



**Statement by United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process,
Nickolay Mladenov, on recent developments related to Palestinian unity**

Jerusalem, 13 September 2017

“I welcome the recent developments related to Palestinian unity in Cairo. Reconciliation is critical to addressing the grave humanitarian crisis in Gaza, preventing the continuing militant buildup and restoring hope for the future.

I urge all parties to seize the current positive momentum and reach an agreement that would allow the Palestinian Government to immediately take up its responsibilities in Gaza.

Gaza is and must be an integral part of any future Palestinian state. Unity is an essential step towards the peaceful realisation of the Palestinian national aspirations.”

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