

Secretary-General SG/SM/12978 PAL/2129

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SECRETARY-GENERAL CONDEMNS VANDALISM OF GAZA CHILDREN'S FACILITY

The following statement was issued today by the Spokesperson for UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon: The Secretary General condemns the vandalism last night by masked armed men of an UNRWA summer games facility in the Gaza Strip. He is very concerned that this is the second such incident in a month. Such attacks are an assault upon the well-being of Gaza's children, 250,000 of whom attend UNRWA's summer games for recreation and education as well as a respite from the difficulties of everyday life in the Strip.

The Secretary-General calls upon the de-facto authorities to combat any incitement against United Nations operations, and ensure the safety of UNRWA and other UN personnel and programmes, serving the most vulnerable in Gaza. He calls for those responsible for these incidents to be brought to justice.

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