



**Statement by United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process,
Nickolay Mladenov, on advancement of settlement units in the occupied West Bank**

Jerusalem, 11 January 2018

“In the aftermath of the decision to advance over 1,000 housing units in the occupied West Bank, I reiterate that Israeli settlement construction is illegal under international law and is one of the major obstacles to peace. I urge the Israeli authorities to cease and reverse such actions.

Settlement-related activities undermine the chances for the establishment of a viable, contiguous Palestinian state as part of a negotiated two-state solution. They entrench a one-state reality that is incompatible with realizing the national aspirations of both peoples.”

[ENDS]