

Oslo, 11 November 2004

Mr. Omar Sabri Kitmitto, Head of Delegation
Palestine Liberation Organization
Palestinian General Delegation to Norway

Your Excellency,

It is with great sorrow that my colleagues and I learned of Yassir Arafat's passing this morning. Chairman Arafat's leadership during four decades of the Palestinian fight for freedom, and his unstinting drive for recognition of Palestinians' national aspirations, made him an inspiration and an icon—not just to the Palestinian people, but to all who struggle against imperialism and injustice throughout the world.

Fafo came to know and respect Abu Ammar during the Oslo channel and the subsequent Oslo Process. Today we share with the Palestinian people the sadness of the loss of a great leader. We are committed to carrying on Chairman Arafat's legacy by continuing to work for the Peace of the Brave in the region.

Please convey our sincere condolences to the Palestinian people and leadership.

Sincerely yours,

Jon Hanssen-Bauer
Managing Director
Fafo Institute for Applied International Studies