Statement by the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Nickolay Mladenov, on the Palestinian government's decision to postpone municipal elections

Jerusalem, 4 October 2016

"I welcome today's decision to postpone local elections. It is in the national interest of the Palestinian people that when such elections take place, they be organized both in the West Bank and Gaza.

I urge all Palestinian bodies to work together in good faith to overcome internal divisions and uphold democracy.

Local elections, conducted in line with established international standards, must contribute to advancing Palestinian reconciliation based on PLO principles as well as to ending the occupation and establishing a democratic, unified Palestinian state as part of a negotiated two-state solution."

ENDS