



**Statement by the United Nations Deputy Special Coordinator
for the Middle East Peace Process, Mr. James Rawley, on security incidents in Gaza**

Jerusalem, 24 December 2014

The Deputy Special Coordinator is deeply concerned by reports of exchange of fire between Palestinian militants and the IDF in the southern Gaza Strip today, which resulted in casualties on both sides. This follows a series of armed incidents since the end of November.

The Deputy Special Coordinator urges all parties to maintain and reinforce the ceasefire of 26 August and refrain from escalating tensions.

ENDS