Statement by the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Mr. Nickolay Mladenov, on the announcement of the opening of Rafah crossing for three days

Jerusalem, 11 June 2015

"I welcome Egypt’s decision to open the Rafah crossing from 13 to 15 June in both directions, following consultations between President Abbas and the Egyptian authorities. I hope that the security conditions will allow for this decision to be extended and that Rafah can be open on a regular basis. The need for the full lifting of all closures however remains. A sustainable solution to address the situation also requires the return of control of the crossings in Gaza to the Palestinian Authority.

A permanent end to the suffering of the Palestinian people can only be achieved through an end to occupation and realization of the two-state solution in which Gaza is an integral part of the Palestinian state."

ENDS