



**United Nations
Secretary-General**

New York

1 February 2017

Statement attributable to the Spokesman for the Secretary-General on announcements of Israeli settlement expansion

We are concerned over recent announcements by the Israeli Government to advance over 5,000 settlement units in the occupied West Bank.

We once again warn against any unilateral actions that can be an obstacle to a negotiated two-state solution and call on both parties to return to meaningful negotiations on the basis of relevant Security Council resolutions and in accordance with international law, in order to address all final status issues. The United Nations stands ready to support this process.

Stéphane Dujarric