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Statement by The Elders on the Middle East

The Elders have been exploring ways that they can contribute to peace and to the world's understanding of the complex issues involved in the Middle East conflict.

They had planned a visit to the region in April to meet and listen to representatives from government, civil society, business and the public in Israel, the Palestinian territories, Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Saudi Arabia. The Elders will continue consultations with key leaders in the region and outside with the purpose of developing a comprehensive report, but have decided to postpone their visit.

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Note to Editors

The Elders, a group of twelve leaders from throughout the world, were convened by Nelson Mandela in July 2007 on the occasion of his 89th birthday, to contribute their wisdom, independent leadership and integrity to tackle some of the world's toughest problems. The Elders' first mission was to Sudan in September and October 2007. For their report and other information on the Elders, visit www.theElders.org

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