

**STATEMENT ATTRIBUTABLE TO
THE SPOKESPERSON FOR THE SECRETARY-GENERAL**

Concert by Maestro Barenboim in Gaza

The Secretary-General is pleased that United Nations Messenger for Peace Daniel Barenboim and the Orchestra for Gaza, comprising musicians from leading European orchestras, performed a concert of works by Mozart today in Gaza. This cultural event, co-hosted by Palestinian NGOs, was attended by a wide range of Gazan civil society and students. Special Coordinator Robert Serry opened the concert, describing it as a “gesture of artistry, humanity, friendship and harmony”. UNRWA Commissioner-General Filippo Grandi welcomed Mr Barenboim and the Orchestra at the Rafah crossing and was also present at the concert.

The Secretary-General appreciates the efforts of Daniel Barenboim and the many musicians who gave their time and talent to bring music to Gaza.

New York, 3 May 2011