



**Statement by Robert Serry, UN Special Coordinator for the
Middle East Peace Process on the situation in Gaza and southern Israel**

Jerusalem, 25 August 2011

UN Special Coordinator Robert Serry expresses his deep concern that the recently reestablished calm in Gaza and southern Israel is at risk due to the continuation of incidents, and deplores the loss of civilian lives. In the interest of protecting the lives of civilians and for the calm to succeed, a complete halt to the firing of rockets from Gaza and a display of maximum restraint by Israel it required. Mr. Serry calls on all sides to immediately take steps to prevent any further escalation.

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