Recognized by the U.S. Congress as a pre-eminent catalyst for introducing rising political leaders and policy makers to international affairs and to each other, the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) is a bi-partisan, not-for-profit international exchange organization based in Washington, DC. Since its founding in 1966, ACYPL has conducted programs and exchanges with more than 90 nations, producing a global network of several thousand alumni. Former ACYPL participants include 38 sitting members of the U.S. Congress, 6 sitting U.S. governors and ambassadors, cabinet ministers and parliamentarians around the globe. For more information on ACYPL, please visit <http://www.acypl.org>.

PLEASE NOTE – TO SCHEDULE AN INTERVIEW WITH DELEGATES OR FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ACYPL OR THIS DELEGATION, MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA SHOULD CONTACT MIKE GARRETSON AT 202-857-0999 x27 OR mgarretson@acypl.org.

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