

**Statement attributable to the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General
On the Quartet**

On 19 July, the Secretary-General will participate in a Quartet meeting in Lisbon. The meeting comes at a crucial moment and will be an opportunity to assess the recent events and discuss the way forward to advance the cause of peace in the Middle East. In particular, the Quartet principals will confer with the Quartet Representative, Tony Blair, on how best to assist the Palestinian Authority in building its institutions and economy, which are vital for the creation of a viable Palestinian state.

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