



**Statement by the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process,
Mr. Nickolay Mladenov, on a stabbing attack in the Old City of Jerusalem**

Jerusalem, 3 October 2015

"I strongly condemn this evening's attack that targeted four members of an Israeli family and has resulted in the death of two men and the serious injury of a two-year old baby and a woman in the Old City of Jerusalem. Our thoughts and prayers are with their loved ones. This incident comes after a recent similar attack on a family in the occupied West Bank that killed two parents.

I am shocked that some find it appropriate to justify such attacks as "heroic", when they are not only appalling, but are also dangerous to both Palestinians and Israelis alike.

All political authorities, as well as religious and community leaders have the responsibility to condemn violence and act against incitement at a time when the entire region is reeling from the rise of extremism and radicalism.

The continued suffering of Israelis and Palestinians is a constant reminder that a just and lasting solution to the conflict can be achieved only through pursuing a negotiated two-state solution."

ENDS