

## Statement by UN Deputy Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, and UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Muhannad Hadi, on a Deal to Secure a Ceasefire and Hostage Release in Gaza

## Jerusalem, 15 January 2025

"I welcome the announcement of a deal to secure a ceasefire and hostage release in Gaza, an essential step toward easing the immense suffering caused by this conflict. I commend Egypt, Qatar, and the United States for their tireless efforts in brokering this agreement and urge all parties to honor their commitments fully.

The United Nations stands ready to support this agreement and maximize the scale up of humanitarian relief as best it can to Palestinians who have, for too long, been enduring unbearable, life-threatening conditions. It is imperative that this deal allows a significant increase in aid delivery across Gaza so that we and our partners can provide aid to the best of our ability. I call on all parties to ensure unhindered access for humanitarian efforts and adherence to international humanitarian law.

This agreement is a critical first step, but lasting peace requires advancing broader goals, including Palestinian unity and a negotiated two-state solution where Israel and Palestine coexist in peace and security. The UN remains steadfast in supporting all efforts to bring hope, stability, and a brighter future to the region."

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