British
Consulate-General
Jerusalem

Press Release:

UK celebrates Queen Elizabeth II's 90th Birthday in Ramallah

British Consul-General in Jerusalem, Dr Alastair McPhail, welcomed Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah for a celebration of Queen Elizabeth II's 90th birthday in Ramallah yesterday.

At a reception to mark the occasion, Dr McPhail reiterated the UK's commitment to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and to supporting vulnerable Palestinians affected by the occupation.

Dr McPhail said:

> *"Our vision for the future remains unchanged: we want to see a negotiated settlement leading to a sovereign Palestinian state living alongside a secure Israel; based on 1967 borders with agreed land swaps, Jerusalem as the shared capital of both states, and a just, fair and agreed settlement for refugees."*

Dr McPhail also highlighted the UK's £73.5m support for Palestinians over the past year. He said:

> *"Over the past year, the UK has provided real, tangible support to those who need it. UK support has helped vulnerable Palestinians to prevent home demolitions in the West Bank. We have helped businesses in Gaza provide employment. We are helping the Palestinian Authority to build the institutions of a future state. We have provided support to UNRWA to deliver services to more than five million Palestinian refugees across the region. And we have increased our scholarships for Palestinian students fourfold."*

Follow us on facebook for the latest news: UKinJerusalem and Twitter: @ukinjerusalem.