



OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN RON KLEIN  
FLORIDA'S 22<sup>ND</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

July 22, 2008

---

CONTACT: Melissa Silverman, 202-225-3026, C: 202-821-8152

## Rep. Klein Joins Congressional Delegation to United Nations

**Washington, D.C.** – U.S. Representative Ron Klein (FL-22) today joined a bipartisan Congressional delegation to the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. As the Vice Chairman of the House Middle East Subcommittee, Klein was a leading voice on Iran sanctions and issues affecting Israel at the UN.

“Today, we had very productive discussions with U.N. officials and world leaders on the most pressing international issues, including the threat of a nuclear Iran,” Klein said. “It is clear that the global community is committed to preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons.

“I also raised the issue of the upcoming U.N. World Conference on Racism. In 2001, the conference was held in Durban, South Africa and was hijacked and transformed into an anti-Israel tirade. The United States must take a leadership role now, while the conference is still in planning stages, to ensure that such a despicable charade will not be repeated. I was pleased to hear the Secretary-General’s commitment to a balanced conference that will give global racism the attention it deserves while maintaining a positive, constructive dialogue among member states.”

The delegation met with several high-level officials, including U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Zalmay Khalilzad, United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon, and ambassadors from the five nations who hold permanent seats on the U.N. Security Council: the People’s Republic of China, the Russian Federation, Great Britain, France and the United States. The delegation held discussions on a variety of issues, from the global food crisis to the unstable situation in Zimbabwe.

“The most critical challenges we face today have no borders,” Klein said. “From global terrorism and political instability to the threat of disease and food shortages, we must come together as a world community to find real solutions. The United Nations is a key institution in facilitating these global solutions, and we must quickly put the needed reforms in place to build a U.N. that is efficient, effective and credible around the world.”

###