Annan deplores loss of life during Israeli military incursions

12 February 2004 – United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan today deplored the deaths of at least 15 Palestinians, including civilians, during Israeli military incursions in Gaza on Wednesday.

He urged Israel to abide by its obligations under international law, including stopping the use of disproportionate force in densely populated areas and taking greater care to avoid injuring innocent civilians, his spokesman Fred Eckhard said.

More than 50 Palestinians were reported injured, including several critically wounded children, he said.