The Secretary-General spoke with H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Abbas, President of the State of Palestine on 21 April 2022. The Secretary-General and President Abbas discussed the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, particularly at the Holy Sites in Jerusalem, and efforts to lower tensions, end provocations and unilateral steps, and restore calm. The Secretary-General reiterated that the status quo at the Holy Sites must be upheld and respected.

They reaffirmed their commitment to the achievement of the two-State solution based on relevant United Nations resolutions, international law, and prior agreements and the importance of restoring a political horizon.

The Secretary-General also expressed his concern about UNRWA’s financial situation and assured of his continued efforts to address the financial situation of the Agency.

New York, 23 April 2022