



Secretary-General SG/SM/16091

Department of Public Information • News and Media Division • New York

CONDEMNING HUMANITARIAN CEASEFIRE BREACH, SECRETARY-GENERAL SAYS HOPES OF PEOPLE IN GAZA, ISRAEL REST ON CAIRO TALKS

The following statement was issued today by the Spokesman for UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon:

The Secretary-General condemns in the strongest terms the breach of the Egyptian-brokered humanitarian ceasefire, which was to expire at midnight local time. He is gravely disappointed by the return to hostilities.

The Secretary-General reminds both sides of their responsibility not to let the situation escalate. The hopes of the people in Gaza for a better future and the hopes of the people in Israel for sustainable security rest on the talks in Cairo. The Secretary-General calls on the delegations to live up to this expectation and urges the parties to reach an immediate understanding on a durable ceasefire, which also addresses the underlying issues afflicting Gaza.

* * * * *

For information media • not an official record