Statement attributable to the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General

On the announcement in Mecca of an agreement on a
Palestinian National Unity Government

The Secretary-General welcomes the announcement, in Mecca, of an agreement on a Palestinian national unity government, and commends the initiative of His Majesty King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia to help bring about this very important step forward. He hopes that this agreement will curb the violence, creating a better future for the Palestinian people.

The Secretary-General looks forward to discussing the way ahead with the parties and regional and Quartet partners.

New York, 8 February 2007