



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 11, 2005

CONTACT: Geoff Embler or Katie Strand
(202) 225.2815

Cantor Statement on UN Registry for Security Fence Damages

Washington, D.C. — Chief Deputy Majority Whip Eric Cantor (VA-07) released the following statement regarding the United Nations establishing a registry for supposed damage claims related to the construction of the security fence in the West Bank:

“It is concerning that Kofi Annan would take steps to establish a registry for damage claims related to the construction of the security fence when the region’s future is at a crossroads. The Palestinians have just elected a new leader and there are public gestures being made to restart negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. Mr. Annan’s actions will unnecessarily hinder progress and stability in the region. Israel has the right to make its own national security decisions, which includes building the security fence. Neither Israel nor the Palestinians need the UN injecting itself in this process by staking out an unworkable position on such a sensitive issue.”

###