

For Immediate Release

Contact: Carla Brown Lucas +1 (772) 708-9626 (mobile) CBLucas@BrownLucas.com

FORMER PM OF PAKISTAN, CURRENT ISRAELI AMBASSADOR TO THE UN TO SPEAK AT PALM BEACH STRATEGIC FORUM His Excellency Shaukat Aziz of Pakistan and His Excellency Ambassador Ron Prosor of Israel to address attendees

WEST PALM BEACH, FLA. (March 29, 2012) –The International Economic Forum of the Americas' Palm Beach Strategic Forum announces that His Excellency Shaukat Aziz, former Prime Minister of Pakistan, and Ron Prosor, the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations, will be among the distinguished speakers at this year's event on April 16 and 17, 2012, at the Palm Beach County Convention Center.

Serving from 2004 to 2007, His Excellency Shaukat Aziz was the first prime minister of Pakistan to complete a full term in office. Aziz's tenure was marked by high economic growth, an increase in per capita income, reduction in poverty, an upsurge in investments, and improved debt and economic indicators.

Prior to serving as prime minster, Aziz was Pakistan's finance minister from 1999 to 2004. In 2001, he was named Finance Minister of the Year by Euro Money and The Bankers magazine. Aziz's 30-year career in global finance began with an internship at Citibank, where he held several senior management positions including head of institutional banking for Central Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Africa, and later for Asia Pacific, followed by chief executive of the bank's global wealth management business. In his various positions with Citibank, he worked in Pakistan, Greece, the United States, United Kingdom, Malaysia, Philippines, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Singapore. After graduating from Gordon College, Rawalpindi in 1967, Aziz earned an MBA from the Institute of Business Administration, University of Karachi.

Page 2 Palm Beach Strategic Forum

Aziz is expected give the keynote address during the first part of the Palm Beach Strategic Forum's luncheon on Monday, April 16. The topic of the address will be Securing Stability and Growth: The Economic Outlook for Pakistan.

With more than two decades of experience at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Ambassador Ron Prosor was appointed as <u>Israel's Permanent Representative to the United Nations</u> in June 2011. Prior to his post at the UN, Prosor served almost four years as the ambassador of Israel to the Court of St. James. Prosor also has served as the Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, overseeing the work of the Foreign Ministry during the disengagement from Gaza in 2005.

Prosor's overseas service has included roles in Washington, London and Bonn. He was instrumental in establishing diplomatic relations behind the Iron Curtain following the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. He also was a member of Israel's delegation to the Wye River Summit talks in 1998. From 1998 to 2002, Prosor served as the Minister-Counselor for Political Affairs at the Israeli Embassy, throughout the transition from the Clinton to Bush administration after the presidential elections of 2000.

As an officer in the Artillery Division of the IDF, Prosor attained the rank of Major, and is a graduate of the IDF Battalion Commanders. He holds a master's degree in political science from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, graduating with distinction.

Prosor is scheduled to speak at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 17 during the conference's session titled Global Security: New Risks, New Opportunities. He will be joined by Christopher Jamroz, president and chief operating officer of Garda Cash Logistics; Michael P. Jackson, former Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; and Sékouba Konaté, former president of Guinea and High Representative for the Operationalization of the African Standby Force, African Union.

"The Middle East, with its dynamic politics and economies, is always a timely topic," said Nicholas Rémillard, president and CEO of the International Economic Forum of the Americas and the Palm Beach Strategic Forum. "We are extremely pleased to have two high-ranking dignitaries from the region at this year's event to bring their perspectives to the discussions."

For a complete roster of confirmed speakers, and updates to the list, please visit http://forum-americas.org/palmbeach/2012/speakers.

About the Palm Beach Strategic Forum

The <u>Palm Beach Strategic Forum</u> is presented by the International Economic Forum of the Americas. Its mission is to address the major governance challenges of the new world economic order, focusing on the central role of the Americas and in the global market.

Page 3 Palm Beach Strategic Forum

The objective of the Palm Beach Strategic Forum is to foster a better understanding of opportunities and challenges at stake for the Americas in the Global Market. The Forum also seeks to provide a platform for business meetings in a broad spectrum of sectors, including banking and finance, and to foster economic development.

For more information about the Palm Beach Strategic Forum, please visit http://forum-americas.org/palmbeach.

Media Credentials

Domestic and foreign journalists are invited to cover the entire proceedings of the Palm Beach Strategic Forum. To attend the event, journalists, photographers and media technical staff must register by contacting Carla Brown Lucas at CBLucas@BrownLucas.com, or +1 (772) 708-9626, by Wednesday, April 11, 2012.

###