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# A GCC Commitment to End the Secondary and Tertiary Boycott

By

Secretary of State Warren Christopher  
and  
Saudi Crown Prince Saud al-Faysal

[The following is a reprint of remarks made by Secretary Christopher and Saudi Crown Prince Saud al-Faysal during a meeting with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), New York City, on September 30, 1994.]

**Secretary Christopher.** We have had a very productive discussion here today, an extremely useful exchange of views, and a very useful outcome. Our dialogue on regional security, on the peace process, and on Iraq, illustrates the deep cooperation that exists between the United States and the members of the Gulf Cooperation Council and their officials and diplomats.<sup>1</sup>

The Foreign Minister of Saudi Arabia, Crown Prince Saud, will be reading a statement on their behalf, and we will be issuing that to you in the near future. But let me make a couple of comments on the statement that you will be receiving and that he will be either reading or summarizing.

As you know, ending the Arab boycott of Israel has long been a key objective of the United States as we work to advance peace in the region. That is why I want to emphasize the great importance of what has been done today. Essentially, there is a commitment from the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council no longer to enforce the secondary and tertiary aspects of the boycott and not to discriminate against American companies. These are very significant moves.

In addition, we welcome their indication that they will support an effort in the Arab League to do away with the boycott in its entirety. It is our hope that effort will be undertaken in the very near future.

There can be no doubt that the Gulf states have played a very valuable role in the region. The Middle East-North Africa economic summit in Casablanca this year will be an unusual—I believe an unprecedented—opportunity to break down barriers and build new relationships to provide economic incentives and economic results, which will bring to the area the benefits of peace in a way that can help the lives of people in their day-to-day work.

We look forward to the participation of the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council in that Casablanca meeting. The discussion that we had today on Iraq, which is reflected in the statement of the Council which will be released, underscores the congruence of the views of the United States and the member states.

Our nations agree that we must maintain sanctions on Iraq as long as Baghdad fails to demonstrate its peaceful intentions and fails to carry out all the resolutions of the UN Security Council. We will continue to work with the members of the Gulf Cooperation council. These

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<sup>1</sup>The six GCC countries include Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

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meetings will hopefully become an annual fixture of the UN General Assembly. I think they are very valuable.

The steps taken today with respect to the boycott of Israel are very significant steps, and I want to thank each of the ministers for the courage and commitment that enabled them to move forward in this very significant way.

Your Highness, we would welcome anything that you might want to say.

**Crown Prince Saud.** Thank you, Mr. Secretary. May I say first of all that the statement on the boycott has already been distributed to the press, and I shall read the joint statement by the Gulf Cooperation Council Ministers as regards the meeting that we had with the Secretary today. Since it is a joint statement, may I be allowed to read it, Mr. Secretary?

My colleagues and myself of the GCC have had a productive meeting with you, Mr. Secretary, in which the GCC-U.S. economic cooperation as well as a variety of regional issues were reviewed. [Crown Prince Saud al-Faysal reads from the joint statement.]

The GCC ministers noted with satisfaction the results of the fifth GCC-U.S. meeting held in Riyadh last January and reiterated the importance of the early implementation of the recommendations of that meeting, particularly with regard to the expansion and diversification of trade and improved access to markets.

The GCC ministers look forward to the success of the second GCC-U.S. business conference to be held in Bahrain in March 1996. The GCC ministers welcomed agreements already reached between the PLO and Israel, between Jordan and Israel, and look forward to continued progress on the Syrian, Lebanese, and Israeli tracks toward the achievement of a comprehensive peace.

The GCC ministers reiterated their countries' continued support for the peace process and their efforts to prepare the environment for further progress. The ministers expressed appreciation for the continued efforts of the United States to bring about a just, comprehensive, and lasting settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian question in accordance with Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the principle of land for peace. The ministers also called for an Israeli commitment to refrain from introducing any demographic changes in Jerusalem that will prejudice the forthcoming final status negotiations.

The GCC ministers express their firm and united stand that Iraq must comply fully with all relevant Security Council resolutions. In particular, the GCC insists that Iraq fulfill all of its obligations toward Kuwait to include formal and irrevocable recognition of Kuwaiti sovereignty, independence, and its international border as demarcated by the UN Special Committee and endorsed by the Security Council in its Resolution 833; and accounting for and return of all Kuwaitis and other nationals missing in action and property, including military equipment, currently in Iraqi hands.

The GCC urged the Security Council to bear in mind Iraq's continued threat to peace and stability in the Gulf region when it considers the status of Iraqi compliance with the UN Security Council resolution.

The GCC pledged its strong continuing support for the work of the Special UN commission, UNSCOM. The GCC ministers noted with appreciation the support of the United States for the Gulf Cooperation Council's call to refer the dispute between Iran and the United Arab Emirates over the three Emirate islands to the International Court of Justice.