



**United Nations
Secretary-General**

New York

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Statement Attributable to the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General on U.S. President Bush's statement on the Middle East

The Secretary-General welcomes the statement made by U.S. President George W. Bush on the Middle East peace process. He is encouraged by the President's renewed commitment to a two-state solution, entailing the creation of a viable and contiguous Palestinian state living side-by-side with a secure Israel. The Secretary-General also welcomes the President's proposal for an international meeting this autumn. He looks forward to discussing these ideas with his partners in the Quartet in Lisbon on 19 July.