

New York, 26 July 2017

## **Statement by the Secretary-General on continuing tensions in the Old City of Jerusalem**

I reiterate my concern over the situation in the Old City of Jerusalem. It is essential to fully respect the status quo at the holy sites as before 14 July.

I welcome the dialogue between Israel and Jordan, in line with the Hashemite Kingdom's special and historic role, and encourage continued discussions on how to ensure security for both worshippers and visitors.

I am particularly concerned about the potential risk of escalating violence; urge all political, religious and community leaders to refrain from provocative action and rhetoric; and call on Israel to demonstrate restraint.

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